



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 3, 2015

OSSTF announces District 5B – Rainy River Teachers’ Bargaining Unit partial withdrawal of services

On December 2, 2015, the Ontario Secondary School Teachers’ Federation (OSSTF) announced that the District 5B – Rainy River Teachers’ Bargaining Unit will be taking legal job action in the form of a partial withdrawal of services beginning on Wednesday, December 9, 2015 in the event that there is not a tentative settlement by midnight of Tuesday, December 8, 2015.

During this local job action, secondary teachers will:

- not attend staff meetings and department meetings, and not attend or organize meetings of Department Heads;
- not participate in Professional Learning Communities, non self-directed professional development and other Board/Ministry Initiatives;
- not provide coverage for administrators;
- not participate in student success data collection;
- not participate in the planning, student preparation, marking or administration of the EQAO, literacy and numeracy tests;
- not provide progress/interim reports;
- not comment on report cards;
- not complete any documents for Credit Recovery.

The collective bargaining framework for the education sector features a two-tier bargaining process, or central and local bargaining as it is often referred to. This means issues such as salary, benefits, and paid leaves are negotiated on a province-wide basis at a central table. All other issues are then negotiated locally.

Although the Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA) ratified the tentative settlement reached with OSSTF Teachers at the provincial level, local negotiations continue between federations and school boards.

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.

The School Board continues to have confidence in the professionalism of its teachers throughout the negotiation process, and is committed to continuing ongoing discussions, remaining hopeful an agreement will be reached soon.

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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.