

# HWDSB

January 10, 2020

Dear Elementary School Families,

As you may know, the Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario (ETFO) plans to escalate its work to rule starting Monday, January 13, 2020. At Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board (HWDSB), this will mean:

- Field trips are cancelled for the week of January 13-17. All other planned field trips will be on hold until further notice.
- All athletics and extra-curricular events occurring outside of the regular school day are cancelled until further notice.

In addition, the Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation (OSSTF) plans to participate in a one-day a strike action at some school boards on Wednesday, January 15, 2020, if no deal is reached with the Government of Ontario.

HWDSB is among the boards affected. Elementary schools will be open on Wednesday, January 15, but secondary schools at HWDSB will need to close for safety reasons. Licensed child care will be open in all elementary and secondary school locations.

Wait times may increase when seeking entry to elementary schools or when calling the office. Please ensure your child enters the school safely if they arrive after the doors are locked. Use Safe Arrival to report a student absence. ([www.hwdsb.on.ca/safearrival](http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/safearrival))

You can find updates and a full list of impacts at [www.hwdsb.on.ca/about/labour-update/](http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/about/labour-update/) or on HWDSB's Twitter, Facebook and Instagram accounts.

We recognize that strike actions put families in a difficult position. We remain hopeful that an agreement may be reached in the coming days. We remain focused on the learning and well-being of our students.

Thank you for your patience and understanding during this time of uncertainty.

Sincerely,



Alex Johnstone  
Chair of the Board



Manny Figueiredo  
Director of Education