

EICS Labour Updates: Frequently Asked Questions

Updated: October 1, 2025

In the event of a strike on Monday October 6th, 2025

Q: Are schools closed?

A: Schools are closed starting Monday October 6th, 2025. Students will not attend school in person or online. There is no instruction, supervision, or extracurricular activities. Student transportation services are also suspended until the strike is over. Students will need to take home their personal belongings this week.

Q: Can I contact my child's teacher or the school office during the strike?

A: Teachers will not be responding to emails, or inquiries on other platforms during the strike. Parents are welcome to reach out to the division office for urgent matters at 780-467-8896 or by email at elkislandcatholic@eics.ab.ca. All relevant information will be shared with families via email and shared on the [division website](#).

Q: What is EICS' role in the negotiation process?

A: Elk Island Catholic Schools is not directly involved in this phase of teacher bargaining at the provincial level, and maintains a positive relationship with The Alberta Teachers' Association (ATA) representing Alberta's teachers, and The Teachers' Employer Bargaining Association (TEBA).

Q: Can I get a refund for my child's school fees, program fees, extracurricular fees, hot lunch fees, and/or student transportation fees?

A: You can expect an adjustment for missed time and services due to the strike. Once the school reopens, fees will be reviewed and reassessed. A prorated adjustment will be made and a credit issued back to the student account. October payment plan withdrawals will continue as originally scheduled.

Q: Are the Provincial Achievement Tests cancelled?

A: We will be waiting on Alberta Education's direction for this, if there is a change to the PAT schedule, we will notify families.

Q: Are the diploma examinations cancelled?

A: We will be waiting on Alberta Education's direction for this, if there is a change to the diploma exam schedule, we will notify families.

Q: Will school-based extracurricular activities and sports continue as scheduled?

A: All extracurricular activities—field trips; school council, parish and community meetings will be cancelled. Fine Arts rehearsals, student clubs, sports competitions, practices, tournaments, and games will be suspended.

Q: How will my child be supported during the strike with learning? Are teachers providing resources, can students take textbooks home?

A: Resources assigned to individual students may be taken home. Teachers will not be programming for students into the future.

Alberta Education has created a toolkit for parents, with materials available on the [Learn Alberta](#) website. These materials have not been assessed by EICS staff and our board was not consulted in their creation, thus we cannot comment on them.

Q: Will principals and assistant principals be in school during the strike?

A: In Alberta, principals and assistant principals are full ATA members in the collective agreement, and will be on strike with the ATA.

Q: If there are staff working in the building during the strike, is there access to the building for parents/students?

A: Parents and students will not have access to the schools during the strike, other than as outlined below for private daycare programs and community groups.

Q: If I need to get a hold of school staff for any reason, how do parents do that?

A: Parents can contact the Division office at 780-467-8896 or via email at elkislandcatholic@eics.ab.ca.

Q: Are Daycares still operating within EICS schools?

A: All out of school and daycares that have contracts with EICS will continue to operate according to their licensing agreements.

Q: Are community user groups that offer programming in the evenings still operating?

A: User groups that have current contracts with EICS to run community programs at any of our school sites will continue to operate as scheduled.