



CAMBRIDGE STREET UPPER SCHOOL
Manuel J. Fernandez, Head of School
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Tiffany Robinson, School Clerk

March 6, 2018

Dear CSUS Parents and Caregivers,

This week is World Language Week. This year's national theme is, "Languages Lead Us on a Path to Understanding Other Cultures." On Monday, we invited scholars and teachers to greet each other in another language. Today is Wear Your Flag day, and tomorrow is World Language T Shirt Day. Scholars are also being asked to listen to a sample of music and "name that language" each morning in Advisory. We encourage all to participate in this week's many exciting events, and are eager to see you all at this year's **World Language Night on Thursday, March 8th from 6:30-8:00**. Join us for multilingual performances from the chorus, OLA scholars, and jazz band, the results of the school-wide poster making contest, and a school wide multicultural potluck dinner. We are asking families to contribute dishes for the evening based on scholar grade level. Grade 6 families can bring a main dish, Grade 7 families can bring sides, and Grade 8 families can bring desserts. See you there!

Earlier this month, our Diversity Dialogues Series continued with a facilitated discussion of *Citizen: An American Lyric* by Claudia Rankine. A group of CSUS staff and parents also attended a public dialogue with the author this past Sunday. We encourage you to attend a performance of Ms. Rankine's play, *THE WHITE CARD*, at the Emerson Paramount Center, and join us for our follow up conversation at CSUS on March 22. A limited number of tickets to *THE WHITE CARD* are still available through the Arts Emerson website.

As you may already know, there is a National School Walkout planned for 10:00 am on March 14. National organizers report that the walkout will last 17 minutes - one minute for each victim of the Stoneman Douglas shooting. Superintendent Salim shared the following as a part of his email to the Cambridge community regarding schools' responses to recent events and the desire for action/peaceful protest on behalf of scholars and staff

CPS will neither promote nor punish these actions. Principals and administrators have been asked to maintain an open door policy for any students or staff members who wish to participate in these types of actions. The safety of our students is our top priority, and we will ensure that supervision remains in place. We encourage staff members and parents/caregivers to speak with your Principal if you have any questions.

While CPS can not endorse any political view, it is inspiring to witness the flourishing of student leadership across the country and here in our community. The young people of Cambridge are demonstrating what respectful and safe political engagement looks like. In this and so many other ways, they make us proud.

Many CSUS scholars and staff have expressed interest in participating in the March 14th walkout. We encourage you to talk with your scholar about the event so that you know their plans for that day. Scholars who choose to walk out will be supervised by CSUS staff. School administration and a Cambridge Youth Resource Officer will also be present to assist with supervision. Our Student Council will address scholars prior to the event to review their purpose and expectations. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Thank you for your continued support. We understand that you have choices and we appreciate you choosing CSUS!

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