

## **BACKGROUND**

Alberta Learning recognizes the desire of a school board and its teachers to negotiate contractual arrangements that are acceptable to both parties. In the event that negotiations break down and a strike by teachers or a lockout by a **board** occurs, Alberta Learning will adjust funding while keeping the educational needs of the students a priority.

## **PURPOSE**

In the event of a strike by staff or a lockout by a **board** when educational services are not provided, the funding payable to a **board** shall be reduced. Adjustment of funds prevents a financial benefit from accruing to a **board**.

## **CONDITIONS**

1. The **Minister** may reduce funding provided under the Alberta School Foundation Fund and/or the General Revenue Fund for the period for which cessation of services occurred.
2. Funding will be reduced by 1/200th of the certificated teacher salary and benefits amount for each day teachers are on strike.
3. The amount of the reduction will be based on the following:
  - a) A 200 day school year where funding is payable based on an annual formula
  - b) The number of operating days, (including teaching preparation days and in-service days) for which the strike or lockout occurred. Scheduled holidays, statutory holidays and make-up time for teaching days lost will not be used to reduce the number of operating days.
4. Schools are required to ensure that students in Grades 2 to 9 have access to 950 hours of instruction per year and that students in Grades 10 to 12 have access to 1,000 hours of instruction per year. The access to instruction hours can be met in various ways.
5. All other funding to school jurisdictions will continue in order to provide boards with the flexibility to make local operating decisions.
6. There should be sufficient funds and flexibility within a board's current funding allocation to cover any cost of providing distance learning materials to students during the cessation –no additional funding will be provided for these costs.

7. A **board** shall notify Alberta Learning, immediately following the end of a strike or lockout, of the period and number of days of the cessation of services.
8. In the event that a strike by teachers or a lockout by a board occurs on the **count date**, an alternate **count date** will be determined by the Director of School Finance.
9. Alberta Learning will provide the **board** with a detailed calculation of the funding reduction.
10. After the strike or lockout, the funding reduction amount will be recovered from the next applicable payment(s) to the **board**.
11. In the event of a dispute over the amount of the funding reduction, a **board** may submit its concern(s) in writing to the **Minister**.