

October 19, 2024

Dear parents, guardians, and families,

This letter is to inform you that CUPE Local 3550, representing support staff in our schools and central departments, has voted in favour of strike action. The Local has advised they will commence a strike on Thursday, October 24, 2024. While we respect the right of support staff to strike, we are disappointed that this action will impact our classrooms. We remain committed to bargaining and finding a resolution that avoids further disruption.

Who is on strike?

As you may be aware, CUPE Local 3550 includes support staff like administrative assistants, administrative assistant mentors, clerks, educational assistants, educational assistant mentors, food preparers, interpreters, library technicians, licensed practical nurses, speech language pathology assistants, supply educational assistants and technicians.

How we got here

We've been working together with CUPE Local 3550 since 2022 to reach a collective agreement on matters that are important to the local. Steps have been taken to address key issues between the parties, which included having a mediator appointed to work towards a collective agreement.

We value the incredible work that support staff do in schools and central departments to support student success each and everyday, and we remain committed to reach an agreement.

Impact on student learning

We understand this will have an impact on our schools and student learning. The Division has contingency plans for this work stoppage, which we will share with families early next week.

Support

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your school principal. We are here to support you and your children during this time.

Sincerely,



Darrel Robertson
Superintendent of Schools