May 30, 2014

Dear Parents and/or Guardians:

Re: Teacher Strike Action

The British Columbia Teachers’ Federation has announced that its members will continue with rotating strike action throughout the Province of BC next week.

School District No. 43 (Coquitlam) will be impacted on Thursday, June 5, 2014.

As a result of the strike action, teachers will not be reporting for duty on June 5th. While school facilities will remain open under school district administration, we will be unable to provide students with instruction. There will be limited ability to provide appropriate supervision during this period of job action. We are therefore requesting that parents keep their children at home from school and StrongStart Centres on Thursday, June 5th. School field trips, extra-curricular activities, and facilities rentals will be cancelled for that day.

We have been advised that parents will be allowed to cross picket lines to escort their children to daycares and pre-schools. Please contact your provider to determine if their facility will be open on that day.

Bus service will not be available.

Further information will be provided through the media and our school district website: www.sd43.bc.ca. Your school principal will also be able to give you information. It is the sincere hope of the Board of Education that labour negotiations will be concluded quickly, and that normal school operations will resume as soon as possible. In the meantime, we will endeavour to keep you informed of developments.

For more information about the strike and lockout please refer to the following websites:
British Columbia Teachers’ Federation (BCTF) www.bctf.ca
Coquitlam Teachers’ Association (CTA) www.coquitlamteachers.com
BC Public Employees Association (BCPSEA) www.bcpsea.bc.ca
BC Ministry of Education www.gov.bc.ca

We are all proud of the hard work of our dedicated staff in serving our community. We hope that the labour dispute is resolved quickly at the bargaining table.

Yours sincerely,

Thomas Grant
Superintendent of Schools
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 43 (COQUITLAM)