



Conseil des
écoles publiques
de l'Est de l'Ontario

Update: CUPE negotiations

Ottawa, November 16, 2022

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Today, the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) announced its intention to go on general strike on Monday, November 21, 2022, if no agreement is reached.

How will my child's education be affected?

If a strike occurs, our schools will switch to virtual learning. November 21 will be an asynchronous learning day (learning activities placed in their teacher's *Google Classroom*). Students and learners will be required to stay home and will have access to asynchronous instruction via their teacher's *Google Classroom*.

If the strike continues on Tuesday, November 22, synchronous virtual instruction will be implemented. This means that instruction will be offered virtually, in real time with your child's teacher. Your child's teacher will contact you prior to the start of classes to send you all the connection details.

Why can't CEPEO schools offer in person learning if teachers are not on strike?

Our schools and departments have a significant proportion of CUPE-represented staff, including custodial staff and almost all administrative and technical support staff (secretaries, library technicians, attendance officers, etc.) in the schools. Without these staff in the schools, the health and safety of students and staff cannot be adequately ensured.

Will my child be provided with a technological device?

Yes, if you requested it two weeks ago. Your child's school will ensure that your child receives a technology device based on the same needs as when he/she went virtual in early November. If your needs have changed, please write to your child's school principal as soon as possible. Chromebooks will be issued to all students needing them by the end of the day on Friday.

Will teachers continue to check attendance?

Yes. If your child will be absent, please report the absence via email to your child's teacher and the school's generic address.

Will there be a delay in the distribution of report cards?

As school and administrative operations are affected, there may be delays in the distribution of report cards.

Is the PAVÉ affected by the strike?

No. All PAVÉ activities will continue as usual.

Will extracurricular activities and outings be maintained?

No. All extracurricular activities and field trips scheduled for Monday, November 21, 2022 are canceled. For subsequent days, decisions will be made as the situation develops. The teacher in charge or the principal will inform you at the appropriate time.

Will the special needs classes remain in person?

Yes, at this time we are confident that students with special needs enrolled in special needs classes and programs at Le Transit School will continue to be taught in the classroom. Transportation will be provided. Classroom cleaning will be done to ensure safety and cleanliness. If this situation changes, you will be promptly informed.

Please note, however, that we may have to temporarily close special needs classes due to the snowfall forecast for the weekend. There is limited capacity to keep schools clean and sanitary in addition to clearing snow and spreading salt to ensure the safety of students and staff. You, the staff, parents and guardians involved will be notified as soon as possible through written communication.

Will child care services be open?

We will communicate details regarding child care services as soon as possible.

What are the impacts of the strike on the Family Portal (ASPEN)?

- There may be delays in processing new student registrations;
- The processing of requests from parents who encounter difficulties accessing and navigating the Family Portal may take longer than usual.

Is a resolution to the dispute possible by November 21?

Yes, negotiations between the two parties are ongoing and we are hopeful that they will reach an agreement.

We understand that this situation is causing some inconvenience to your child and your family. I want to assure you that our staff will once again do everything possible to provide a caring and supportive learning environment for your child. We will continue to keep you informed in a timely manner as the situation evolves.

I thank you for your trust.

Sylvie C.R. Tremblay
Director of Education