



THE EDUCATION CENTRE - AURORA

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September 24, 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), which affects schools across the province, including in York Region.

Beginning this past Monday, ETFO Provincial directed teachers to begin "Phase 3" of their job action. The sanctions announced by ETFO earlier this week are primarily administrative in nature and classroom instruction continues. However, you will notice some activities previously completed by teachers are no longer being provided. Teachers have been instructed by ETFO Provincial **not** to participate in:

- class field trips during the instructional day;
- open houses, such as meet-the-teacher events, outside the instructional day;
- fundraising activities or collecting monies from students;
- updating classroom websites/blogs or completing/distributing class newsletters; and
- providing coverage beyond their own students/classrooms.

In addition, on Wednesdays, teachers have been instructed by ETFO Provincial to:

- **not** participate in extra-curricular activities for the day;
- **not** stay at the school beyond 15 minutes after safe dismissal;
- collectively wear specific coloured clothing on this day; and
- focus solely on teaching and student supervision.

During this job action our elementary schools remain open and classes continue.

ETFO Provincial has made public statements that, if progress does not occur at the provincial bargaining table, planned rotating full withdrawal of services may begin in October. At this time, the York Region District School Board has no additional information about if, or when, a full withdrawal of services will take place. We will keep parents up-to-date as we receive additional information.

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

Our focus continues to be the safety, well-being and achievement for all students.

Sincerely,

J. Phillip Parappally
Director of Education