



Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board

Believing, Achieving, Serving

November 18, 2022

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Further to our letter of November 16th, the Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board has been developing contingency plans for next week should CUPE proceed with its intent to fully withdraw services beginning Monday, November 21, 2022. The focus of these contingency plans is on student learning and well-being.

In the event of job action, out of our priority concern for the health and safety and well-being of our students and staff, all elementary and secondary schools of the Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board will be **closed to students and learning will move online**. We regret very much the impact these circumstances have on students, families and our staff.

Please be aware of the following:

Elementary & Secondary Schools

- Schools are closed to students starting on **Monday, November 21, 2022**.
- A combination of synchronous and asynchronous instruction will be provided throughout the day. Students should login to their LMS myClass virtual classroom at the regular start of school.
- Bell times for each school are unchanged.
- Parents/guardians are asked to contact their child's principal if they are in need of a device.
- Parents/guardians are encouraged to report any absences in Safe Arrival.
- Unless there is an urgent need, please refrain from contacting the school to pick up any personal belongings.
- For tech support, please visit the [HWCDSB Parent website](#).
- All after-hours programming and student activities/athletics will continue to operate. Parents/guardians will be responsible to get their child to and from any such extra-curricular activity.

Transportation

- Student transportation will be cancelled starting Monday, November 21, 2022.

Virtual School / Virtual Programs

- The HWCDSB Virtual School and all virtual programming will continue as per regular practice.

Community Use of Schools/Third party leases/Community partnerships

- Community Use of School permits and third party leases will continue to be supported.

Childcare/EarlyON

- All in-school childcare centres and EarlyON Child and Family Centres will be open Monday to Friday during regular operating hours.
- Changes to Before and After School Programming is being carefully reviewed in terms of space availability and other considerations. Further information will be shared on Monday, November 21, 2022.

Social Work Services

- Social Work Services will not be available during the labour disruption.
- Should your child/youth be in immediate crisis, please contact COAST (905-972-8338) or 911 or attend McMaster Children's Hospital Emergency Department. [Learn more about community-based child and youth mental health and counselling agencies.](#)

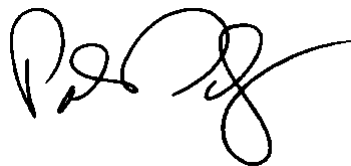
St. Charles Adult & Continuing Education

- St. Charles Centres will remain open and regular adult programming will operate as usual.
- After-hours programming, including Night School, ILC credit programs and International Languages, will continue to run.

While we hope that good news will come earlier, the parties at the provincial negotiations table have committed to making an announcement by 5:00 p.m. Sunday on whether an agreement has been reached or whether the strike action will proceed.

We strongly encourage and ask you to continue to monitor the board website/social media and local media outlets for more information. Updates will be posted on the board website at <https://www.hwcdsb.ca/labourupdates/>.

Yours very truly,



Patrick J. Daly
Chairperson, Board of Trustees



David Hansen
Director of Education