

February 20, 2025

Dear parents, families and guardians,

We are writing to provide an update regarding the recent court injunction related to the ongoing CUPE Local 3550 strike.

Last Friday, the Court of King's Bench heard an application for an injunction that sought to overturn a Ministerial Order signed by the Minister of Education that grants the school division permission to allow some students to learn from home, during the current labour action by CUPE Local 3550. The application was filed on behalf of four families and did not name Edmonton Public Schools as a party.

The Court of King's Bench granted the injunction providing the Minister of Education until February 27, 2025 to consider a new Ministerial Order. However, the Court has also noted the opportunity for the Minister of Education to seek additional time.

Given this decision, we are currently awaiting further instructions from Alberta Education about ongoing actions related to the injunction.

Contingency plans

While we await further direction from Alberta Education, our current contingency plans remain in place. This means that students who are presently on alternative learning arrangements will continue with those arrangements. We are currently examining the decision and conversations have already started about potential adjustments to our contingency plans.

Safety and staffing

We understand this situation is incredibly challenging, especially for families with students who have specialized learning needs. We know how disruptive the past few weeks have been, and we sincerely regret the impact this is having on your children and your families.

Please know that we are doing everything we can within our current resources to support all students. However, the reality is that we do not currently have the staff to ensure the safety of all students if they were to return to in-person learning every day. As a school division, we have a legal responsibility to provide a safe learning environment.

Our commitment

We understand how deeply this situation is affecting many families. We want to assure you that we are committed to providing a safe and supportive learning environment for all students. We value support staff and the essential role they play in schools. We are eager to have them back in classrooms, working alongside us to support student success.

We will continue to provide updates and information as soon as it becomes available. We appreciate your ongoing patience and understanding.



Darrel Robertson
Superintendent of Schools