



October 3, 2019

RE: Possible School Closures in the Event of a Full Strike by CUPE

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

On October 2, 2019, members of the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) announced that they would begin a legal full withdrawal of services (strike action) in Ontario schools beginning on Monday, October 7, 2019 unless there is progress at the central bargaining table with the Ministry of Education and the trustees' association.

Student safety is the top priority for the LKDSB. If the strike proceeds, CUPE staff will not report to work. In our schools and across our system, CUPE represents custodians, early childhood educators, educational assistants, secretaries, library and computer technicians and other school-based and central staff members. A full strike would mean none of these important supports for schools would be in place and the LKDSB will not be able to safely operate our schools.

If an agreement is not reached this weekend and the strike proceeds, all LKDSB schools will be closed to students on Monday, October 7, 2019 for the duration of the strike. Please continue to check the LKDSB website throughout the weekend and including Monday morning for updates regarding whether schools will be closed beginning Monday, October 7.

Due to anticipated school closures for an indefinite period of time, families are strongly encouraged to explore alternate child care arrangements.

The LKDSB is hopeful a fair agreement can be reached and the full strike action will be avoided.

The LKDSB will update parents/guardians and all stakeholders as soon as new information becomes available. Please visit the LKDSB website (www.lkdsb.net) regularly for up-to-date information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Howitt'.

John Howitt
Director of Education