

September 1, 2014

Dear Parents and Guardians:

Subject: Schools Not Opening for Instruction on Tuesday, September 2, 2014

This letter is to confirm that North Vancouver schools will not be open for instruction on Tuesday, September 2. We expect that teachers will not report to work and that our schools will be behind picket lines. This is deeply disappointing news for our students, families, staff, and Board of Education.

Efforts over this past weekend to achieve a settlement of the ongoing labour dispute between the BC Teachers' Federation (BCTF) and the BC Public School Employers' Association (BCPSEA) were unsuccessful. As the distance between the two parties continues to be significant, the resolution of this dispute remains uncertain. We remain hopeful that progress will be achieved in the near future to work towards a settlement.

We encourage families to make alternate arrangements for their children, as necessary, during the continuing strike action. Although principals and vice-principals will be in schools, they will be unable to provide students with instruction or supervision. We respectfully ask that parents do not bring children to schools for the duration of the strike.

It is our current understanding that preschools and daycares operating on school sites will be open and parents will be allowed to cross picket lines to escort their children to daycares and preschools. Please contact your daycare and/or preschool provider to review opening and closing times and procedures.

Thank you for your continued patience and understanding during these difficult times. We will continue to keep you informed through direct messages and through our school district website at www.sd44.ca.

Sincerely,



John Lewis
Superintendent of Schools

JCL/ps