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February 11, 2020

Dear Chinook families and staff:

Please be advised that the possibility exists for direction by the Saskatchewan Teachers Federation which may require Saskatchewan teachers to participate in some form of job action, including Chinook School Division. Details on the Government Trustee Bargaining Committee offer to Saskatchewan teachers and position are available on the Chinook website.

As an organization, we value the excellent work that teachers do with students in our schools and for our communities. Teaching is a challenging vocation. Unfortunately, the challenges are compounded when boards of education do not have the necessary funds or resources to better support our teachers.

Plans have been put in place to deal with job action, should it occur. Our intention at Chinook is to do everything possible to keep everyone informed, so that together we can provide for the safety and well-being of children during the period of job action.

Teacher sanctions could take various forms including withdrawal of extra-curricular activity supervision, withdrawal of noon-hour and playground supervision, half day/full day strikes, rotating strikes or a general strike.

Should any of these eventualities occur, the board will notify staff, students and families as soon as possible. We are confident that the interests of the children will also be uppermost in the minds of our teachers and have asked them to provide us with 48 hours notice of any strike action.

Notice of strike action will be provided to Chinook families through a letter, which will be sent home with students and/or emailed from the school office. As well, the news media will be notified and we will utilize our social media channels to inform the public of the division's plan to mitigate any strike action.

We believe it is inappropriate to use the classroom as a forum in which to discuss the strike or related issues. We have pledged, therefore, to keep bargaining issues out of the classroom and ask our families and staff to do the same.

Thank you for your understanding and for your support of our division and teachers. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact your local Board Trustee or call the Chinook Education Centre office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "K Prid".

Kimberly Pridmore, Chair
On behalf of the Chinook Board of Education