

Simcoe Muskoka Catholic District School Board 46 Alliance Boulevard Barrie, Ontario, Canada, L4M 5K3 Tel 705.722.3555 Fax 705.722.6534 www.smcdsb.on.ca

April 2, 2019

Dear Parents/ Guardians,

The Simcoe Muskoka Catholic District School Board is aware that some students in our schools may participate in a student walkout on Thursday, April 4, 2019. This walkout, which has been widely publicized through the media and social media, is protesting the provincial government's recent changes to education.

Although we understand the desire for students to express their views, especially on matters which affect them directly, it is important for parents and guardians to know that this planned walkout is not a board or school sanctioned event.

On Thursday, our schools will be following normal attendance and safe arrival procedures, which means that any student participating in the walkout will be marked absent for missed classes. Since it is a regular school day and classes are proceeding as normal, students are expected to be in full uniform. School staff will not be supervising students who participate in the protest and it is our expectation that students behave in a respectful and appropriate manner even if they are off of school property.

We sincerely appreciate your partnership in the education of your child. Our priority is to support the learning and well-being of students while maintaining a safe environment. If you have questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact the administration of your child's school.

Sincerely,

Buan Beal

Brian Beal Director of Education