

From: Great Hearts North Phoenix Preparatory
Sent: Saturday, April 14, 2018 5:33 PM
Subject: A Message From Headmaster Weinhold



Dear North Phoenix Prep Families,

In anticipation of nationwide student protests and school walkouts planned for April 20th, I want to share with you our Academy's proactive approach to this national moment. In partnership with student representatives, I have identified an opportunity for our students to honor those who have fallen in the tragedies of school shootings, to do so in a manner that is civil and not politicized, and to do all of this in partnership with the school.

Although the broader culture seems increasingly polarized these days, I was so proud of our students when I spoke to them about this day and what it means to them. They understood that our Academy is a public, non-sectarian institution serving a variety of Arizonans, and so any action on their part could not espouse a particular political perspective. They also showed a keen interest in preventing an attitude of dissent from overshadowing what they really desired: a moment of solemn remembrance.

With these principles in mind, our leadership team worked with the students to plan a mid-morning assembly just prior to Lyceum on April 20th. The purpose of this assembly is to honor the lives that have been lost in school shootings by participating in a moment of peaceful, silent remembrance. Our students will also have the opportunity to write notes of kindness or notes that acknowledge the lives that have been lost. They can then place these notes at a designated spot on our campus fence for the remainder of the day, where they will serve as a vivid memorial.

Please take a moment this weekend to speak with your student about this assembly. If, after reflecting together as a family, your student wishes to refrain from participating, then please know that we will offer an alternative space as well.

I want to thank our students for working together with me to organize this special event in the life of our school. Their ideas and their hearts of service have made me so proud to be a Gladiator!

With Devotion,
Headmaster Weinhold

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