

was killed after holding open a door so others could escape.

“He’s just messed up,” Ciaramello said of Cruz. “I mean, tighter gun control, it’s not gonna help. There’s always a way around it.”

School and government records obtained Sunday show Cruz was diagnosed as developmentally delayed at age 3 and had disciplinary issues dating to middle school. In February 2014, while in 8th grade, Cruz was transferred to a special school for children with emotional and behavioral issues. He stayed there until 10th grade, when he was transferred to Stoneman Douglas. A month after arriving, Cruz was written up for using profanity. Last year, Cruz was expelled.

On Sept. 28, 2016, an investigator from the Florida Department of Children and Families visited Cruz and his mother, Lynda Cruz, after he posted video on Snapchat showing him cutting himself. The report showed that Cruz had written a racial epithet against African-Americans and a Nazi symbol on his book bag, which his mother had forced him to erase. The investigator said Cruz was suffering from depression and on medication and had told Lynda Cruz he planned to buy a gun, but she couldn’t determine why.

She said he had been depressed after breaking up with a girlfriend who had been cheating on him, the investigator said. A school counselor told the investigator that Lynda Cruz had always tried to help her son and followed through on his therapy and medication, but the counselor was concerned about the youth’s desire to buy a gun.

A crisis counselor told the DCF investigator he had visited the school and that he did not believe Cruz was a danger to himself

or others. The case was closed, with the investigator concluding that Cruz was receiving help from his mother and counselors, and “no other referrals or services were needed.”

After Lynda Cruz died in November, Cruz moved into the home of a teenage friend. The friend’s parents told the Sun-Sentinel newspaper they had no idea the extent of Cruz’s issues.

“We had this monster living under our roof and we didn’t know,” Kimberly Snead told the newspaper in an interview published Sunday. “We didn’t see this side of him.”

James Snead added: “Everything everybody seems to know, we didn’t know. It’s as simple as that.”

The Sneads said Cruz seemed unable to do even simple tasks like laundry or use the microwave.

He kept the AR-15 he allegedly used in the massacre locked in a gun safe with a few other firearms. James Snead thought he had the only key to the cabinet but says Cruz must have had another key. The family kept their own rifles, bought after a burglary a few years ago, in a separate locked cabinet.

They told Cruz he needed to ask permission to take out the guns. He had asked only twice since November. They said “yes” once and “no” once.

On Wednesday morning, Cruz told them he didn’t need a ride to school: “It’s Valentine’s Day and I don’t go to school on Valentine’s Day,” he said.

Cruz sent their son a few texts that day. In one, he asked what classroom the boy was in. He said he was going to see a movie.

From: Heather Hull on behalf of Heather Hull <hhull@pps.net>
To: Scott Whitbeck
Subject: Fw: National School Walkout on March 14
Date: Monday, February 19, 2018 2:25:14 PM

Hi there Scott,
Do you know about this? Does the district have a position on participation in this event? I know that I have a lot of families that fall into the activist camp and will encourage. I would certainly prefer an "organized" event rather than having kids simply walk out of school. I know in my neighborhood kids will be encouraged from home...
Let me know your thoughts,
Heather

Heather Hull, Principal
Abernethy Elementary
p. 503-916-6190

From: Jenne Bilbie-Alexander [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, February 19, 2018 1:08 PM
To: Heather Hull; Lisa Delaney
Subject: National School Walkout on March 14

Hi Heather and Lisa,

What are your thoughts on Abernethy participating in the National School Walkout on March 14?

I am happy to spearhead the event to help make it an "organized" 17-minute walkout.

Thanks,
Jenne

<https://www.womensmarch.com/empower/>

Women's March Youth EMPOWER

www.womensmarch.com

Women's March EMPOWER is an initiative of Women's March Youth through a coalition with Peace First, Rise To Run, Teen Vogue, The Justice League NYC, The Gathering ...

Women's March Youth EMPOWER is calling for students, teachers, school administrators, parents and allies to take part in a #NationalSchoolWalkout for 17 minutes at 10am across every time zone on March 14, 2018 to protest Congress' inaction to do more than tweet thoughts and prayers in response to the gun violence plaguing our schools and neighborhoods. We need action. Students and allies are organizing the national school walkout to demand Congress pass legislation to keep

locking the front door and buzzing in visitors. This has received lots of Facebook commentary following the letters from the Superintendent and Chief of Security in the wake of the Florida school shooting. I went on the Lars Larsen show Friday, mainly to talk about all the security measures we already have in place at PPS. That was successful, but I didn't have a great answer for the question "why does PPS leave it up to the principal to decide whether the front door is locked?"

There is money for this: We have \$5 million from the last bond to spend on physical security. And I do think that top educators can and should be leaders in safety and public health issues (which is what gun violence is). When I was in Salt Lake the University of Utah President led the effort in the legislature and with the Governor to keep guns off of campus.

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 17, 2018, at 11:39 AM, Guadalupe Guerrero <gguerrero@pps.net> wrote:

I've received a number of parent messages like the one below... interested in your thoughts on this...

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Amy Kohnstamm <akohnstamm@pps.net>
Date: February 16, 2018 at 5:06:29 PM PST
To: Guadalupe Guerrero <gguerrero@pps.net>
Subject: Fwd: Children on your watch

Guadalupe,

I reached out to a colleague on the executive committee of CGCS today, to see if there are others who believe we should be using our powerful collective voice at this moment on gun control. We are collectively entrusted with the care and protection of millions of children in this country, we should be a powerful force in lobbying for measures that will help us keep them safe. Have you heard anything coming out of CGCS on this? I saw Mike Casserly's statement, which was great, but I am talking about lobbying action. And also, something like a common resolution adopted by all of our boards across the country - that would be powerful to lawmakers.

Thoughts and prayers aren't cutting it. Let me know what you think.
Amy

Begin forwarded message:

From: David Thompson [REDACTED]
Date: February 16, 2018 at 4:55:26 PM PST
To: superintendent@PPS.net
Cc: <jebrown@pps.net>, <sbailey@pps.net>,

To: Joe LaFontaine; Elisa Schorr; Scott Whitbeck; Jennifer Patterson; Korinna Wolfe; Lisa McCall; Oscar Gilson; Karl Logan; Kristie Lindholm; Antonio Lopez
Cc: Harry Esteve; David Northfield
Subject: Fwd: Question

Hi All,

This just came to me but wondering if you have seen this.

L

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Isaac Cardona <icardona@pps.net <<mailto:icardona@pps.net>> >
Date: February 20, 2018 at 1:38:38 PM PST
To: Blake Robertson <brobertson@pps.net <<mailto:brobertson@pps.net>> >, Jeremy Cohen <jcohen@pps.net <<mailto:jcohen@pps.net>> >, Travis Johnson <tjohnson1@pps.net <<mailto:tjohnson1@pps.net>> >, George Weatheroy <gweatheroy@pps.net <<mailto:gweatheroy@pps.net>> >
Cc: Leslie O'Dell <lodell@pps.net <<mailto:lodell@pps.net>> >
Subject: Fw: Question

Hey Jeremy and Travis,

What are you guys doing for this?

Isaac

Isaac G. Cardona

Principal

Jason Lee K-8

503-916-6144 Ext. 70042

From: Ginger Huizar <gh2@██████████ <<mailto:gh2@██████████>> >
Sent: Saturday, February 17, 2018 2:11 PM
To: Isaac Cardona

EXHIBIT 4
PAGE 1 OF 7

Subject: Re: Question

Not on fb link <https://actionnetwork.org/events/roseway-heights-school-portland-or?source=facebook&>

<https://actionnetwork.org/events/roseway-heights-school-portland-or?source=facebook&>

ENOUGH! NATIONAL STUDENT WALK OUT for RWH School (Portland OR)

<https://actionnetwork.org/events/roseway-heights-school-portland-or?source=facebook&>

actionnetwork.org <http://actionnetwork.org>

Women's March Youth EMPOWER is calling for students, teachers, school administrators, parents and allies to take part in a #NATIONALSCHOOLWALKOUT for 17 minutes at 10am across every time zone on March 14, 2018 to protest Congress' inaction to do more than tweet thoughts and prayers in response to the gun violence plaguing our schools and neighborhoods. WE.NEED.ACTION. Students and allies are organizing the national school walkout to demand Congress pass legislation to keep us safe from gun violence at our schools, on our streets and in our homes and places of worship. Students and staff have the right to teach and learn in an environment free from the worry of being gunned down in their classrooms or on their way home from school. Parents have the right to send their kids to school in the mornings and see them home alive at the end of the day. We are not safe at school. We are not safe in our cities and towns. Congress must take meaningful action to keep us safe and pass federal gun reform legislation that

On Feb 17, 2018 2:07 PM, "Ginger Huizar" <gh2@[REDACTED]@gmail.com> wrote:

Yes. [REDACTED] and here is the link. https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=10213834491128290&id=1587980076

Ginger

On Feb 17, 2018 12:39 PM, "Isaac Cardona" <icardona@pps.net> wrote:

I have not heard about National School Walkout for Gun Violence. When I googled it just now, it seemed like most articles or stories are from today or yesterday. Is this something that people are talking about in our neighborhood and community?

Isaac G. Cardona

Principal

Jason Lee K-8

503-916-6144 Ext. 70042 <tel:(503)%20916-6144>

From: Karl Logan on behalf of Karl Logan <klogan@pps.net>
To: Reiko Williams; Cindi Swingen; Lisa Hawking; Amber Gerber; Paula Mccullough; Jane Harold; David Jamieson; Teresa Sing; Ben Keefer; Bradley Parker; Jennifer McCalley; Karmin Williams; Gary Gregoricka; Satrina Charqualaf; Celina Garrido; Raddy Lurie; Eryn Berg; Harriette Jackson Vimegnon; Regina Sun; Anh Nguyen-Johnson; John Ferraro; Kiya Masunaga; Joshua Zeller; Vanessa Martinez; Teresa Seidel; Natasha Butler
Subject: School Walkouts
Date: Monday, February 19, 2018 12:47:43 PM
Importance: High

Team,

I want to make you aware of the March 14th and April 20th protest that many schools may be participating in around the country.

"On April 20, 2018, school children around the country in public and private schools will be signed out and walk out at 11:00 am Colorado time, and march to mayors' offices, governors' offices, the White House, local NRA offices, Mar-a-Lago, campaign offices, etc. Enough is enough. And saying "enough is enough" is getting old. Not one more student should die by gun violence. If you are in, copy and paste to spread the word.

Also, text "Ready" to 64433 to be connected with fellow "Mom's demand action for gun sense in America"

Please take this seriously and begin the discussion with your PTA, Site Council, Equity team and student leadership. I believe the question for us is, "How can we empower our students to activate their agency in a way that is student lead and is in line with PPS policy?" Let me be clear. We can not encourage or support students walking off campus. We can come along side parents and students to provide an alternative on campus that is student lead. While doing this we must also prepare for those student who do choose to leave campus. I will meet with District leaders to provide you with more guidance, but in the mean time, please begin the conversation, make sure students are well informed and share your ideas with colleagues.

Empowering School Communities,
Mr. Karl Logan
Senior Director
Jefferson/Grant K-12 Schools
Office: (503) 916-3714
Fax: (503) 916- 2125
Cell: (971) 280-0942

From: [Harry Esteve on behalf of Harry Esteve <hesteve@pps.net>](#)
To: [Courtney Westling](#)
Subject: FW: Question
Date: Wednesday, February 21, 2018 12:23:13 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

Walk out thread...

Harry Esteve

Director of Strategic Communications and Outreach

Portland Public Schools

503-916-3374 (desk)

503-432-6685 (cell)

From: Antonio Lopez
Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2018 7:42 PM
To: Oscar Gilson <ogilson@pps.net>
Cc: Elisa Schorr <ewinger@pps.net>; Scott Whitbeck <swhitbeck@pps.net>; Leslie O'Dell <lodell@pps.net>; Joe LaFontaine <jlafontaine@pps.net>; Jennifer Patterson <jpatterson1@pps.net>; Korinna Wolfe <kwolfe@pps.net>; Lisa McCall <lmccall@pps.net>; Karl Logan <klogan@pps.net>; Kristie Lindholm <klindholm@pps.net>; Harry Esteve <hesteve@pps.net>; David Northfield <dnorthfield@pps.net>
Subject: Re: Question

We will send guidelines in the next couple of days

Antonio Lopez

Assistant Superintendent for the Office of School Performance

Office number 503- 916-3440

Cell number 503-545-4967

Sent from cell phone

On Feb 20, 2018, at 6:59 PM, Oscar Gilson <ogilson@pps.net> <<mailto:ogilson@pps.net>> wrote:

Staff cannot participate on walkouts.

Oscar Moreno Gilson

From: Antonio Lopez
Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2018 3:08 PM
To: Scott Whitbeck <swhitbeck@pps.net <<mailto:swhitbeck@pps.net>> >; Leslie O'Dell <lodell@pps.net <<mailto:lodell@pps.net>> >; Joe LaFontaine <jlafontaine@pps.net <<mailto:jlafontaine@pps.net>> >; Elisa Schorr <ewinger@pps.net <<mailto:ewinger@pps.net>> >; Jennifer Patterson <jpatterson1@pps.net <<mailto:jpatterson1@pps.net>> >; Korinna Wolfe <kwolfe@pps.net <<mailto:kwolfe@pps.net>> >; Lisa McCall <lmccall@pps.net <<mailto:lmccall@pps.net>> >; Oscar Gilson <ogilson@pps.net <<mailto:ogilson@pps.net>> >; Karl Logan <klogan@pps.net <<mailto:klogan@pps.net>> >; Kristie Lindholm <klindholm@pps.net <<mailto:klindholm@pps.net>> >
Cc: Harry Esteve <hesteve@pps.net <<mailto:hesteve@pps.net>> >; David Northfield <dnorthfield@pps.net <<mailto:dnorthfield@pps.net>> >
Subject: RE: Question

Tell your principals we are preparing communication and procedures to follow

From: Scott Whitbeck
Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2018 2:51 PM
To: Leslie O'Dell; Joe LaFontaine; Elisa Schorr; Jennifer Patterson; Korinna Wolfe; Lisa McCall; Oscar Gilson; Karl Logan; Kristie Lindholm; Antonio Lopez
Cc: Harry Esteve; David Northfield
Subject: Re: Question

Thanks for sharing Leslie, I hadn't seen that yet. I imagine Guadalupe and Yvonne are working on this issue in advance of 3/14.

> Antonio, would you want to add it to our agenda for your OSP team meeting this Thursday?

Scott

Get Outlook for iOS <<https://aka.ms/o0ukef>>

From: Leslie O'Dell
Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2018 1:43:16 PM
To: Joe LaFontaine; Elisa Schorr; Scott Whitbeck; Jennifer Patterson; Korinna Wolfe; Lisa McCall; Oscar Gilson; Karl Logan; Kristie Lindholm; Antonio Lopez
Cc: Harry Esteve; David Northfield
Subject: Fwd: Question

Hi All,

This just came to me but wondering if you have seen this.

EXHIBIT 7
PAGE 1 OF 1

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [REDACTED]
To: haccetta@pps.net
Subject: gun violence prevention
Date: Tuesday, February 20, 2018 8:56:32 PM

Dear Ms Accetta:

This is [REDACTED], mom to [REDACTED]

Besides being [REDACTED] mom, I am a local leader for Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense. Indeed, my work with Moms is what led me to attend the dance to benefit Mother Pac where I saw you last fall.

Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense is a grassroots organization with chapters in all 50 states and 4 million members. We work to pass gun sense legislation and support gun sense candidates. Right now, we are helping with HB4145 in Oregon -- a bill that would prohibit all convicted domestic abusers and convicted stalkers from purchasing or possessing guns. It has passed the Oregon House and is headed to the Oregon Senate for a floor vote (hopefully next week).

Moms/Everytown (our umbrella organization) is partnering with Giffords (Gaby Giffords' group, shares our mission) to support the 3/24 March for Life. This event has been created by the teen survivors of the Stoneman Douglas school shootings of 2/14.

Moms Demand Action wants to support Portland's youth to hold a March in our city. We believe this is most effective coming from the kids but want to help wherever we can. We've done our share of these...

Is there a group of students or a particular student at LHS who would take on this work?

Thanks for any input you might have about this.

I'm very inspired by today's youth. They just may provide the moral and electoral muscle we need to tackle the terrible scourge of gun violence in America.

Take care,

[REDACTED]

From: Hanisi Accetta on behalf of Hanisi Accetta <haccetta@pps.net>
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: gun violence prevention
Date: Tuesday, February 20, 2018 9:05:22 PM

Hi [REDACTED]

Thank you so much for your email, and I already have 7-8 passionate students starting a club and wanting to do the march on the 14th. We would love to partner and great to hear you are connected with Gabby Gifford's group(my brother in law is a friend and major supporter in Tucson-such a small world)! Our youth are going to be the leaders that we need to make the change. Let's touch base later in the week once I have a solidified group of leaders, they will be thrilled to work with you and push forward this incredible mission.

Be well,

Hanisi Accetta
Lincoln High School
Activities Director
Leadership & IB 20th Studies

"History is a symphony of echoes heard and unheard. It is a poem with events as verses."
Charles Angoff

> On Feb 20, 2018, at 8:56 PM, [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]> wrote:
>
> Dear Ms Accetta:
> This is [REDACTED], mom to [REDACTED]
>
> Besides being [REDACTED] mom, I am a local leader for Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense. Indeed, my work with Moms is what led me to attend the dance to benefit Mother Pac where I saw you last fall.
>
> Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense is a grassroots organization with chapters in all 50 states and 4 million members. We work to pass gun sense legislation and support gun sense candidates. Right now, we are helping with HB4145 in Oregon -- a bill that would prohibit all convicted domestic abusers and convicted stalkers from purchasing or possessing guns. It has passed the Oregon House and is headed to the Oregon Senate for a floor vote (hopefully next week).
>
> Moms/Everytown (our umbrella organization) is partnering with Giffords (Gaby Giffords' group, shares our mission) to support the 3/24 March for Life. This event has been created by the teen survivors of the Stoneman Douglas school shootings of 2/14.
>
> Moms Demand Action wants to support Portland's youth to hold a March in our city. We believe this is most effective coming from the kids but want to help wherever we can. We've done our share of these...
>
> Is there a group of students or a particular student at LHS who would take on this work?
>
> Thanks for any input you might have about this.
>
> I'm very inspired by today's youth. They just may provide the moral and electoral muscle we need to tackle the terrible scourge of gun violence in America.

From: Jenne Bilbie-Alexander on behalf of [REDACTED]
To: Lisa Delaney; [REDACTED]
Cc: Heather Hull; [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: National School Walkout on March 14
Date: Monday, February 19, 2018 1:35:11 PM

Thanks, Lisa!

Hanna, I'd be happy to help in any way!

Jenne

On Mon, Feb 19, 2018 at 1:20 PM, Lisa Delaney <[REDACTED]> wrote:
Hanna and I have been talking about this and coordinating with Hosford and Cleveland.
More details forthcoming. Gretchen maybe you can connect with Hanna to see what you can
do to help?
Lisa

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 19, 2018, at 1:08 PM, Jenne Bilbie-Alexander <[REDACTED]>
wrote:

Hi Heather and Lisa,

What are your thoughts on Abernethy participating in the National School
Walkout on March 14?

I am happy to spearhead the event to help make it an "organized" 17-minute
walkout.

Thanks,
Jenne

<https://www.womensmarch.com/empower/>

Women's March Youth EMPOWER is calling for students, teachers, school administrators, parents and allies to take part in a #NationalSchoolWalkout for 17 minutes at 10am across every time zone on March 14, 2018 to protest Congress' inaction to do more than tweet thoughts and prayers in response to the gun violence plaguing our schools and neighborhoods. We need action. Students and allies are organizing the national school walkout to demand Congress pass legislation to keep us safe from gun violence at our schools, on our streets and in our homes and places of worship.

Students and staff have the right to teach and learn in an environment free from the worry of being gunned down in their classrooms or on their way home from school.

From: Sarah Leigh on behalf of [REDACTED]
To: Cortonio Smith-Myles
Subject: Walk out at the school....
Date: Monday, February 19, 2018 2:05:42 PM

Hey lady. Hope your holiday afternoon is treating you well. <3

Wondering how a walkout at Beach may feel like. This week has weighed so heavily on my heart. We're so past the point where this is NOT our problem.

https://www.actionnetwork.org/event_campaigns/enough-national-school-walkout

Lemme know your thoughts.

- S

From: Kari Lyons on behalf of Kari Lyons <[REDACTED]>
To: Eryn Berg
Cc: Kimmy Scarpine; Cara Haskey
Subject: Re: National school walkout
Date: Monday, February 19, 2018 3:27:23 PM

Thanks Eryn. I'm happy to organize or be the liaison for this event as needed. Cara and Kimmy, please let me know what role I can play to help.

Kari

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 19, 2018, at 3:23 PM, Eryn Berg <eberg@pps.net> wrote:

We are working with district leaders to identify what will work on our part to support the movement in a way that aligns with district policy. We should start the conversation with the PTA as well. I would love to find a way to share in this movement.

Thanks,
Eryn

From: Kari Lyons <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, February 17, 2018 9:14 PM
To: Eryn Berg
Subject: National school walkout

Hey Eryn,

My understanding is that is a national school walk out being held March 14th at 11am across the country to support the end of gun violence on children.

Will Alameda be supporting this effort?

Kari

Sent from my iPhone



PORTLAND
ASSOCIATION
OF TEACHERS



SUZANNE COHEN



FEB 21, 2018

HOME > THE ADVOCATE > PAT ADVOCATE, FEBRUARY 21, 2018

THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS ARE NOT ENOUGH

I can't begin to describe the pain I felt on Wednesday, February 14th when 17 lives were taken, and thousands of other lives forever darkened. As a 1994 graduate from Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, this shooting hit incredibly close to home for me.

I know you felt that pain too—educators across the city have been reaching out, ready for action.

In the past week, PAT members have made three things clear:

1. We need to take a serious look at our own safety procedures in PPS, to make sure we're doing everything we can;
2. We must continue to advocate for fully funded schools—with additional wrap-around services, including more mental health and counseling services; and
3. We need to take action, pushing our lawmakers for solutions to this senseless gun violence.

I'm all in.

But in addition to discussing preparations like our active shooter protocols, or preventative measures like adding school counselors, we have to talk about policy.

I'm past the point of debating whether or not gun violence is an education issue—it is.

When kids are afraid to go to school, that makes it an education issue. When our society can't deliver on the most basic promise to parents—that their children will come home from school alive—that means we need to have the conversation. When active shooter drills become part of standard teacher training, educators must join the debate.

I am by no means a gun safety expert, but I'm willing to listen and learn.

What I do know is that I am a teacher who didn't start her career pulling the shades, showing kids how to barricade the door, and crouching in closets with her students.

As educators—and union members—how do we make sure this doesn't become the new normal?

Let's take inspiration from the Stoneman Douglas students who survived this tragedy. They made it clear that thoughts and prayers are not enough—action is what we need. I know I'll be asking every candidate at our OEA PAC convention next month what they are prepared to do to address gun violence.

And through PAT we are also working with students and educators across the country to demonstrate our resolve—and the power of organized people.

As a first step I hope you'll join me in planning for March 14th, as part of a nationwide walkout to honor the students killed at Stoneman Douglas. You can find out more about what's happening that day, and how to get involved here. We are working with District leadership to plan a safe and supported event on March 14th, and we'll also be supporting other actions across Oregon and beyond, with more details as the emerge.

In closing, I'd ask you to think about the fact that whenever we conduct an active shooter exercise, we practice risking our lives to save our students. If we are brave enough to die for our students, can't we muster up the courage to talk about guns? I know it's hard—my family, my friends, my colleagues—we all feel differently about it, and that's okay.

But I think we can all agree school isn't a place where kids should die. As long as they are, we have to do something about it.

In Solidarity,

Suzanne Cohen
PAT President

Do you like this post?

Tweet



Subscribe with RSS

Portland Association of Teachers, 345 NE 8th, Portland, Oregon 97232
Phone: 503-233-5018

Created with NationBuilder

Like

From: Stephanie Soden
To: Suzanne Cohen
Cc: Yvonne Curtis; Jeanine Fukuda; David Northfield; Harry Esteve; Liz Large; Stephanie Cameron; Guadalupe Guerrero
Subject: Re: March 14 planned student walk out
Date: Monday, February 26, 2018 10:54:57 AM

Thanks, Suzanne!

Stephanie Soden
Chief of Staff
Office of the Superintendent
Portland Public Schools
501 N. Dixon Street
Portland, OR 97227
503-916-3214 office
971-940-4804 cell
ssoden@pps.net

On 2/26/18, 10:36 AM, "Suzanne Cohen" <PATPresident@oregoned.org> wrote:

Yes! Great.

We need communication materials. I'll send some stuff I'm working on later today or tomorrow.

Best,

Suzanne Cohen

> On Feb 26, 2018, at 10:30 AM, Stephanie Soden <ssoden@pps.net> wrote:

>

> All,

>

> Guadalupe and Suzanne brainstormed some great ideas to leverage the energy and interest generated by the school shooting into an educational and supportive opportunity.

>

> Can I please ask that we have a communication ready to go out to school staff and families by the end of this week that acknowledges the national March 14 walk out, provides educational and discussion resources and ideas for positive actions to implement, and reinforces our safety protocols and procedures?

>

> Harry, could you take the lead on this?

>

> Thank you,

>

> Stephanie Soden

> Chief of Staff

> Office of the Superintendent

> Portland Public Schools

> 501 N. Dixon Street

> Portland, OR 97227

> 503-916-3214 office

> 971-940-4804 cell

> ssoden@pps.net

>

>

> On 2/26/18, 10:00 AM, "Stephanie Soden" <ssoden@pps.net> wrote:

>

> Director Moore,

From: [Whitney Ellersick](#) on behalf of [Whitney Ellersick <wellersi@pps.net>](#)
To: [Asta Garmon](#)
Subject: RE: 3/14 10 am planned walk out
Date: Tuesday, February 27, 2018 9:08:27 AM

Thanks, Asta!

-----Original Message-----

From: Asta Garmon
Sent: Tuesday, February 27, 2018 8:49 AM
To: Whitney Ellersick <wellersi@pps.net>; Ben Dandeneau <bdandene@pps.net>
Subject: 3/14 10 am planned walk out

Hi Whitney and Ben,

You're probably aware, but 3/14 there is a national student walk out planned at 10 am to pressure the government to enact tighter gun control laws. It looks like PPS middle & high schools are planning on participating.

This could impact lunch numbers that day.

Asta

Sent from my iPhone

From: Kirsten Parrott on behalf of Kirsten Parrott <kparrott@pps.net>
To: Harriette Jackson Vimegnon; Regina Sun
Subject: March 14 National Walkout
Date: Wednesday, February 21, 2018 2:02:13 PM

Hello!

I have received word from PAT that the union is working with the district to coordinate a National Walkout on March 14 at 10:00 a.m. to stand with the victims of the Florida shooting on gun control legislation.

Roseway Heights, Sellwood, and Grant have posted their walkout events through actionnetwork.org, and I am happy to be the point person to post our event. The idea is that all staff and students interested in walking out at exactly 10 a.m. for 17 minutes, can do so. Parents and community members are welcome to participate as well.

This also will also be discussed with staff so that they can prepare students for the day with lessons and activities leading up to March 14 that will make the most of this event.

Let me know what you think, thanks!

Kirsten

Kirsten Parrott

8th Grade Language Arts/Social Studies

Beaumont Middle School

503-916-5610

kparrott@pps.net

mrsparrott.com

From: Harriette Jackson Vimignon on behalf of Harriette Jackson Vimignon <vimignon@pps.net>
To: Kirsten Parrott; Regina Sun
Subject: Re: March 14 National Walkout
Date: Wednesday, February 21, 2018 7:18:41 PM

It would be nice if teachers can request one parent per classroom to participate in this event. I have requested for parent volunteers through PTA.

H

Harriette Jackson Vimignon

Principal

Beaumont Middle School

From: Kirsten Parrott
Sent: Wednesday, February 21, 2018 7:15 PM
To: Harriette Jackson Vimignon; Regina Sun
Subject: Re: March 14 National Walkout

Will do!

From: Harriette Jackson Vimignon
Sent: Wednesday, February 21, 2018 7:15:07 PM
To: Kirsten Parrott; Regina Sun
Subject: Re: March 14 National Walkout

I will communicate this with PTA, Site Council and Foundation. I will be great if you communicate this with staff.

Sincerely,

Harriette Jackson Vimignon

Principal

Beaumont Middle School

From: Kirsten Parrott
Sent: Wednesday, February 21, 2018 2:02:12 PM

EXHIBIT 16
PAGE 1 OF 1

From: Antonio Lopez
To: [Liz Large](#); [Guadalupe Guerrero](#); [Yvonne Curtis](#); [Harry Esteve](#); [David Northfield](#); [Stephanie Soden](#)
Subject: FW: May Day Walkout Guidance
Date: Friday, February 23, 2018 10:37:10 AM
Attachments: [Walkout Guidance - 10.25.16.pdf](#)
[ATT00001.txt](#)

Team,

This message was sent to principals on prior walkout situations, I added the upcoming national marches that are being organized. Please take a look at the message and make recommendations. Principals have been asking for guidance and I told them it will be coming early next week. We also need to create a message for parents so they know the same information

Principals and Assistant/Vice Principals,

It has come to our attention that some organizations are encouraging students from PPS schools and surrounding school districts to walk out. Here is more information from NEA about the three main national student marches:

March 14 – the Women’s March has announced a National School Walkout in which school communities will walk out of their schools for 17 minutes to honor the lives lost in Parkland. NEA will join with AFT in encouraging educators throughout the country to wear orange on this day.

March 24 – Several students who survived the tragedy at Parkland have called for a student-led march and protest. They will travel to Washington, DC, and meet with politicians on the need to address gun violence and are encouraging others to join. This is a fully student-planned march. More information can be found at [marchforourlives.com](#)

April 20 – NEA and its members are joining with the National Public Education Network, American Federation of Teachers, Moms Demand Action, Everytown for Gun Safety, Giffords: Courage to Fight Gun Violence, and other national organizations, to take action against gun violence on April 20 together in a way that sends a strong message to policy makers that #enoughisenough.

However, I wanted to remind you about PPS’ policies and procedures regarding student walk-outs:

- * High school students who choose to walk out will receive an unexcused absence - and parents should know that any student that chooses to leave will not be chaperoned and will be responsible for their own safety.
- * All K-5, K-8 and Middle School students must remain in class unless checked out by a guardian.
- * Attached are copies of the walkout guidance and information you can share with your families.

If high school students do participate in a walk-out, please:

- * Contact your OSP Senior Director immediately.
- * Senior Director will notify communications office for media support if needed.
- * Additional resources including security or family communications will be provided.

Should you have staff wanting to participate, they may do so with an approved absence just as they would with any other circumstance that would require them to miss work.

If you have questions, please let me and your Senior Director know.

Thank you,

501 N. Dixon Street
Portland, OR 97227
503-916-3214 office
971-940-4804 cell
ssoden@pps.net <<mailto:ssoden@pps.net>>

On 2/25/18, 1:53 AM, "Rita Moore" <rmoore5@pps.net <<mailto:rmoore5@pps.net>> > wrote:

Would love to talk about this when you get a chance. Whatever we decide to do, I think it would be better to signal it sooner rather than later. I haven't heard about anything yet, but it wouldn't surprise me if some student groups were already starting to plan walkouts on their own.

By the way, Paul and I attended the OEA conference on trauma informed practices in schools. The Parkland shootings were mentioned more than once. Paul told me that he had heard OSBA may be actively promoting arming teachers. That's not confirmed yet, but it's plausible, so I think we should reach out to other districts and legislators to stop this terrible idea from getting any traction.

My deepest condolences about your cousin. Guns are a scourge in this country. I'm hoping that we are finally beginning to see some real mobilization around rational gun controls.

Rita

Rita Moore, PhD
Co-Vice Chair
Board of Directors
Portland Public Schools

From: Guadalupe Guerrero
Sent: Sunday, February 25, 2018 12:31:11 AM
To: Rita Moore; Stephanie Soden
Subject: Re: Updates on Media, Public Records

Yes, absolutely been thinking about this Rita.

I've asked Liz to provide some parameters so that any action we coordinate or sponsor doesn't get anyone unnecessarily in trouble.

Suzanne Cohen and I have been talking/ brainstorming about how to make a statement, provide space for our students and educators to acknowledge both recent events and reaffirm that we want to promote safe and supportive school communities that are free not just of violence, but bullying, harassment, and everything else that fosters anything less than a caring teaching and learning environment.

There a number of dates being proposed for various actions, so we are hoping to arrive at a plan(s) for how we might best proactively participate in some appropriate and educational way.

I've been talking with Superintendent peers from around the country –the response is varied, some are creating forum/space for some level of activity, whereas others are being hardline about pledging that students will be suspended if they disrupt school.

Gun violence is certainly impacting many people, especially students, who are making their voice known and demonstrating leadership across the country right now.

A couple of weeks ago another young cousin of mine was gunned down in Los Angeles. He was a smart, service-oriented person who worked in the community with at-risk youth, supporting gang prevention and working to prevent juvenile recidivism, all while training to become a firefighter. His funeral was this past week; hundreds were present, including my mom, to celebrate his young life, spent mainly helping others.

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> Would love to get your thoughts or ideas on how we might make a constructive statement.

> -G

> From: Rita Moore <rmoore5@pps.net>

> Date: Saturday, February 24, 2018 at 10:06 PM

> To: Guadalupe Guerrero <gguerrero@pps.net>, Stephanie Soden <ssoden@pps.net>

> Subject: Re: Updates on Media, Public Records

> Hi, Guadalupe -

> Have you considered having district-sponsored activities to capture the energy around the national student walkout on March 24? You spoke very eloquently last week about the need to get serious about gun violence. This could be an opportunity for you to lead the PPS community in a unified statement and at the same time ensure student safety.

> I suspect that students in a number of schools will take it upon themselves to organize something if the district doesn't act first.

> I believe several Superintendents across the country have announced that their districts will be participating in some highly structured ways. The whole Grand Rapids will be doing a 17-minute walkout.

> http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2018/02/grps_to_take_part_in_national.html

> [http://image.mlive.com/home/mlive-media/width620/img/grpress/news_impact/photo/24187294-standard.jpg]http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2018/02/grps_to_take_part_in_national.html]

> Entire Grand Rapids Public Schools district to take part in national walkouthttp://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2018/02/grps_to_take_part_in_national.html

> www.mlive.com

> The coordinated protest is being held in response to the Florida school shooting.

> I think this could be a great opportunity to change the prevailing narrative and demonstrate PPS's commitment to student well being.

> Rita

> Rita Moore, PhD

> Co-Vice Chair

> Board of Directors

Chief of Staff
Office of the Superintendent
Portland Public Schools
501 N. Dixon Street
Portland, OR 97227
503-916-3214 office
971-940-4804 cell
ssoden@pps.net

From: Rita Moore <rmoore5@pps.net>
Date: Tuesday, February 27, 2018 at 10:54 AM
To: Guadalupe Guerrero <gguerrero@pps.net>
Cc: Stephanie Soden <ssoden@pps.net>
Subject: Fwd: support for the student 17-minute walk out on March 17th

Hi, Guadalupe -

Looks like some plans are already afoot for student marches. Are you/we going to make any statement tonight in conjunction with Suzanne's comments on Parkland? I think tonight would be the time to indicate something one way or the other about the approach that PPS intends to take should walkouts happen - which I think is inevitable.

I think it would be great if we could capture this energy and work with students on some organized actions.

Would be happy to discuss before this evening if you have time. I expect that Board members will feel compelled to say something tonight. Would be better if we could have a coordinated message.

Rita

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: School Board <schoolboard@pps.net>
Date: February 26, 2018 at 10:34:39 AM PST
To: Moses Tran <mtran4@pps.net>, Julie Esparza Brown <jebrown@pps.net>, Paul Anthony <panthony@pps.net>, Amy Kohnstamm <akohnstamm@pps.net>, Rita Moore <rmoore5@pps.net>, Scott Bailey <sbailey@pps.net>, Julia Brim-Edwards <jbrim-edwards@pps.net>, Michael Rosen <mrosen@pps.net>

From: Stephanie Soden
To: [Julia Brim-Edwards](#); [Guadalupe Guerrero](#)
Subject: Re: Gun control and school safety
Date: Tuesday, February 27, 2018 3:43:15 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Hi Julia

I wasn't aware about the desire to pull a planning group together but am happy to discuss the best way to do that.

So you know where we are to date:

- Plans are underway to propose age appropriate resources, ideas and activities that teachers and administrators can use to honor the movement but remain on site, if at all possible, on March 14.
- We are also planning for contingencies should students choose to walk out. Guadalupe is reaching out to Chief Outlaw to coordinate a joint PPS/PPB planning effort.
- Suzanne and I have been in close contact on this as well and she is prepared to speak from PAT's perspective tonight at the Board meeting, as well as answer questions.
- On the planning side, Yvonne, Antonio, Liz, Jeanine and Harry are all working on aspects of this. The first communication planned regarding this is for Board members tomorrow and principals at their meeting Thursday morning.

If convening the group you mentioned below is still preferred, we could shoot for early next week after the initial expectations are communicated. Or, let me know if you have other thoughts.

Complicating matters even further, this is planned on the same day as the Hamilton performance in Seattle for roughly 750 PPS high school students from Madison, Jefferson, Alliance and Roosevelt high schools!

Stephanie Soden
Chief of Staff
Office of the Superintendent
Portland Public Schools
501 N. Dixon Street
Portland, OR 97227
503-916-3214 office
971-940-4804 cell
ssoden@pps.net

From: Julia Brim-Edwards <jbrim-edwards@pps.net>

Date: Tuesday, February 27, 2018 at 2:38 PM

To: Stephanie Soden <ssoden@pps.net>, Guadalupe Guerrero <gguerrero@pps.net>

Subject: RE: Gun control and school safety

Stephanie,

Let's huddle up on this. Suzanne called GG and me on one of the snow days to suggest we convene a small rep. group of Supt, PAT, Board leadership, PAPSA to discuss how we support and what we need to do (board or supt) to support or enable student and staff participation in these events. I believe both Guadalupe and I thought that was a good idea (they were separate conversations.)

jbe

From: Stephanie Soden

Sent: Tuesday, February 27, 2018 2:00 PM

To: Paul Anthony <panthony@pps.net>; Julia Brim-Edwards <jbrim-edwards@pps.net>; Guadalupe Guerrero <gguerrero@pps.net>

Cc: Harry Esteve <hesteve@pps.net>; Antonio Lopez <alopez@pps.net>

Subject: Re: Gun control and school safety

Thank you, Director Anthony. We totally agree and are pulling information and resources together to share with the Board, building administrators, staff and families this week.

Stephanie Soden
Chief of Staff
Office of the Superintendent
Portland Public Schools
501 N. Dixon Street
Portland, OR 97227
503-916-3214 office
971-940-4804 cell
ssoden@pps.net

From: Paul Anthony <panthony@pps.net>

Date: Tuesday, February 27, 2018 at 1:45 PM

To: Julia Brim-Edwards <jbrim-edwards@pps.net>, Guadalupe Guerrero <gguerrero@pps.net>

Cc: Stephanie Soden <ssoden@pps.net>

Subject: Fw: Gun control and school safety

I think it would be a good idea for the individual Board members to know what we can and should (or should not) do around this event, i.e., should we show up (or not)? If we get questions, how can and should we answer (or not)?

Paul