



Learning for a Lifetime

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May 21, 2014

Dear Parents and/or Guardians:

Re: Teacher Strike Action

As you may have already heard, the British Columbia Teachers' Federation has announced that its members will begin rotating strike action throughout the Province of BC next week. According to a May 20th BCTF News Release: "The rotating strikes will begin on Monday, May 26 and continue May 27, 28, and 29. All school districts will be impacted on one of those days. All schools will be open on Friday, May 30. Any extension of the rotating job action will depend on events at the bargaining table."

School District No. 43 (Coquitlam) will be impacted on Wednesday, May 28th, 2014.

The BCTF indicated that further school closures will continue "as necessary" depending on progress at the bargaining table.

As a result of the strike action, teachers will not be reporting for duty on May 28th. 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 Wednesday, May 28th.** School field trips, extra-curricular activities, and facilities rentals will be cancelled.

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.

Yours sincerely,

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