



Evergreen Education Association

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Whereas, the members of the Evergreen Education Association are concerned about gun violence and school safety; and

Whereas, EEA rejects any policies that include arming educators as a solution or response to gun violence in our schools; and

Whereas, neither Congress nor the Washington State Legislature has acted with urgency to introduce or pass legislation to significantly reduce gun violence; and

Whereas, student activist groups of a new generation are stepping forward to take leadership in tackling gun violence, an issue our politicians have not had the political will to confront; and

Whereas, it is the job of educators to teach students, and the best way to teach them is authentically supporting and training students to use their voice and to lead; and

Whereas, it is the policy of Evergreen Public Schools to teach our students how to appropriately advocate for change; and

Whereas, the Women's March Youth Empower Organization is calling for a 17 minute student walkout at 10:00am on March 14th, the one month anniversary of the murder of 17 students and staff at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, FL; and

Whereas, the brave and civic-minded students of Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School are organizing a **MARCH FOR OUR LIVES** on March 24th; and

Whereas, the National Education Association is calling on locals to participate in the student-led National Day of Action on April 20th, the 19th Anniversary of the Mass Murder at Columbine High School; and

Whereas, educators see no greater value to our society than the students to whom we have dedicated our lives;

Therefore, be it resolved, the Evergreen Education Association supports current and future youth organizers, locally and throughout the country, in their efforts to bring about change by raising awareness of gun violence through their actions and civil disobedience. To this end, the EEA pledges supportive action and treasure.

Be it further resolved, the Representative Council of the Evergreen Education Association directs our union to take the following actions:

- Actively seek partnerships with local youth organizers to bring about change
- Take supportive action for non-violent collective action, organized by the students of Evergreen Public Schools, related to curbing gun violence in schools
- Move and support a similar resolution to this resolution with the Riverside Uniserv council.
- Regularly inform the membership of local actions taking place related to curbing gun violence in schools and give a report at the March representative council meeting detailing EEA's progress on current organizing around the issue of gun violence in schools
- Engage in dialogue with the school District, with the goal of working collaboratively to participate in the 17 minute walkout at the high schools on March 14th and to have similar developmentally appropriate actions at the middle and elementary schools
- Participate in the local **MARCH FOR OUR LIVES** event on March 24th
- Inform the District that the EEA will participate in an action on April 20th, to be determined by the membership
- Call a General Membership meeting to take place after March 24th but before April 18th, to present an action plan for April 20th and to take any necessary general membership votes on said action plan

Enacted by a unanimous vote of the Representative Council on February 26, 2018.