



Rosa International Middle School

École Rosa Internationale
Escuela Internacional Rosa

485 Browning Lane
Cherry Hill, New Jersey 08003-3160 USA
<http://rosaweb.chclc.org>



Mr. George Guy, *Principal*
Mrs. Lynne C. Vosbikian, *Assistant Principal*
Mr. George Zografos, *Assistant Principal*

2008 & 2017 National School of Character
2009 National Blue Ribbon School

Telephone: (856) 616-8787
Fax: (856) 616-0904

March 12, 2018

Dear Rosa International Middle School Families,

We, the administrators, teachers, and staff at Rosa International Middle School are aware of the local, national, and world-wide conversations around safety. We are also aware that our students, your children, have varied knowledge and feelings about these world events.

We have taken an active role in speaking with student leadership to guide their level of participation in the nationally identified voluntary school walkout on March 14, 2018 while empowering their voices in a positive manner. The following is a summary of the planned events at Rosa on 3/14:

- 1. Three grade level assemblies the morning of 3/14**
- 2. Student Voice opportunities to show solidarity with the seventeen victims of the Marjorie Stoneman Douglas High School Shooting in Parkland, FL on 2/14.**
- 3. School security review**
- 4. Media presentations highlighting Student Voice and activism**
- 5. Time during our Academic Core to discuss diverse views on the Parkland, FL incident. The resource is the district approved literary supplement NEWSELA (<https://newsela.com/>)**

Knowing some students will still plan to participate in the walk out, we will be prepared to best supervise the students who choose to participate in this action by using those available staff members to assist with supervision. Students will be given time and guidance on how to participate in their peaceful and orderly action with instructions on how to return to school in a timely and safe manner. Students who choose not to participate in this student-led action will remain in classes supervised by their assigned teachers.

Outside locations have been discussed with the students as aligned with guidance from the New Jersey Department of Education and our school district, but I continue to advocate for students to remain in our school building or even gather in our self-contained courtyard for their observance of this planned action.

I ask you to please speak as a family about what choices your child can or should make on this day. I also ask that you continue to monitor social media and ask questions of your child to make sure the school is aware of any actions they or others wish to partake. Surprise actions are not necessary and can jeopardize safety.

I will continue to support student voices and the school will always do what it can to keep students safe and learning. I will continue to have dialogue with students and families prior to and after March 14th in an effort to make safety a community responsibility so our students can ultimately focus on learning and enjoying age appropriate experiences that are aligned with their years in middle school.

As Dr. Meloche stated, “If you have a concern, even the slightest of concerns – speak up, say something, share your concern. Contact the school counselor or contact me directly if you have a concern. Contact the Cherry Hill Police Department if you have a concern that is criminal in nature – the men and women of the Cherry Hill Police Department, under Chief Monaghan’s leadership, are vigilant and engaged and involved, they are incredible partners for us all.”

Safety and security is everyone’s responsibility. If you have additional questions, please contact me. If your child is struggling, please contact their school counselor immediately – you may also find resources for parents, and mental health and crisis information resources, at www.chclc.org/departments/student-assistance.

Yours in this educational journey,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'George Guy', followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

George Guy
Principal
gguy@chclc.org