



Wednesday, September 25, 2019

Dear Parents/Guardians of KPR students,

We thought it would be valuable and timely to share an update on the status of the provincial labour situation, specifically with respect to our support staff.

Currently, there are ongoing labour negotiations with education unions across Ontario. These negotiations take place at both the provincial and local level. At the provincial level, the government and the trustees' associations negotiate the issues that have the greatest monetary effect, affecting all school boards across the province. At the local level, individual school boards bargain directly with their local unions on issues that are unique to each school board, such as the way we fill staff positions or plan professional development and leadership opportunities.

Trustees:

*Diane Lloyd
(Chairperson)*

*Sarah Bobka
(Vice-chairperson)*

*Cathy Abraham
Terry Brown
Cyndi Dickson
Kailee Dupuis
Rose Kitney
Jaime Klassen Jeninga
Angela Lloyd
Shirley Patterson
Steve Russell*

*Jorja Darrington
Justine MacKay
(Student Trustees)*

As part of this process, you may have seen recent media reports regarding strike action by our CUPE members.

CUPE (Canadian Union of Public Employees) represents support staff in our schools, including custodians, maintenance workers, secretaries, educational assistants and early childhood educators, among others.

It is our understanding that CUPE will begin legal strike activities this Monday, September 30, 2019, with "work-to-rule" actions.

While final details locally are still to be confirmed, it has been reported that these actions may include:

- some reductions in cleaning activities
- staff not completing additional duties beyond their normal responsibilities or hours of work.

We understand that parents have concerns about any possible job actions at school. We want to assure you that we believe normal school operations for students can and will continue at this time.

We also plan for possible contingencies as they may arise, and in the event of a full withdrawal of service by our support staff, we would monitor school conditions daily to ensure school operations were safe for students and staff.

We will continue to follow this situation closely and are committed to providing you with accurate and timely information.

We remain hopeful that a provincial agreement can be reached soon.

As always, the most recent information or updates can be found on our website: www.kprschools.ca or follow us on Twitter @kprschools. We will also be sharing further information electronically through the School Messenger system.

Sincerely,

Diane Lloyd
Chairperson of the Board

Jennifer Leclerc
Director of Education

*Dr. Jennifer Leclerc
Director of Education*

EDUCATION CENTRE

*1994 Fisher Drive
Peterborough, Ontario
K9J 6X6*

*(705) 742-9773
1 (877) 741-4577
Fax: (705) 742-7801*

Website: www.kprschools.ca