



Rainy River

DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

August 28, 2015

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Bargaining and dialogue between the province and unions representing teachers and school support staff has been underway since the new year. Contracts have expired and are currently being bargained, as outlined in legislation, between the province, unions, and the Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA).

On Aug. 20, 2015, the Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario (ETFO) announced phase two work-to-rule in public schools across Ontario. We know that, as parents and guardians, it is important for you to know how this situation may affect your child, so I'm writing to provide you with an update.

In addition to job action taken during Phase One, during Phase Two, teachers will not:

- plan, organize or participate in field trips
- plan, organize or participate in fundraising activities
- collect monies
- attend open houses or 'Meet the Teacher' nights outside of the instructional day
- participate in board professional development, other than mandatory first-aid training, Sabrina's Law and WHMIS
- collect or distribute to students any paperwork required by the school or school board

At this time, ETFO has informed teachers that they are able to volunteer to provide extracurricular activities. Other phase two work-to-rule protocols have been directed by ETFO, but they are administrative in nature, and as such, there will be limited impact on students.

Parents are valued partners in education, and we will provide any new information or updates as they arise. We have also established a dedicated section accessible from the front page of our website, www.rrdsb.com, for ongoing updates.

We continue to have confidence in the professionalism of our elementary teachers throughout the negotiation process, and we value their work with students. We remain hopeful that an agreement can be reached soon.

Thank you for your patience, support and understanding.

Sincerely,

Heather Campbell,
Director of Education

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