



THE EDUCATION CENTRE - AURORA

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September 30, 2015

Dear elementary school students, parents and guardians,

This letter is to provide you with a further update regarding the escalation of job sanctions by the Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario (ETFO) and the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE), which represents education support staff members.

**Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario**

As I shared last week, ETFO has made public statements regarding planned rotating one day strikes if progress does not occur at the provincial bargaining table. At this time, YRDSB has no additional information about when the one day strike will occur. Additional information regarding the existing strike actions is available on the Board website at [www.yrdsb.ca](http://www.yrdsb.ca).

**Canadian Union of Public Employees (i.e., caretakers, clerical, DECEs and educational assistants)**

On September 29, 2015, CUPE escalated its withdrawal of services, which includes:

- not handling money;
- not sweeping hallways or entrances unless there is a safety concern; and
- not cutting grass or cleaning up leaves unless there is a safety concern.

A list of additional activities being withdrawn by CUPE members is available on the Board's website. As a result of these sanctions, parents may notice that some programs or activities may be cancelled.

The York Region District School Board is undertaking all possible measures to minimize the impact of labour sanctions on students and their families. It is important to note that the job actions are a result of the bargaining process at the provincial level, and Board employees are required to follow the direction of their provincial federations/unions. At the local Board level, we continue to bargain with all our employee groups, including ETFO and CUPE.

You can find updates and information about labour issues on the Board website: [www.yrdsb.ca](http://www.yrdsb.ca). You may also follow our Twitter account for more immediate updates: [@yrdsb](https://twitter.com/yrdsb).

We recognize this situation is disappointing; your child's safety continues to be our first priority.

Sincerely,

J. Philip Parappally  
Director of Education