



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

Update: CUPE negotiations and transition to online learning on November 4, 2022

Ottawa, November 3rd, 2022

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We have just been informed that mediation between the Ontario government and the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) has officially been stopped and that the government will be moving forward with the proposed *Keeping Students in School Act*, if passed. For its part, CUPE has already announced that its members will be on a political demonstration starting Friday, November 4.

We are therefore confirming that, with the exception of special education classes and classes at Le Transit, our schools will be moving to asynchronous virtual learning (learning activities placed in *Google classroom*) on Friday, November 4th and then synchronous (virtual, real time with the teacher) on November 7th, if the protest continues, until further notice.

Why CEPEO schools are going virtual

Parents are asking why our schools are going virtual when other school boards are not. CUPE affiliated staff are not the same from one board to another. Our schools and departments have a significant proportion of CUPE-represented staff, including custodial staff and almost all administrative and technical support staff in the schools (secretaries, library technicians, attendance officers, etc.). Without the presence of these staff in the schools, it is impossible to adequately ensure the health and safety of students and staff. This is the reason why CEPEO schools are moving to virtual learning while other school boards' schools may remain open.

REMINDER - Special education classes and école Le Transit classes

As was the case during the pandemic, instruction for students with special needs enrolled in separate classes and programs at école Le Transit will continue to be face-to-face. Transportation will be provided. Classroom cleaning will be done to ensure safety and cleanliness.

REMINDER - Child Care Services

CEPEO and partner childcare services will be closed as of Friday, November 4th until further notice.

REMINDER - Attendance

As of Monday, November 7, if your child will be absent from school, please report the absence preferably to the school's generic email address.

Please be assured that we will continue to provide a caring learning environment for children and learners and will continue to keep you informed as the situation evolves.

I thank you for your trust and wish you a great weekend.

Sylvie C.R. Tremblay
Director of Education