June 16, 2014

Dear Parents/Guardians:

We have been informed that a resolution has not yet been reached at the bargaining table therefore teachers are in a position to engage in full scale strike tomorrow morning (**Tuesday, June 17, 2014**) and all services will be withdrawn.

While school facilities will remain open under the supervision of school district staff, we will be unable to provide students with instruction or appropriate supervision during this period of job action. We continue to request that parents keep their children at home until further notice.

The Labour Relations Board (LRB) has ruled that even in the event of a full-scale teacher strike, the supervision and marking of provincial exams **will** proceed. Therefore, all Grade 10, 11 and 12 provincial examinations will take place in their regularly scheduled time slots and regular school locations. As well, the LRB has ruled that the exam access will not be picketed during exam times. Students will be able to come to write provincial examinations without crossing union picket lines. Busses will be running on exam days for Grades 10, 11 12 students. Please see the attached schedule.

Provincial examinations will be the only final examinations written during this exam session. If you are unsure of any examination times, please do not hesitate to contact your child’s school for information or refer to the ministry website at: <http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/exams/handbook/1314/june_2014_exams_revised_public_schools.pdf>

The LRB has also ruled that all marks for Grade 12 students will be prepared by teachers so they can be issued Official Transcripts. This will ensure that all students, who are in position to graduate, will and may proceed to the post-secondary option of their choice.

If you would like to read further information about bargaining, you can access the websites of both parties:

 British Columbia Teachers’ Federation <http://www.bctf.ca/>

British Columbia Public School Employers’ Association <http://www.bcpsea.bc.ca/>

It continues to be the sincere hope of the Board of Education that a resolution is reached and school may resume before the end of the school year so please stay tuned to the local radio stations and check either the school district website at [www.sd5.bc.ca](http://www.sd5.bc.ca/) for further updates or with your school principal.

Yours sincerely,

Lynn Hauptman

Superintendent of Schools

Cc: Board of Education