



Westerville North High School

950 County Line Rd., Westerville, OH 43081
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Kurt J. Yancey, Principal

April 17, 2018

Dear Westerville North Families:

At the national level, through websites, social media and other means of communication, students have identified April 20 as another opportunity to stage a school walkout in order to protest and raise awareness of their desire to end school violence. April 20 marks the 19th anniversary of the school violence at Columbine High School (Colorado); we are aware that some of our students plan to participate in the walkout on this day.

As communicated prior to the national walkout that occurred on March 14, the primary responsibility of our staff during any planned walkout is to ensure student safety. However, there is a significant difference between the March 14 walkout and the one scheduled for April 20. On March 14, though students left the building for 17 minutes, they remained on school property and returned to class. The April 20 event calls for students to walkout at 10 a.m. and leave school grounds for the remainder of the day.

I am writing to remind our families of established attendance policies to keep students safe and inform you if your child is absent for all or any part of the day. At the middle school level, if a child is going to be out of school for any length of time, an authorized parent or guardian, as recorded in PowerSchool, must come to school and personally sign them out of the building. At the high school level, a student may bring a note signed by a parent/guardian of record in order to sign out and document an absence from class.

Please know this walkout is voluntary and that April 20 will proceed as a regular day of school in our district. Our schools are neither arranging nor sanctioning walkouts that may occur that day. If you would like to learn more about the April 20 walkout, national organizers have posted information [online](#). We ask that students and parents follow established school attendance policies and procedures to support our staff in their efforts to continue the educational process while ensuring the safety of those who choose to participate in this event. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kurt J. Yancey
Principal