

## Brighton students protest police brutality

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Brighton High School students walked out at 11 a.m. Wednesday for the second time in just over a month.

On March 14, approximately 600 students at Brighton High School joined thousands across the nation in a student-led walkout against gun violence, marking one month since a gunman killed 17 people at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida.

Wednesday morning, Brighton students continued the fight against gun violence in a walkout against police brutality, as part of the Black Lives Matter movement.

Rena Reid, president of the Black Student Union for Brighton High School, helped organize the walkout with other students.

“We wanted to bring more attention to the Black Lives Matter movement since gun violence is such a big issue with police brutality,” said Reid. “Since we go to Brighton High School, we felt like it as important to share this message, since it’s not typically heard a lot across suburban areas.”

Reid, a senior, estimated 100 students joined the walkout, many of whom wore black shirts and lay on the ground outside of the school’s entrance to show the magnitude of deaths.

Unlike the last student walkout, this one was organized without receiving approval from administrators. Reid said this was intentional because she wanted it to be strictly organized by students for students, but that the school district has always been really supportive.

“This morning I’ve heard different reactions. I’ve heard some of the teachers were disappointed that we didn’t let them know, but others have been super-supportive of it,” said Reid.

Brighton School District Spokesman Dan Goldman said the district was aware of the walkout and stands behind its students.

“We’re proud of our students’ engagement and respect for their First Amendment rights,” said Goldman. “We hope to be supportive of the students’ needs, their learning, and above all, provide a safe environment.”

Goldman said there won’t be disciplinary consequences for students who took part in the event.



**The Black Student Union Club was joined by other Brighton High School students to protest deaths by police brutality. They lay down to show the magnitude of deaths.** TINA MACINTYRE-YEE/@TYEE23/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER