



# prayers for PARKLAND

## Students pay tribute to the Parkland victims

"We as a school decided to come together to support the tragedy that occurred in Parkland, Florida. My fellow classmates and I wanted to honor the strong students that attend Margory Stoneman Douglas High School. I decided to take a stand and designate a day strictly for honoring the 17 victims of the Parkland school shooting in South Florida by the flagpole. We had 17 minutes of silence - one for each person who lost a life - with prayers and thanks for those who have survived and are fighting back. After school that day, a group of my friends and I decided to do a balloon release - once again, one for each individual who lost a life. The art class at my school got together with other fellow students and we made hearts for the teachers at MSD High School to tape on the walls to be able to spread love to all of the students upon returning to school. All of the students at my school who take an English class wrote a lengthy letter to one student each to fill them with positive thoughts as they probably faced one of the toughest days of their

lives. I stand with the students who are fighting for what they want to achieve. They are all strong individuals that are so educated and have such a courageous mindset to go up and fight against the culprits. I want to participate in all of the school walkouts that are currently scheduled because I love supporting the goal they are striving to reach. This generation is stronger than ever before and is coming back with a vengeance. The school walkouts are just the start of something huge. The generation that I am growing up in is ready to conquer anything thrown our way. We took this more seriously than other devastations because of how close it was to home. The school has now implemented a lot more rules that we didn't previously have. We now have 28 out of 31 doors locked at all times, except class changes. We need our planner to go everywhere and even to get back into our classrooms. If we leave while class is in session, we have to go to our teacher's back door and knock to be let in," Rondehl Virgin said.

## students REACT



## hometown HUSTLE

The emotions of the community become stirred up due to the shootings that occurred in South Florida

### How did the shooting affect you?

"The shootings have caused our school to improve our security. It is definitely a terrifying event, but I know that with this security, we are more safe."

**Gunter Rogers**

"I will never be able to feel safe again. I know they are trying to make everything better, but I don't see how things will be any more safe.."

**Savannah Bjorklund**

"School is supposed to be fun, safe, and enjoyable, but people like those shooters have made it everything but that." **Riley Waters**

"My cousin went to Margory Stoneman Douglas High School and has told me stories about all that went on. I can't imagine what they're going through." **Caitlyn McCarthy**

"I am proud of my school for taking initiative and solving problems before they occur. We never know what could happen, so why not be prepared?" **Haley Lee**

"The whole thought of a school shooting in our small town is terrifying." **Jake Reid**

"The school atmosphere will never be the same. It has been a somber place since the shooting." **Bain Priddy**

"I know that our security is working to make things better." **Maddie Wolden**