



Fairfield College

9 March 2023

Kia ora e te whaanau

Industrial Action and the Impact on Fairfield College

As referenced in a 22 February communication that I distributed, secondary school teachers that are members of the Post Primary Teachers Association Te Wehengarua (PPTA), are engaged in industrial action to support the settlement of their collective agreement. In this communication I informed you that secondary school teachers that are PPTA members throughout New Zealand will be conducting a nationwide one-day strike on **Thursday, March 16**. As most Fairfield College teachers are members of the PPTA we will not be able to open the school, therefore, I request that parents organise alternative care arrangements for **Thursday, March 16**.

We will endeavour to provide supervision at school for parents whose work and care situations do not enable them to provide supervision for their children that are under 16 years old during the school day. Our capacity to provide supervision will be determined by the number of students that are in this situation. The teachers that are not members of the PPTA union will be able to supervise up to 40 students. My hope is that the Secondary Teachers' Collective Agreement (STCA) will be settled, which will result in the withdrawal of the notice to strike.

If your children require supervision on Thursday March 16, please send their names in an email to snowdonl@faircol.school.nz.

Another form of industrial action that the PPTA are taking is that secondary teachers that are PPTA members have withdrawn their goodwill to engage in any type of teaching outside of their contracted teaching hours. This has made it difficult on some days to staff the school and as a result I have had to postpone three Education Outside of the Classroom activities this week and all of the Year 9 Stars Adventure Days that were planned next week. We hope to re-schedule these activities once the Secondary Teachers' Collective Agreement has been settled. Future Education Outside of the Classroom activities could also be postponed, however, we will consider each activity on a case-by-case basis.

Last night the Board of Trustees discussed the challenges that the industrial action was causing school operations and they sent a letter to the Minister of Education imploring her to urgently settle the collective agreements of both secondary school and primary school teachers.

Please do not hesitate to contact the school if you have any inquiries.

Naaku noa, naa

Richard Crawford
PRINCIPAL



Be respectful
Be responsible
Be the best you can be

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