

November 21, 2011

Dear Parents and Guardians,

This letter is written to provide you with an update regarding the current provincial Job Action by the British Columbia Teachers' Federation.

In a letter to superintendents dated October 18, 2011, Deputy Minister of Education James Gorman clarified the government's expectation for both superintendents and principals specifically pertaining to producing report cards to parents.

Superintendents are reminded that *Section 6(1) of the School Act Regulation* states, "A superintendent of schools shall assist in making the Act and regulations effective and in carrying out a system of education in conformity with the orders of the minister".

Similarly, *Section 5(7)(e)* states "The principal of a school is responsible for administering and supervising the school including...the program of student evaluation and assessment and reporting to parents."

Parents should be informed that on October 26, 2011 the BC Public School Employers Association made an application to the British Columbia Labour Relations Board asking that report cards for all students be declared an essential service. At present, we have not been informed of the Labour Relations Board's ruling on this matter.

The report card attached complies with the expectations outlined for superintendents and principals under the School Act. While this report card will clearly not provide the information typically delivered to parents, we anticipate producing full and complete report cards in a timely way once the current labour dispute has come to an end.

Mission Public Schools remains committed to maintaining respectful and highly professional relationships with its teachers. We will also continue to provide information about teacher job action on the school district website, [www.mpsd.ca](http://www.mpsd.ca), and will send new information home with students and to Parent Advisory Council members as it becomes available. If you require clarification or further information, please phone your child's school or my office at 604-826-6286.

Thank you for your understanding and attention.

Yours truly,



Frank Dunham,  
Superintendent of Schools