



THE PROTESTANT SEPARATE SCHOOL BOARD OF THE TOWN OF PENETANGUISHENE

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Parents of Burkevale Protestant Separate School Students

FROM: Lynne Cousens
Board Chair

DATE: May 2015

**RE: IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR FAMILIES:
Potential Job Action by Elementary Teachers Province-wide**

The purpose of this memo is to update Protestant Separate School Board families on the status of labour negotiations with elementary teachers. We know that, as parents, it's important for you to know how this situation may affect your child(ren) so I'm writing to provide you with an update.

At the provincial/central bargaining table, the Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario (ETFO) filed for conciliation and made the request for a No-Board Report. On April 24, 2015, ETFO announced that they are in receipt of a No-Board Report. **As such, elementary teachers across the province are in a legal strike position as of May 10, 2015. This may include any labour action or withdrawal of service, up to and including a strike.**

**Please note that this does not mean a strike will happen in the Board's
Burkevale Protestant Separate School as of May 10, 2015.**

As per the *Ontario Labour Relations Act*, five days' notice must be given before any strike action can be taken. We are committed to keeping you informed and will communicate with you immediately, if and when we become aware that strike notice has been provided at the provincial/central bargaining table.

Please note that should a strike occur, Burkevale Protestant Separate School would be closed to students.

Our priority during any job action is the safety of our students. If any job action occurs by elementary teachers', we want you to clearly understand the status of our school, and we want to make sure families have as much notice as possible.

If you have questions, or want to know what is happening related to negotiations:

- ▶ Visit the Board website at www.pssbp.ca
- ▶ June Merkley, Supervisory Officer, will be handling all communications on behalf of the Board. June may be reached at: jmerkley@pssbp.ca

As a Board, we respect our teachers and value their work with students. We remain committed to reaching fair, negotiated agreements. Thank you for your patience, support and understanding.