



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

October 31, 2022

Dear Parents/Guardians,

As you may be aware, yesterday during provincial bargaining, the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) served notice of their intention to initiate a full withdrawal of services on **Friday, November 4, 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 on Friday, November 4, 2022**. Earlier today, the Minister of Education introduced the [*Keeping Students in Class Act*](#). In the meantime, we are working with our child care providers, transportation operators, third party leases, and community partners on contingency plans.

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 have caused and pray that this complex matter is resolved as soon as possible in the best interest of students, staff and families.

Yours very truly,

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

Patrick J. Daly
Chairperson of the Board

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Hansen'.

David Hansen
Director of Education