

Sturgeon Lake Cree Nation Education

What should I know about

THE TEACHERS STRIKE

A Parent and Caregiver Guide



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What is a Teachers Strike?

A teacher strike is a legal job action teachers use when negotiations break down. Teachers go on strike to ask for:

- Better teaching and learning conditions
- Fair pay and support
- Smaller and more manageable class sizes
- Better student experiences and learning environments

This strike is between the Alberta Teachers' Association (ATA) and the Government of Alberta. This affects all public and Catholic schools including Northern Gateway Public Schools and Holy Family Catholic Schools.

What Happens Now?

The ATA has announced a full strike starting Monday, October 6, 2025. All Valleyview schools will be closed to students until further notice. Talks are between the ATA and the government's bargaining group (TEBA)

What about First Nations Schools?

- First Nations schools are NOT affected by this strike.
- Sturgeon Lake School is not part of the Alberta Teachers' Association (ATA), so their teachers are not participating in the job action.
- If your child attends a First Nations school, classes and programming will continue as normal unless you're told otherwise.
- If you are enrolled in Valleyview schools during the strike, you cannot switch your child over to Sturgeon Lake School. Tuition is allocated to the school your child is registered at and funding and nominal roll is final as of September 30.

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What to Expect During the Strike

Schools are Closed to Students

- No classes or instruction
- Teachers, Principals, and Assistant Principals will not be working as they are all certified teachers who are a part of the ATA.

Services That Will Continue

(may change depending on the district)

- Daycares and childcare programs in schools will stay open
- Support staff (non-teaching staff) may continue working
- Community and user groups (like before/after school care or rentals) will still have access to school buildings

Special Programming

- NGPS will continue offering support for:
 - PUF (Program Unit Funded) students
 - K Severe students (Kindergarten students with severe needs)
- Families in these programs will be contacted directly by their school

This continued support is unique to NGPS and if your child attends Holy Family schools, you will have to contact them directly.



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Parent Financial Support

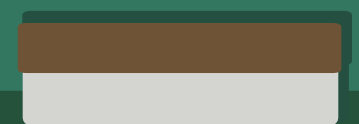
\$30/Day Support – This included self identified Indigenous students

This is available for families whose children (12 and younger) cannot attend school during the strike

\$150/Week Support + Learning Packages

The Government of Alberta is also offering \$150 per week per student (awaiting confirmation for federally funded students)

Information and applications can be accessed through
[Alberta.ca](https://alberta.ca)



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Supporting Learning at Home

We do not know how long the strike will be so it is important to try to:

- **Access the free weekly learning packages for at-home education ([Alberta.ca](https://alberta.ca))**
- Keep a routine. Set regular wake-up times, mealtimes, and activity times when possible.
- Limit screentime, research shows that excessive screen time can affect children's sleep, attention, and mood. No more than 2 hours of recreational screen time per day for school-aged children is what is recommended. Schedule breaks, outdoor play, and hands-on learning, this will help reduce screen use and support healthy development during the strike.
- Keep things predictable and positive. This can be a challenging time for youth. Consistency is key!
- Use reading, journaling, educational games, or hands-on projects to keep your child immersed in learning.



Students with Special Needs

If your child receives special support, contact your school for assistance. Educational assistants and specialized staff may still be working. All school boards are doing their best to maintain support for those with diverse learning needs

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Stay Informed

Online

- Visit: www.ngps.ca and www.hfcrd.ab.ca
- Follow your school district on Facebook and X (formerly Twitter)
- Look for banners, links to government programs, and real-time updates

Contact Northern Gateway After Hours Line for Emergency Questions

- Emergency After-Hours Line: 780-706-8222

Schools will continue answering phones during the strike.

Parent To Do List



Check school websites regularly



Apply for financial support programs



Make childcare arrangements



Use at-home learning resources



Maintain a daily routine for your child



Contact your school for support with special needs