



Parent Letter Regarding National Walkout Day

March 9, 2018

Dear Students and Families,

The horrific school shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, on February 14, 2018, has profoundly affected communities across the country, and many young people feel spurred to take action.

Young people, through civil disobedience and peaceful protest, have been at the forefront of many movements in the struggle for justice throughout our nation's history. We recognize that many of our own students may similarly decide to engage in forms of discourse and protest in response to the tragic event in Parkland.

We have been made aware that as part of their civic engagement, some students are planning to participate in what is being called the “#ENOUGH National School Walkout” on Wednesday, March 14. The observance -- scheduled to begin at 10:00 AM -- is scheduled to be 17 minutes to commemorate the 17 Parkland victims who lost their lives. Due to the scale of our school, we anticipate the walkout to last between Periods 2 - 4 to ensure that students can safely exit and reenter the building.

While we support students participating in civic engagement and exercising of their First Amendment rights, we also want to remind you of our attendance procedures, and inform you of additional measures the New York City Department of Education will be taking to help ensure the safety of students and staff members.

Participating in a walkout like the one planned is an individual decision that we encourage families to discuss together. For anyone who participates in the walkout, it is important to do so in a safe and respectful manner. Staff members from each school will be assigned to be present outside their school buildings during the walkout to help ensure safe egress and reentry.

If your child is planning to participate, you must notify our school by following our school's regular attendance protocol, which includes providing a Parent Absence Note and the Student Absence Form. The parent note and Student Absence Form are due upon returning to school on March 15. (This is in addition to the March 14 Walkout Parent Consent Form that is due on March 12.)

[CLICK HERE](#) to access the Attendance Forms on the school's website. The Student Absence Form is located at the bottom of the page.

Consequences: There will be a notation in their student attendance record as a result of this action. Truant students will also participate in a conversation with an administrator. Please be aware that students are expected to follow their program and that we will be on a Special OP Schedule (after 5th Period) on March 14 to take attendance.

With parent or guardian permission, this will be an excused absence. Without parent or guardian permission, this will be an unexcused absence.

For students of all ages with nurses or paraprofessionals required for safety, parents or qualified staff members must be willing to accompany students who wish to participate in the walkout. If a parent or qualified staff member is not willing to walk out and accompany the student, the student must remain inside the school. Schools must ensure that the individual needs of each student are taken into account and addressed at all times.

No one person can keep us safe. It takes a community effort. We commend all members of our school community, who help make our schools safe, respectful places where all students can learn.

Thank you for your partnership.

March 14, 2018 After 5th OP	
1	8:00 - 8:44
2	8:48 - 9:32
3	9:36 - 10:20
4	10:24 - 11:08
5	11:12 - 11:56
OP	12:00 - 12:10
7	1:02 - 1:46
8	1:50 - 2:34
9	2:38 - 3:22
10	3:26 - 4:09

F.H. LaGUARDIA H.S. OF MUSIC & ART AND PERFORMING ARTS
Dr. Mars, Principal
PARENT NOTIFICATION/CONSENT FORM
National School Walk Out

Initial below if you do
not wish your child
to participate in the
Walkout

Today's Date: _____

Student Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

9-Digit ID #: _____

Date this form due: March 12, 2018
Trip Coordinator (s): Not a School Event
Destination:

Walk Out Date: March 14, 2018
Estimated Time/Periods of Walkout: 9:30 AM – 10:26 AM

Dismissal Site: Students Plan on Leaving LaGuardia HS Unaccompanied Anticipated Time of Walkout: 9:30 AM

Mode of transportation: walking
Specific clothing/equipment required for this trip: clothing for cold weather, snow, or rain

Students must have a permanent ID – not a temporary ID – and swipe BOTH IN AND OUT when leaving and returning to school.

I understand that there are risks of injury associated with the above-listed activity and that my child will be marked absent for each period not in class.

Please indicate below any permanent or temporary medical or other condition, including special dietary and medication needs, or the need for visual or auditory aids, which should be known about your child:

- Parents must indicate whether or not they wish to participate in the event
- **Students should leave only with their jackets and their ID Cards.**
- I agree that in the event of an emergency injury or illness, I have instructed my child to call 9-1-1
- I understand that my child is expected to behave responsibly and to follow the school's discipline code and policies.
- I agree and understand that I am responsible for the actions of my child. I release the school from all claims and liabilities that arise in connection with this National School Walkout.
- I understand that my child shall be unaccompanied by staff member(s) while traveling from the departure site to the destination site, and from the destination site to the return site. This is not a school sponsored activity.
- I understand that alcoholic beverages and/or illegal drugs are prohibited and have discussed this prohibition with my child. I understand that if my child is found in possession of these substances, he/she will be subject to school disciplinary procedures and possible criminal prosecution.
- I understand that students who violate the school's discipline code may be excluded in the future by the school from participating in any trip.

STUDENT DECLARATION

I have read this form and I understand that I am to act on this trip in the same responsible manner in which I am expected to conduct myself in school. I understand that I am responsible for any school work that I miss while on this trip.

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____ Cell Phone # _____

I give my permission for my child to participate in the National School Walk Out.

Signature of Parent/Guardian _____ Date _____

In an emergency I can be reached at: Day: (____) _____ Evening: (____) _____
Additional Contact: Name: _____ Day: (____) _____ Evening: (____) _____

THIS IS NOT A TEAR-OFF.... THE COMPLETE FORM MUST BE RETURNED TO YOUR
PERIOD 3 TEACHER ON MONDAY, MARCH 12, 2018.
NO LATE FORMS WILL BE ACCEPTED.