W.R.D.S.B. EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANTS ASSOCIATION

eUpdate

The Latest Information to Keep YOU Informed

Provincial Bargaining UPDATE

October 3, 2019 - Issue 4

Dear Members:

As you know, CUPE Education Sector Employees have announced that they will commence a full strike starting this Monday October 7, 2019. This means a complete withdrawal of services. CUPE represents some School Boards in Ontario. Their Members include DECEs, Custodians, Librarians, Secretaries and Lunch Supervisors. They do not represent workers in our Board.

This strike does not impact our Educational Assistants Association. To be clear we are not currently on strike. Our Members are to report to work as usual on Monday.

As you know we are currently in bargaining with the Provincial Government and the School Boards at the Provincial Table as part of EWAO-ATEO (our Provincial Council). This past Wednesday we met again at the bargaining table at which time we exchanged bargaining proposals. The proposals from the Crown and School Boards were similar to that which has been reported by other groups; minimal wage increases, reduced sick pay, and reduced job security. Rest assured we are not prepared to accept such proposals.

Our proposal addressed not only wage and benefit issues common to all groups, but also dealt with inequities and challenges that are unique to our Association and our Members.

While we are still early into the bargaining process, we can report that our exchanges with the Government and School Boards thus far have been constructive. Hence we are not contemplating strikes or job action at this time.

We will communicate with you well in advance should our plans change in this regard.

Our next large group bargaining meeting will take place on November 12 and November 13, 2019. In the interim EWAO-ATEO, the Crown, and the School Boards will be working to resolve differences via conference call, email and in smaller group settings. We will continue to update you regularly as things progress.

Local bargaining has not yet started and we do not anticipate doing so until the Provincial process is farther along. Please do not hesitate to contact us should you have any concerns or questions.

Yours in Solidarity,

Colleen Dietrich Sisson

President - Educational Assistants Association

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