



Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's) Regarding BTA Work Stoppage

Question: Why are they striking?

Answer: Last year, the District increased instructional hours for students at Nicolet Middle School because the students at this secondary school had been receiving nearly one hour less instruction time than Banning High School. The union claims this change must be negotiated, and they are protesting the increase.

To be clear, this is a conflict that the District and union have been discussing since June of last year, so for the union to wait until the last minute before school begins to declare a strike indicates that they are not interested in finding productive ways to settle disagreements. It saddens me to think they will hold student learning hostage to make their point.

Question: Is the strike districtwide? If not, may I send my child to a school that is not striking?

Answer: The strike is districtwide, and each school will be open and staffed by qualified teacher substitutes.

Question: Will the substitutes introduce themselves to the parents, so that we will know them and how to connect with them if we have questions about our child/ren?

Answer: They will need to ask the Principal for this information, since this work stoppage is for only three days.

Question: What are the school hours?

Answer: Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, Aug. 8, 9 and 10, school start and end times are:

Elementary School:

August 8th, Minimum Day Schedule, 9:00am-1:45pm; August 9th & 10th
9:00 am – 3:10 pm

Middle School: August 8th -10th Minimum Day Schedule, 7:45am –
11:30am

High School: Regular Day Schedule, 7:40am – 2:45 pm

Question: If we decide to keep our children home during the strike, are the missed days considered absences?

Answer: Yes, legally they would be considered an absence. We do hope that all children will attend school and we are committed to ensure they are welcomed, safe and provided a healthy learning environment.

Question: How are we supposed to enter campus if there are people striking on campus?

Answer: We encourage you to enter from the front of the school or other regular entrances, where administration will be present. And, while the union is upset with the District, I am confident they will be respectful to students and parents.

Question: How long do you think the strike will last?

Answer: We have been informed by the union that the strike will commence at 7:15 a.m. on Wednesday, August 8, 2018 and will end at 7:15 a.m. on Monday, August 13, 2018. We will provide regular updates to keep you updated as information becomes available.

Question: Are the teachers paid during the time that they strike?

Answer: No, as a matter of state law, employees on strike do not receive pay.

Question: Is support staff on strike, too?

Answer: No, the District's administrative, food service, custodial and transportation services are ready to greet our students tomorrow.

Question: Is there a plan to increase instructional time for Elementary and High Schools in the District?

Answer: No, the Board of Education and District's Administrative staff are satisfied with the current instructional time for all of these sites.