



Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board
Believing, Achieving, Serving

November 16, 2022

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Earlier today, the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) served notice of their intention to initiate a full withdrawal of services starting on **Monday, November 21, 2022**. It is our hope that the matters under dispute can be resolved through negotiations prior to any strike action, and that a tentative agreement between the parties can be reached.

CUPE represents more than 1,000 education workers at the Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board, who provide valuable services to our students, schools and board. Our CUPE staff includes school and board office clerical staff, educational assistants, designated early childhood educators, social workers, speech language pathologists, psychometrists, and child and youth workers.

In the event of a full withdrawal of services by CUPE, out of our priority concern for the health and safety and well-being of our students and staff, **schools will be closed to students starting Monday, November 21, 2022**. Should schools close, students will transition to online learning. Parents/guardians are asked to contact their child's principal before Friday, November 18th if they are in need of a device. Further details will be forthcoming.

As circumstances continue to evolve rapidly, we will continue to provide regular updates. Information will also be posted on the board website at <https://www.hwcdsb.ca/labourupdates/>.

We regret any disruption and/or inconvenience this may cause and pray that this complex matter is resolved as soon as possible in the best interest of students, staff and families.

Yours very truly,

Patrick J. Daly
Chairperson of the Board

David Hansen
Director of Education