Q&A

National School Walkout Day is scheduled March 14. Fulton County Schools will support students in their desire to honor the teenagers and faculty murdered and injured in the shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida.

What is the Fulton County Schools plan for the National School Walkout Day, March 14?
FCS will continue to adhere to district policy while allowing students to demonstrate peacefully at structured, organized, and safe events that will not disrupt instruction. Principals at some FCS middle and high schools are planning student expression events or activities using established protocols and guidance from district leadership.

How will the schools structure the events?
Our middle and high schools will adapt bell schedules to ensure there is no disruption of instructional time. School leaders will allow structured time for the expression of support for the Parkland, Florida community. ***The structured events will take place around 10:00 a.m., which is the time of the national walkout event.***

What happens if a student does not attend school that day, or leaves during the activity?
Any student who does not report to school, or who leaves the campus during instructional time, will receive an unexcused absence. School principals will determine any student disciplinary action in accordance with policy and the Fulton County Schools Student Code of Conduct Handbook.

What if a student does not want to participate in the school's planned, structured activity?
The activity is optional. School leaders will assign teachers to supervise students who do not participate in the activity.

Why not just allow students to walk out of school at 10:00 a.m. March 14?
The district's policy promotes the right of student expression, but it does not allow student walkouts or protests that interfere or disrupt the school day. Also, we do not want to risk the safety of our students or staff.

For information on board policy for students and staff, please refer to the following link:
Student Discipline/Code of Conduct
https://www.boarddocs.com/ga/fcss/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=8VAMFT5A74B6