



Labour Conflict in the School System

(Richmond, February 2, 2012) The labour conflict that is currently affecting the public school system in British Columbia is continuing to disrupt activities in the schools within the province's Conseil scolaire francophone.

Over the past 10 months, the employers' association for all school boards in British Columbia (the BCPSEA) and the B.C. teachers' union (BCTF) have met at the bargaining table more than sixty times. The two parties are still very far apart in their positions and it does not appear likely that an agreement will be reached in a foreseeable future.

In the meantime, the teachers are exerting pressure by refusing, among other things, to produce report cards, to take part in committee meetings and in activities organised by the Conseil scolaire or the schools, to communicate in writing with the administration and to provide supervision. However, the CSF encourages parents who want to be informed of their children's progress to get in touch directly with their child's teacher.

Although the main issues under negotiation are being discussed at the provincial bargaining table between the BCPSEA and the BCTF, negotiations at the local level between the teacher's union in the francophone programme (SEPF) and the CSF have ended on a very positive note.

In the event that the conflict becomes exacerbated provincially, the administration of the CSF will notify parents of the measures to be taken.

It is important to note that the Conseil scolaire francophone does not have a seat of its own at the provincial bargaining table. These negotiations take place between the provincial teachers' union (the BCTF) and the representatives of the employers' association for all the school boards in British Columbia (the BCPSEA), with which the CSF is affiliated.

For more information, please contact:

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