

TEACHERS WON'T ATTEND STAFF MEETINGS OR ANYTHING RELATED TO EQAO

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ers' Federation of Ontario (ETFO) Halton division. Progress reports due out next week will not be affected, nor will parent interviews related to those reports, said Proctor. "The actions we're taking are administrative type things coming from the ministry and the school board, and we are not taking any actions that will negatively impact students."

"There's a report card in term one and that is the one that will be affected but that doesn't come out until February and obviously we hope before February that this is going to be solved."

What teachers will not do is anything related to EQAO or board improvement plan activities, or at

THE ISSUE:
FIRST PHASE OF
WORK-TO-RULE
ACTION

LOCAL IMPACT: 3,000
HALTON PUBLIC
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
TEACHERS AFFECTED

tend staff meetings.

"Previous governments and this government have repeatedly come after teachers and public sector workers and we have in this round of negotiations, ETFO, has repeatedly gone with good intentions and in good faith to discussions with the government parties and they are really not answering any of our re-

sponses other than asking elementary teachers to give up \$150 million out of our collective agreements.

"They haven't addressed the issue of support for students with special needs, they haven't addressed the issue of violence in the classroom and these are things that teachers care very deeply about. So it was necessary to escalate things to a work to rule campaign in order to hopefully bring the government back to the table and to act in a serious way."

More talks are planned in the near future between the province and ETFO.

"So we continue to be hopeful that the government will come to the bargaining table and bargain seriously with us and that we can resolve our issues without having to escalate

HALTON HILLS CAN EXPECT TWO-WAY, ALL-DAY GO SERVICE BY 2024: METROLINX

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Halton Hills residents can expect to enjoy all-day, two-way GO service by 2024.

At Halton Hills town council on Nov. 11, Leona Hollingsworth, senior manager of community and stakeholder relations for Metrolinx, outlined a number of improvements that will occur along the Kitchener line over the next five years, including two-way, all-day service.

"We want to change the GO train system from a commuter system to an integrated, connected system," Hollingsworth said. "We're getting you where you want to go rather than just into the city."

Service, Hollingsworth said, is expected to quadruple across the network.

The main improvement will be the electrification of 54 kilometres of the rail corridor between the Kitchener GO Station and east of the Acton GO Station.

Electrification will reduce travel times by allowing faster trains, improved service reliability, improved air quality and a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions. Prior to the upgrade, Metrolinx will complete an environmental assessment between Georgetown and Kitchener.

A public information session regarding electrification will be held at the Acton arena (415 Queen St.) on Nov. 27 from 5 to 8 p.m.

any further."

The work to rule strike action was announced Nov. 14 by ETFO president Sam Hammond.

"Our goal is to turn up the heat on Premier (Doug) Ford and his education minister, Stephen Lecce. Parents, teachers and education professionals know that the government's agenda of cuts, not investment, in public education, is harmful to our students' education and future. We're taking the legal steps available to us to get a better deal that supports our members and students and helps preserve Ontario's world-class education system," said Hammond.

On Nov. 1, ETFO members voted 98 per cent in favour of a strike.

STORY BEHIND THE STORY

Metroland Halton spoke with the ETFO Halton President to learn what's ahead for local teachers, as negotiations continue with the union and Province.



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