



**GAVIN NEWSOM**  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

President Janet Napolitano  
Office of the President  
1111 Franklin Street, 12th Fl  
Oakland, CA 94607

Chancellor Tim White  
Office of the Chancellor  
401 Golden Shore  
Long Beach, CA 90802

Chancellor Eloy Oakley  
Office of the Chancellor  
1102 Q Street, Suite 4400  
Sacramento, CA 95811

March 1, 2018

Dear President Napolitano, Chancellor White, and Chancellor Oakley,

I write to request that California's public segments of higher education offer current and prospective students clear reassurances that their unexcused participation in the national school walkout to protest gun violence on 14 March 2018, will not impact prospective applications to California Community Colleges, California State Universities, and the University of California.

California's public institutions of post-secondary education fosters, promotes, and values civic participation. Student-led movements like this can have an incredible impact not only on civic discourse, but also on the individual growth of each student that chooses to participate.

Further, it is unequivocally clear – as the communities surrounding U.C. Santa Barbara and Santa Monica College can most recently and tragically testify – that students and college campuses have repeatedly been innocent victims of the nation's failure to address the endemic of gun violence.

The proposed seventeen-minute protest, conducted peacefully and lawfully, does not create a substantial disruption, nor infringe on the rights of other students. Current post-secondary students that choose to participate in lawful and peaceful national movements of civic engagement, such as this, should not suffer punishment. High school students who participate should not have their applications adversely affected.

University public higher education institutions across the county have already made similar statements – including some of your individual campuses. It is my hope that we join them in nurturing and supporting our future leaders.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gavin Newsom", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

GAVIN NEWSOM

Lieutenant Governor, University of California Regent, and California State University Trustee.

STATE CAPITOL, ROOM 1114, SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95814 • PHONE (916) 445-8994

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