



January 28, 2020

**SENT BY EMAIL**

To Presidents/Chairs of all Teacher Candidate Associations

Dear Teacher Candidate Leader:

- In addition to sanctions already in place, members of the Ontario English Catholic Teachers' Association (OECTA) in all bargaining units in Ontario will be engaging in a one-day full withdrawal of services on Tuesday, February 4, 2020.

We have written to the Deans of Education, asking them to ensure that teacher candidates at your institution are informed about the impending strike action by OECTA members and that they are aware that there will be no practicum on February 4 in Catholic schools across the province.

We would appreciate it if you would also assist in making sure that all teacher candidates at your institution are well apprised of the above.

OTF has been receiving questions from several of you, asking what, if anything, teacher candidates (TCs) can do to show support and solidarity for the striking teachers. While there is no expectation for you or your fellow TCs to join picket lines, you are certainly welcome to do so should you so wish. You can also show your support by: taking time to talk to teachers who are on the picket lines to gain better understanding of the pertinent issues; talking to your family and friends about why teachers are taking this action in support of publicly-funded education in Ontario; or even simply bringing coffee to the striking teachers.

If you require any additional information regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me. I can be reached by email at [lindy.amato@otffeo.on.ca](mailto:lindy.amato@otffeo.on.ca) and by phone at 1-800-268-7061 or 416-966-3424.

Sincerely,

Lindy Amato  
Director, Professional Affairs

LA/ra

cc: Deans of Education  
OTF Teacher Education Liaison Committee Representatives  
Affiliate Presidents and General Secretaries