



Empowerment, Education, Accountability

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 8, 2018

Gwinnett STOPP Urges Gwinnett County Public Schools to Allow Students to Engage in National Protests Around Gun Violence

Gwinnett STOPP (Gwinnett Parent Coalition to Dismantle the School To Prison Pipeline) a grassroots, parent-led student advocacy organization, today sent a letter to Gwinnett School Superintendent J. Alvin Wilbanks urging him to change the bell schedule to accommodate students wanting to engage in national protests around gun violence.

The National School Walkout, takes place March 14th and specifically commemorates the 17 students killed last month in Parkland, Florida (the month 3 + the date 14 = 17) at 10:00 am in each time zone across the country. Students are encouraged to spend 17 minutes writing congressmen or otherwise commemorating those lost.

The National High School Walkout takes place on April 20th, the anniversary of the Columbine shooting.

Gwinnett STOPP Executive Director Marlyn Tillman, reiterated that social change is often initiated through student activism and it is an important lesson in civic engagement and participation for students to use their voices and spend their time in peaceful protest without fear of disciplinary actions.

Gwinnett STOPP is a grassroots parent-led, community-centered organization in Gwinnett County. The vision of Gwinnett STOPP is to lead a parent-driven, community-centered approach to identifying and dismantling the school to prison pipeline in Gwinnett County through parent/community education, district monitoring and accountability, and recommending national best practices. Our partner organizations include Interfaith Children's Movement, the national Dignity in Schools Campaign (DSC), the Praxis Project Transformative School Network and the Education Civil Rights Alliance.

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