
Important Message for WHS Families and Students

1 message

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To: dan@wayzata.com

Thu, Jan 8, 2026 at
7:30 PM



Important Message

Dear Students and Families,

As you may be aware, there has been discussion among students and on social media encouraging WHS students to assemble or “walk out” of school tomorrow in response to recent events in Minneapolis. Similar activity has been reported at schools across the metro area. In light of this, I want to take a moment to outline our expectations and procedures should a student assembly or walkout occur.

First and foremost, student safety is our top priority. Our goal is to maintain a learning environment where all students and staff feel safe, respected, and supported. We are closely monitoring the situation and have administrative staff, school resource officers, and student support teams prepared to ensure the safety and security of everyone on campus throughout the day.

Student Rights and School Responsibilities

Students generally have the right to respectfully and peacefully express their views. At the same time, students also have the right not to participate. The school has a responsibility to maintain an environment that supports learning and ensures the safety of all students- both those who choose to participate and those who do not. It is important to note that no student should pressure, coerce, or unduly influence another student to participate in, or refrain from, such activity.

Expectations and Accountability

Please be aware of the following expectations should a walkout occur:

- Students who choose to participate will be held accountable for their attendance and for any coursework missed as a result of leaving class. Daily schedules will not be altered to accommodate participation in a walkout, including missed lunch periods.
- Students who cause disruptions, attempt to coerce or pressure others to participate, or violate school policies, including misuse of technology, will be addressed according to established school policies and procedures.
- Students who choose to leave the building will not be permitted to reenter except through secured and staffed entry points.
- Students who choose not to participate should feel comfortable remaining in class and will be supervised by staff as usual.

Supervision and Safety Measures

If students choose to assemble, school administrators and staff will be present to supervise and ensure student safety. Staff will not participate. Our role is not to endorse or oppose any message, but to minimize disruption and maintain a safe, orderly environment. Finally, and more importantly, outside entities, including parents or community members, will not be allowed or permitted on campus to support, confront or participate.

Support for Students

We recognize that current events can raise strong emotions and questions. Students who are feeling unsettled or need additional support are encouraged to connect with a member of their SST team, counselor, social worker, dean, achievement specialist or another trusted adult at school.

Parents, you are encouraged to let your student know your expectations in regard to such events occurring during the school day.

We appreciate your partnership and understanding as we navigate situations like this together. Our commitment remains to honor the student voice while upholding expectations that protect learning, safety, and respect for all members of our school community.

If you have questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to me directly.

Respectfully,

Scott Gengler
Principal

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