



**SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

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**Magda Parvey, Ed.D.**  
*Superintendent of Schools*

November 9, 2023

**Statement of Tracey Spruce, Chair of the Andover School Committee**

This evening, the School Committee learned that the Andover Education Association (AEA) membership voted to authorize an illegal strike, beginning tomorrow morning.

We are incredibly disappointed in this decision by the AEA to take this illegal action that unfairly disrupts the education of our students. As we shared with the community earlier today, the School Committee has filed a petition with the Department of Labor Relations to stop the strike. The School Committee bargaining teams have negotiated in good faith to reach contracts that are fair to all educators and staff and we urge the union bargaining team to immediately come back to the negotiating table and work with us in good faith to reach agreement.

Andover Schools will be closed through the duration of the teacher strike. The School Committee, in partnership with our school administrators, will provide box breakfasts and lunches for students that can be picked up at Bancroft Elementary School. Breakfast can be picked up from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and lunch will be available from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Athletics and theater rehearsals for students may continue during this time. Please contact the coaches and/or director for more information.

Students who do not attend one of the Andover Public Schools but rely on district transportation to take them to their school will be picked up and dropped off as usual.

We want to make it clear that the School Committee does not condone the illegal actions of the AEA. We will work with the Department of Labor Relations to minimize the disruption to our students' education. We urge all teachers and staff to return to school. We urge the AEA to end their illegal strike and return to the bargaining table.

We understand that this is a severe disruption to the lives of our students and families and we will continue to provide new information as it becomes available.