



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **STUDENTS AT ALLIANCE COLLEGE-READY PUBLIC SCHOOLS JOIN NATIONAL WALKOUT TO STOP GUN VIOLENCE, AND DECLARE #ENOUGH**

*High-Performing Public Schools Promote Civic Engagement*

**March 13, 2018 (LOS ANGELES)** – As part of the March 14, 2018 National Student Walkout to End Gun Violence, scholars at Alliance College-Ready Public Schools will lead their peers in a number of activities, both inside and outside campuses across Los Angeles.

“Our scholars, like most young people, are concerned about the future of the world they live in, and I’m proud that they will lend their voices to the national chorus on March 14th,” said **Dan Katzir, CEO of Alliance College-Ready Public Schools**. “We stand with our scholars in standing up for their beliefs.”

In addition to observing 17 minutes of silence at 10 a.m., scholars across the network of 25 Alliance campuses plan to:

- Place 17 empty chairs in their school to honor the 17 people killed at Marjorie Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida
- Hold vigils and “sit-ins”
- Engage in voter pre-registration
- Write letters to elected officials
- Hold debates on the issue
- Wear orange

At Alliance Dr. Olga Mohan High School, a National Blue Ribbon school, scholars drafted a shared “I believe...” statement with their ideas for ending gun violence and plan to link arms around the block where their school is located in a vigil for all victims of gun violence.

**Loreen Riley, the principal at Mohan,** said “The National Walkout became an incredible learning opportunity for our scholars as they explored creative ways to show their support and develop their own opinion on the issue.”

At Alliance Leichtman-Levine Foundation Environmental Science High School, this week featured an advisory curriculum about gun violence. The school is hosting an all-day event, including scholar speeches.

The events at many schools were led by their Junior State of America chapters, one of the most active in Los Angeles, which was also involved in efforts to decriminalize street vending and participated in an international conference on nuclear disarmament.

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**About Alliance College-Ready Public Schools:** Alliance College-Ready Public Schools is one of the largest and most successful nonprofit charter school networks in the nation, operating 25 high-performing, public charter middle and high schools that educate nearly 13,000 students from Los Angeles’ most underserved communities. Alliance schools have been recognized as among the best in the nation by US News & World Report, Newsweek, the U.S. Department of Education and the California Department of Education. Since opening its first school in 2004, 95% of Alliance students have graduated from high school and been accepted to college.