



December 16, 2019

SENT BY EMAIL

To Presidents/Chairs of all Teacher Candidate Associations

Dear Teacher Candidate Leader:

Further to my correspondence to you of November 22, November 29 and December 6, 2019, we have received notification from the Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation (OSSTF) that, in addition to sanctions already in place, members of OSSTF in select bargaining units/schools in Ontario will be engaging in a one-day full withdrawal of services on Wednesday, December 18, 2019. The select bargaining units/schools that will be taking this strike action are listed in Appendix A, which accompanies this letter.

OTF Policy 4 on Teacher Education states that:

- 4.1.6 in the event of a full withdrawal of services in a strike situation involving members of the Federation, schools in which those members serve shall not be used for practicum, or for any other placement of student teachers;
- 4.1.7 in the event of a strike situation involving members of the Federation, schools in which those members serve shall not be used for the inservice program leading to additional qualifications; and
- 4.1.8 in the event of a strike situation involving members of the Federation, no OTF Affiliate shall accept teacher candidates re-assigned from the striking Board.

While the above OTF policies pertain only to strikes by teachers (OTF members), and not to strikes by education workers in the listed bargaining units, it is possible that boards will decide to close schools in which education workers are on a full withdrawal of services. The Dean of your Faculty/School of Education will need to check this with the specific boards, should there be teacher candidates who are in practicum placements in those boards.

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 OSSTF members and that they know there will be no practicum on December 18 in secondary schools that are part of the public English-language boards listed in Appendix A. For the Catholic boards and Francophone schools listed in Appendix A, your Dean should check with the appropriate boards to ascertain whether the practicum may continue on December 18 in those boards/schools. We would appreciate it if you would also assist in making sure that all teacher candidates at your institution are well apprised of the situation.

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 and by phone at 1-800-268-7061 or 416-966-3424.

Sincerely,

Lindy Amato

A large, sweeping handwritten flourish or underline that starts under the first letter of the name and extends to the right, ending under the last letter.

Lindy Amato
Director, Professional Affairs

LA/ra

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