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Local News

EMSB cancels classes next Wednesday because of union strike

The Centre de services scolaire de Montréal announced it will follow suit.

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PHOTO BY JOHN MAHONEY /Montreal Gazette

The English Montreal School Board and the Centre de services scolaire de Montréal (CSSDM) are cancelling classes for all of their elementary and high schools as well as all daycare services next Wednesday because of a strike being held by a union of professionals.

The Syndicat des professionnelles et professionnels du milieu de l'éducation de Montréal (SPPMEM) has filed an official strike action to express their dissatisfaction with their collective bargaining negotiations and the government of Quebec. They will be striking Wednesday from 12:01 a.m. to 11:59 a.m.



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“The strike action will affect the educational services offered to our students on this strike day,” the EMSB wrote in a letter sent to parents Thursday. “As such, to mitigate the impact of the strike,” classes are cancelled.

Teachers will not be following their regular schedules. “However, as of 12:01 p.m. they will report to work virtually and perform tasks as agreed upon by their principal,” an EMSB letter to employees explains.

On Friday, the CSSDM announced it will follow suit because striking employees are expected to be picketing outside the schools. Teachers will give work to students to do while at home, except for those who have a pedagogical day on Wednesday. Daycares will be shut as well, but virtual classes for the roughly 700 students learning from home due to COVID-19 concerns will continue as usual.

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