

January 8, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We were notified today that the **Ontario English Catholic Teachers' Association (OECTA)**, representing Catholic teachers across the province, **will begin 'job action' as of Monday, January 13, 2020, if a provincial settlement is not reached by then.**

I am writing to let you know that **all schools will remain open and student instruction will continue in our classrooms during this period of job action.**

### **How Will This Affect My Child's Learning?**

**This phase of job action should not impact on student instruction in the classroom**, but will affect Ministry of Education and/or school board initiatives only, including:

- **Report cards** – teachers will not participate in preparation or input of report card comments, including learning skills;
- **Data entry** - teachers will not enter diagnostic testing data in school board systems;
- **EQAO** – teachers will not participate in any EQAO activities, including field testing, marking, administrative duties, test preparation, and administration of the test.

You will find the full list of areas affected by this job action [here](#).

In summary, all of our schools will remain open, and teachers will report to work during this period of job action. We will continue to focus on the needs of our students and families, and will do our best to minimize disruption and ensure a safe learning environment in each of our school communities.

As a Catholic school board, we value all of our staff as dedicated, caring professionals, and we respect labour laws that affirm the legal rights of our unionized employee groups to engage in job actions. We are committed to the success of the negotiation process, at both the provincial (central) and local levels. We know that all sides are working hard to reach agreements, and we are hopeful that a new central agreement will soon be reached with OECTA.

### **Information Updates**

For more information about the collective bargaining process, please visit: [bit.ly/HCDsb-LabourUpdates](https://bit.ly/HCDsb-LabourUpdates).

As new information becomes available, we will provide updates through:

- Email to parents
- HCDSB website – [www.hcdsb.org](http://www.hcdsb.org)
- Twitter [@HCDsb](https://twitter.com/HCDsb)

Thank you for your patience and understanding during this period of job action.



Pat Daly  
Director of Education