



November 23, 2023

Dear Good Spirit School Division Families,

We hope this message finds you in good spirits. We wish to inform you about the ongoing negotiations involving the Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation (STF) and the Government-Trustee Bargaining Committee. Unfortunately, these discussions have reached a point of impasse, which might lead to job action by our dedicated teachers, including those within the Good Spirit School Division (GSSD). We would like to express our unwavering support and understanding for the challenges that families like yours face, especially in times of uncertainty. We are committed to standing with you, offering support and guidance as we navigate these complex times together.

In the event of job action, our schools might experience disruptions such as reduced extracurricular activities, limited noon-hour supervision, and potential strikes that could range from half-day to full-day durations. These strikes may be rotating or, in some instances, a general strike, potentially leading to temporary school closures. We want to assure you that at GSSD, we deeply respect the rights of our teaching professionals, including their right to collective bargaining. It is important for you to know that GSSD is not directly involved in the bargaining process. This process is handled at the provincial level by the Provincial Bargaining Committee.

To help facilitate a resolution, a conciliation board has been established at the request of the Saskatchewan Teachers Federation (STF), comprising of an individual representing the STF, a representative from the Government-Trustee Committee, and an independent Chairperson. The conciliation board will meet on December 5, 6, 7, 11, and 12 to assist the parties in reaching a new collective agreement.

Our priority at GSSD is to ensure that all families are well-informed and prepared for any potential changes to our school's regular schedule. GSSD has developed contingency plans for schools in the event that strike action occurs. We are committed to providing timely notifications through emails and text messages regarding any job action announcements. We kindly request that you update your contact information with your child's school to ensure effective communication. Regular updates will also be posted on our official website, EDSBY, and social media platforms, keeping all Good Spirit families and the community informed of the latest developments.

We understand that these are challenging times, and we are here to support you. Your peace of mind is our utmost priority. For any further inquiries or concerns, please feel free to reach out to our Division Office via email ([info@gssd.ca](mailto:info@gssd.ca)). We appreciate your understanding and cooperation as we work together to ensure a positive and supportive environment for our students and families.

Warm regards,

Quintin M. Robertson  
Director of Education/CEO  
Good Spirit School Division