



Rim of the World High School

Achievement • Participation • Pride • Responsibility

Derek Swem - Principal
Shannon Millen - Assistant Principal
David Nygren - Assistant Principal
Stephanie Phillips – ROP/CTE Coordinator
Ryan Reisbord – Athletic Director

Dear Parent/Guardian:

On March 14, 2018 students across the United States are organizing walkouts due to the recent tragedy in Parkland, Florida, and other losses of life on school campuses across the nation over the last several years. The walkout will occur at 10 in each time zone and last for 17 minutes. These tragedies have increased interest in student-led civic engagement efforts and actions, including the idea of school walkouts. Students want their voices heard about what is happening to them and how they feel about their safety while at school. They also want a way to remember those that were lost in the tragedy.

Rim of the World Unified School District supports students' Constitutional rights to peaceful assembly and free expression. We support student rights to peaceful assembly and free expression, however academic instruction is the priority in a school setting. Thus, all school rules, district board policies and administrative regulations, as well as education code/ state laws remain in place and will be enforced. Our goal in responding to walk-out plans, and other forms of peaceful assembly is to try and keep focus on teaching and learning while providing guidance and planning to support student and staff safety. This does not constitute endorsement of any political group or belief. However, it ensures a plan and safety for those planning to participate.

Students do not have to participate in the walkout. Teachers will remain in their rooms and continue with instruction. Students may not move off campus or leave the building for their own safety and security.

Students will be allowed to assemble in the main gymnasium where some activities will be set up for the students to allow their voice to be heard.

- Students will be able to sign a banner in support of Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School. This will be mailed to MSD High School at a later date.
- Give addresses for senators, assemblymen, and congressmen for students to write letters expressing their thoughts on the recent school shootings and their opinions of how they feel about recent gun control efforts.
- Say hello to 17 people you normally don't talk to.
- Conversational Anonymous Banner – students can express themselves about their feelings about recent school shootings and opinions.

Teachers will have conversations with students about constitutional rights and amendments as it pertains to their class content. Teachers do not want to debate and tell students how they should think about this but to give information to help students formulate their opinions.

Based on social media messaging, it appears that there are at least three major student-led efforts underway:

1. March 14: [@WomensMarch](#) Action – call for school walkout for 17 minutes
2. March 24: March for Our Lives for all to participate in Washington, D.C.
([@AMarch4OurLives](#))
3. April 20: National School Walkout for students across nation in local districts
([@schoolwalkoutUS](#))

Sincerely,

Derek Swem

Principal, Rim of the World High School.