



January 13, 2020

SENT BY EMAIL

To Presidents/Chairs of all Teacher Candidate Associations

Dear Teacher Candidate Leader:

As you will no doubt have noticed, the past week has seen a number of new or escalated strike actions being announced by teachers' unions across Ontario. We are doing our best to ensure that you receive the information as clearly and promptly as possible. We assume that you are by now familiar with OTF's policies on strikes and the impact on practicum placements; in the interests of brevity, we will not be quoting the pertinent OTF policies in each communication as we move forward with providing you with updated information.

Below is new information on upcoming strike actions to be undertaken by members of the Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation (OSSTF):

1. In addition to sanctions already in place, commencing on January 15, 2020 and continuing until further notice is otherwise given, OSSTF members in all bargaining units will not provide comments on any elementary report cards.
2. On January 15, 2020, members of OSSTF in select bargaining units/schools in Ontario will be engaging in a one-day full withdrawal of services. The select bargaining units/schools that will be taking this strike action are listed in the Attachment 1, which accompanies this letter.
3. Commencing on January 15, 2020 and continuing until further notice is otherwise given, OSSTF members seconded to the M.F. McHugh Education Centre, administrated by the Ottawa Catholic School Board, will engage in a number of sanctions pertaining to report cards, data entry, EQAO activities, Ministry of Education initiatives, meetings and professional development (PD) days. Full details of these sanctions are provided on Attachment 2 to this letter.

As you are aware, OTF's policies pertain only to strikes by teachers (OTF members), and not to strikes by education workers in the listed bargaining units/schools. That said, it is possible that boards will decide to close schools in which education workers are on a full withdrawal of services. You will need to check this with the specific boards, should you have 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 January 15 in secondary schools that are part of the public English-language boards listed in Attachment 1. For the Francophone schools listed in Attachment 1, your Dean should check with the

appropriate boards to ascertain whether the practicum may continue on January 15 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


Lindy Amato
Director, Professional Affairs

LA/ra

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