

February 27, 2025

We are reaching out to you to share the latest information we have regarding possible labour action from Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) Local 1357.

On February 20, 2025, CUPE Local 1357 applied to hold a strike vote on February 28th – this is the same date CUPE agreed to meet with GYPSD to continue mediation.

GYPSD is concerned with CUPE National's decision to hold the strike vote on the same day when the parties are *supposed* to be working towards an agreement. **We question CUPE National's genuine interest in getting a deal.** We question why CUPE National would want employees voting without knowing the outcomes of the discussions that may occur during this day of mediation. GYPSD believes, before any strike vote, it is crucial that all negotiations be taken into account including the upcoming negotiations on Friday. It is GYPSD's interest to ensure that our employees are fully informed on what they are voting on.

The Division will know the results of the strike vote once it is completed and confirmed by the Labour Relations Board. If the CUPE membership does vote in favour of strike action, they must still provide a minimum of 72 hours strike notice, should they choose to withdraw services.

It is our intention that GYPSD schools will remain open in the event of CUPE withdrawing their services.

GYPSD remains committed to reaching an agreement with CUPE Local 1357. We appreciate our CUPE Local employees and the support they provide our students which ultimately forms part of the safe, secure, welcoming and caring learning and working environment that is our number one priority.

We will continue to monitor the situation and provide updates and information through School Messenger and our GYPSD [website](#). Thank you for your patience and understanding during this challenging time.

Sincerely,

Dr. Dennis Parsons,  
Interim Superintendent,  
Grande Yellowhead Public School Division

