



Thursday, January 9, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The Ontario English Catholic Teachers Association (OECTA) is in a legal strike position. As a Catholic school board, we respect collective bargaining and are hopeful that a freely negotiated agreement will be reached soon. We are not directly involved in central bargaining, however, the parties who are involved are working hard on our behalf to achieve an agreement. For the Northeastern Catholic District School Board all of our teachers are members of OECTA.

OECTA is engaging in legal job action on Monday, January 13, 2020 if an agreement is not reached by that time. This job action will affect Ministry of Education and/or school board initiatives only, and is not intended to have a direct impact on student learning.

The Northeastern Catholic District School Board is working diligently to minimize any impact on our students and school communities. However, employees represented by OECTA provide essential services within our schools and board, and so we expect that OECTA's job action will have some impacts to our schools.

Despite this situation, we know that our schools will remain welcoming Christ centred environments. As always, the safety of our students and staff will be given priority and any changes implemented in response to OECTA's labour action will be considered through this lens.

We very much appreciate your understanding and thank you for your ongoing commitment to Catholic education. As circumstances in our schools change, every effort will be made to communicate with you.

We ask for your prayers for a speedy and just resolution to this matter.

Sincerely,

Tricia Stefanic Weltz
Director of Education