

NEWS RELEASE

NCDSB to Close Schools Should CUPE Strike on Oct. 7 October 3, 2019

As you are aware, the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) has announced a full withdrawal of services beginning on Monday, October 7 if an agreement is not reached at the provincial bargaining table.

At this time, the Northeastern Catholic District School Board wishes to inform you that we have made the very difficult decision to close all of our schools to students beginning on Monday, October 7 should a provincial agreement not be reached before that date. This would mean that students will not be able to attend school.

At the NCDSB CUPE represents our custodians, maintenance staff, secretaries, educational assistants, IT staff, office clerks, and child & youth workers. The health and safety of all of our students and staff remains the Board's primary concern and is the predominant factor considered in the decision to close schools to students should there be a full withdrawal of CUPE services.

We are committed to keeping you informed. Our Board website will be the location for public announcements and updates regarding the labour disruption. As well, we will endeavour to send our families more information through our telephone messenger system.

Since there is a possibility that schools may be closed for an indefinite period of time, we recommend that you immediately begin making alternate plans for the care of your children, in the event that the strike proceeds.

We offer our prayers that CUPE and the government are able to reach a fast, fair and respectful collective agreement.

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For more information, please contact: Andrew Marks, Community Relations Officer at (705) 268-7443 ext. 3213