



DEXTER COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

March 9, 2018

Dear DCS Parents,

After a few warm days, we've been reminded that we live in Michigan with a daily snowfall. Some spring sports begin next week so we're hoping the weather breaks soon. Occasionally, we set up a time to just talk with community members about topics of importance to our families. In that spirit, I'll be holding a **Superintendent Coffee Hour at the Dexter Bakery on Monday, March 12th at 1:00**. Feel free to stop by and chat about any topic(s) you might have on your mind.

Anyone who watches, reads, or listens to the news is aware of a scheduled 17-minute National School Walkout next week. As a school district, we have worked to prepare for the possibility of our students choosing to participate or not participate. DCS Administrators have been planning for the safety of our students during the National School Walkout scheduled for Wednesday, March 14th at 10:00 a.m. This is NOT a Dexter Community Schools event. That being said, our administrators and staff at Mill Creek and DHS have worked through plans to safely allow students to exercise their First Amendment Rights while minimizing the disruption to the operations of the school. As a school district, we are required to maintain neutrality while also preserving the rights of students. This is a delicate balance to maintain and we ask that you please understand that we are committed to your kids along with their beliefs while maintaining that balance. In coordination with the Washtenaw County Sheriff's Department, we've developed a plan to maintain the safety of our students while minimizing disruption to the school day. We are fully expecting that students will choose to walk out while others will choose to stay in class and will not encourage students to do either. We ask our parents of students in grades 7-12 to please talk with your child prior to March 14th about their intentions, thoughts and feelings. It would also be helpful to have a discussion regarding your expectations to make sure you have a mutual understanding of expectations.

Thank you for your continued support, have a great weekend, and Go Dreads!

Sincerely,

Christopher Timmis, Ed.D.
Superintendent