



www.cbestaffassociation.ab.ca

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Frequently

Asked

Questions

At the meeting on May 29, I heard the members saying that they do not want alternating strikes, they want a full-fledged strike. Why didn't the Staff Association board listen to the members?

You are right, at the meeting there was a great deal of discussion around what the strike action will look like. Some motions were made to amend the proposed plan, but these motions were rejected by the membership. No one made a motion to initiate full-fledged strike action at this time.

I am a temp for CBE. Am I on strike also?

Yes. You fall under the Staff Association collective agreement and will benefit from a new collective agreement also. Please support your colleagues.

I am a lunchroom supervisor and I only work 2 hours a day. Does this involve me?

Lunchroom and breakfast program supervisors are vital members of the Staff Association. Your contributions are important to the students, school staff and the Staff Association as a whole. Come and join a picket shift – you might even make more money than your wages!

Our school is having an open house on Thursday evening. Would attending the open house go against our strike action?

Although we are not **out** on strike on Thursday, we are in a strike action situation from now on. On the days we report for work, we need to adhere to our hours of work and regular duties, and be sure to take all the breaks we are entitled to. Do not work overtime. Are you going to the open house to work? Or, are you going as part of the school community? You should not be attending in order to work, otherwise, feel free to attend if you wish.

How will we be able to gain future information regarding strike action and updates if we are not at work?

Please check the Staff Association website often. We are working on a communication plan. If you haven't yet sent your home email address and/or home phone number in, please email Sonya at the SA office. slgillis@staffassociation.ab.ca

Can a Staff Association member work at another job during the strike?

There is nothing to stop a member from obtaining other employment.

Do we qualify for EI when we are on strike?

No. The federal government disallows anyone who is out of work due to a labour dispute.

What happens if we cross a picket line?

The more we are together, the quicker we can get a resolution – and we **ALL** will get a fair agreement. By taking the strike vote and sticking together, we have already accomplished much. By continuing together, we will **ALL** accomplish more.

Can the CBE lock us out? What does this mean? What happens?

The CBE is in a position to initiate a lockout. They must serve 72 hours notice to the Staff Association if they decide to do so. If a lock out occurs, the CBE is in effect telling Staff Association members not to report to work until there is a settlement. **ALL Staff Association members would not be allowed to work.**

Do we fill in an Absence Declaration form when we come back on Thursday?

No.

If parents want to employ support staff during the strike, for example, to provide childcare, can we do this?

You can take other employment if you want to.

Can I bring my pre-school children to picket with me?

Absolutely! You can bring your husband, your cousin, your neighbor or whoever would like to come with you to support our strike action.

What are the rules for picketing?

Have fun. Be courteous and respectful. Dress for the weather! Bring your songbooks, umbrellas, sunscreen, hats, etc. We will have more information about “picket etiquette” and legalities at the picket sites.

A picket line has a two-fold purpose:

1. To convey the information to the general public that a strike is in progress, and
2. To keep the negotiation issues in front of the employer at all times.

When you arrive at your assigned picket site, **make sure** you sign in with the picket captain.

Worksites will be assigned to specific times and locations for picketing. If you cannot attend at the time you are assigned to, you can choose to participate in any or all of the other picket opportunities.

You are not required to picket. If you want to participate, please check the Staff Association website for your assigned picket shifts.