



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 29, 2016

Instructional programs for Grades 9 to 12 cancelled on Tuesday, May 3, 2016

As the School Board will not be able to provide a safe learning environment for students due to the strike actions of high school teachers on Tuesday, May 3, 2016, all instructional programs for Grades 9 to 12 will be cancelled, and all Rainy River District School Board high schools will be closed to students, with the exception of Grades 7 and 8 students at Atikokan High School.

Elementary school classes and programming will continue as normal.

Additional impacts of the one-day strikes include:

- high school extra-curricular activities, field trips, school events being cancelled during the one-day walk outs.
- buses for high school students not operating.

Buses will continue their routes for elementary students only.

Community use of schools, in the evenings and on weekends, will continue as scheduled.

High school students are encouraged to continue their learning through self-directed study, continuing to prepare for their exams or assignments as under normal circumstances.

Provincial representatives from the Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation (OSSTF), representing high school teachers and high school occasional teachers in the Rainy River District School Board, provided notice on April 22, 2016, of strike action in the form of weekly full withdrawal of services, one-day per week, effective April 27, 2016. The strike action may take place on any day of the week, with a minimum of 24 hours' notice provided to the Board from OSSTF. This is despite a commitment from the Board Chair to continue discussions, requesting OSSTF back to the negotiations table.

The Rainy River District School Board values its partnership with parents, and will provide any new information and updates as they arise. There is also a dedicated section accessible from the front of the School Board's website, www.rrdsb.com, for ongoing updates.

Thank you for your understanding during this challenging time for everyone in our system. The Rainy River District School Board is committed to maintaining positive relationships with our students, parents, staff and broader community and ensuring the safety of our students throughout this job action.

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Mission: *"Together, we empower all students to believe in themselves, to achieve, and to dream."*

Vision: *"The Rainy River District School Board is an innovative community, nurturing hearts and minds, to build a foundation for tomorrow, today."*

This publication is available in accessible formats upon request.