



May 20, 2021

**Subject: Upcoming Strike Actions**

Dear SWLSB Families,

The SWLSB has four different union groups:

- Teachers represented by the Laurier Teachers Union (LTU)
- Professionals represented by the Sir Wilfrid Laurier Professionals (SWLP – SPPOQA)
- Support staff represented by SEP577
- Maintenance staff represented by CSN

Starting at 12:00 pm on May 26, until 12:00 pm on May 27, the Sir Wilfrid Laurier **Maintenance Staff union** will be exercising their right to strike.

To ensure we continue to service our students and provide them with educational services, we will be offering, as we have done during previous strikes, online classes, outside of striking hours. Our objective, is to impact our students as little as possible, in a school year, already filled with unforeseen circumstances.

Please take note of the following plan for May 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>:

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 26**

- **Online virtual classes for all students** (including the Virtual Campus and classes in isolation due to COVID) **according to their regular timetable, until 11:45 am;**
- **Classes will be suspended** for all schools and centres **as of 12:00 pm;**
- Since all stakeholders must respect picket lines, **our buildings will be closed starting at 11:55 am.**

**THURSDAY, MAY 27**

- **Classes will be suspended** for all schools and centres **until 12:00 pm**
- **Online virtual classes for all students** (including the Virtual Campus and classes in isolation due to COVID) will begin **as of 12:15 p.m. according to their regular timetable, until the end of their regular school day;**
- Since all stakeholders must respect picket lines, our buildings will be accessible as of 12:00 pm.

**APPLICABLE ON BOTH DAYS**

- **Students remain at home for the full day;**
- Teachers will send their virtual classroom links to their students/parents in advance;
- **Daycares will be closed;**
- **Transportation will be cancelled.**

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT STRIKE ACTIONS**


Whenever possible, we will prioritize in-person learning. When strike actions disrupt part of the regular student day, we need to factor in that more than 93% of our students are transported by bus and reorganizing transportation services is impossible in most scenarios. The majority of bus routes are conducted over two waves of service, hence the need to have early start schools (1<sup>st</sup> wave) and later start schools (2<sup>nd</sup> wave).



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As we aim to offer equitable and accessible instructional services, the pandemic has made distance learning a challenging, but viable option. We have deployed devices and equipment, and established measures enabling everyone to be connected. We will continue to deploy all efforts to preserve and optimize our students' instructional services to the fullest, outside strike actions and hours.

We also recognize that all SWLSB students, parents, employees and stakeholders have been very resilient, creative, and have worked tirelessly during a difficult and challenging year as we navigate the pandemic. We take this opportunity to thank you for your ongoing patience and understanding while the Government finds common ground with all the provincial unions to conclude negotiations.

Strike actions evolve quickly, should there be any further developments to the above plan, we will keep you posted.



Gaëlle Absolonne  
Director General



Paolo Galati  
Chairperson

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