

Sample Program and Schedule for May 4

On May 4, you want everything to go smoothly and to ensure that educators and students get to school on time. We're walking into schools to *support* the teachers, students and our public schools, not to disrupt them!

Most groups will meet at the school site, while others may gather nearby and march to the school together. Think through what you will need at each location: Signs at the beginning and coffee at the end? Or maybe have coffee at the beginning and donuts at the end? Be sure to pad your schedule with a few extra minutes—we don't want anyone to be late to the classroom. This sample program offers an idea of how you might plan the schedule for your walk-in. Check out the videos on www.reclaimourschools.org to see what a walk-in looks like.

WALK-IN SCHEDULE

- 6:45 a.m. Planning team arrives at your designated meet-up place(s) to unload signs, sign-up sheets, coffee, etc. (You may want two teams—one at the meet-up place, and one waiting at the school.)
- 7 a.m. Participants arrive. Wave signs as cars drive up; chant, sing, etc.
- 7:15 a.m. If marching or walking a few blocks to the school, the group hits the road!
- 7:30 a.m. Gather everyone for a short program in front of the school.
- Try to keep the number of speakers to a **maximum of four people** who represent parents, school staff, students and/or community organizations, faith leaders, etc.
 - Each speaker gets **two minutes or less** to deliver a prepared message or demand. (Work with the speakers ahead of time to differentiate their remarks and make sure to include a national message element.)
 - Here's a **sample program**:
Speaker #1: Greeting. This is why we're here today!
Speaker #2: Our Message. For the schools all our students deserve, we need ...
Speaker #3: Our Campaign. Our fight doesn't end today! Next steps, and why we need you!
Speaker #4: Thank you for coming, and don't forget [start turnout work for the next event in your campaign. Be sure to ask everyone to sign up to help!]
- 7:45 a.m. Everyone walks into school and sings or chants a final message.
- 7:50 a.m. Everyone goes to work!

OTHER POSSIBLE ACTIVITIES

- Find a way to highlight what you are proud of about your school—e.g., have a quick performance with music, dancing and/or singing, or display some artwork.
 - Assign someone to take pictures, coordinate social media coordinator and traditional media.
- Collect letters/postcards addressed to the school board, school administration, state Legislature—or any target of your local work.
- Have flyers on hand! If parents, educators or community members want to learn more, you can share our 1-pagers on:
 - Budget Myths and Facts
 - Less Testing, More Learning
 - Commonwealth Charter Schools

These 1-pagers are available at the BTU and can be downloaded at www.bostonedjustice.org