



## Monroe High School

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Good Morning Students and Staff:

The is a lengthy important announcement with information we want all students and staff to hear. We will also send to staff via email for further reference and to daily bulletin for students and parents.

Tomorrow is one of the two National Dates set by a national organization to remember the 1-month anniversary of the school shootings at Parkland, the second date is April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2018 which is the 19<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Columbine school shootings. In this announcement, you will learn how MHS can channel their voices during the school day with many options, that were student developed, to provide you the opportunity to exercise your First Amendment while working inside of the district and building parameters of school safety and our school safety resources.

A student led group of your classmates developed The Together Movement – #Your Passion Your Potential for Monroe High School students. They came forward after the Parkland shootings with several hopes and desires. The first: For MHS students to have a voice and show support for remembrance, support and encouragement for the victims, families and survivors of ALL school shootings. The second: Students have a basic human right to feel safe in their school and through exercising their First Amendment rights, develop ways as to how to work toward this end in the school setting and beyond.

Before we explain specifics as to opportunities for MHS students to do this, the main parameter that we are following as laid out by our district polices is School Safety comes first. It does us no good to speak out for school safety and school violence if we do not provide a safe environment and conditions for our students and staff in all our endeavors. In this endeavor, there are many safety and legal responsibilities, issues and concerns that we must address as school administrators that I explained to the students as they began their work. They understood and moved forward with their thoughts and desires for MHS students and staff to have a voice while understanding and following the parameters of school safety for MHS students.

In is in this spirit, the plan for how we will remember both anniversaries of our fellow students and staff members from Parkland and Columbine and from all school violence and shootings was developed for the 14<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>.

As was said in an earlier announcement, we will work together as a team, staff and students, to maximize voices in support of the victims who no longer have a voice, for their families and for the survivors. Also, to pursue how we can safely come to school each day wanting to learn while learning to be vital citizens working toward the greater good for all.