



Information Release

From: Superintendent of Schools Cheryle Beaumont
Date: Wednesday, August 31, 2011
Topic: **BC Teacher's Federation issues 72-hour strike notice**

The BC Teachers' Federation has issued 72-hour strike notice and notified the BC Public School Employers Association that Phase 1 Job Action will commence in BC schools on September 6, 2011 – the first day of school.

Under Phase 1 Job Action schools will be in session and teachers will be expected to carry out classroom duties. However, they will not be required to perform duties determined by the Labour Relations Board to be non-essential.

The kinds of duties teachers will not perform include: preparation of report cards; attendance at staff meetings unless the meeting deals with an emergency situation; supervision of students before and after school, at lunch hour and during recess; meet-the-teacher nights; and organization of assemblies.

This is not a full list but is reflective of Phase 1 job action. The LRB orders can be accessed from a link on the 'Teacher Contract Negotiations' page, which can be accessed from a QuickLink on the Langley School District web site at www.sd35.bc.ca.

Student safety will not be compromised during job action. The safety of children is the highest priority of our school communities and supervision will be provided at all times. Administrative and management personnel will provide before school, after school, recess and lunch hour supervision as required. If there is not sufficient administrative personnel available to provide adequate supervision teachers will be assigned.

The BCTF and BCPSEA have been engaged in contract negotiations since the end of June, when the teachers' contract expired. Negotiation of all major contract issues takes place at the Provincial level and is beyond Langley School District's control. Langley School District will strive to preserve respectful relations with all its partner groups during job action and to meet its obligations under the School Act to educate students.

A Question & Answer document is posted under the 'Teacher Contract Negotiations' QuickLink with more information. As information relevant to Langley School District becomes available it will be posted at that location, too.

More general information about teacher contract negotiations can be found at www.bcpsea.bc.ca, the BC Public School Employers Association web site.