



OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Chair: Milton Peach, B.A., B.A.(Ed.)

C.E.O./Director of Education: Ford Rice, B.A., B.Ed., M.Ed.

January 19, 2012

Dear parents/guardians:

The Eastern School District wishes to advise parents/guardians of a potential disruption in the delivery of food service operations at your child's school.

Chartwells is a private food service company that operates the cafeteria in your child's school. The food service workers are employed by Chartwells and represented by CUPE Local 4885. These workers are not employees of the Eastern School District.

We have been advised by Chartwells that as of January 20, 2012, their unionized workers are in a legal position to strike. In the event of a strike by Chartwells' workers, there will be no provision of food services. **Therefore, parents/guardians will need to provide their child's snacks, lunches and beverages; ideally, cold lunches or hot meals in a suitable thermos.** Although the kitchen area of the cafeteria will not be accessible, students who normally eat in the cafeteria will continue to do so. Where breakfast programs are operated by school volunteers, further direction regarding the status of these programs will be provided by your child's school.

Parents/guardians will be provided as much notice as possible to prepare for any service disruption. The Eastern School District will notify local radio stations, post a message on the District website: www.esdnl.ca, and send a message on Twitter. Depending on how much advance notice we receive, individual schools may also issue a Synrevoice message and/or email parents/guardians.

Should there be a job action by cafeteria workers, school routines will continue as usual. In the event of a picket line, bus contractors have been advised of the procedures to follow to cross the picket line to safely deliver students to and from school. Parents/guardians who drop off their children, or students who walk to school, may encounter a picket line.

The Eastern School District recognizes that any disruption in food service delivery will be inconvenient for parents/guardians and we hope that this situation can be resolved in a timely manner.

FORD RICE, B.A., B.Ed., M.Ed.
CEO/DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION