



IMPORTANT NOTICE

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

The Board of Trustees can't provide teaching for students during the upcoming Primary Teacher and Primary Principal strike. The NZEI has advised the Tokomaru School Board of Trustees that the principal and member teachers at our school will be taking strike action for the **full day** on **Wednesday 15 August 2018**.

What are the issues faced by teachers?

You send your children to school to help set them up for life. Yet, schools are facing a teacher shortage crisis, with a 40% drop in people training to be teachers over the last 4 years and nearly half of newly qualified teachers leaving within the first 5 years. Schools all over the country are struggling to find enough quality staff to teach our children. There is also a desperate need for more support for children with additional learning needs. There just aren't enough teachers to give your kids the education they deserve.

The Board has carefully considered the availability of teaching staff, and unfortunately decided that we can't provide the normal teaching services during the strike. It's important that you make alternative arrangements for the care of your child/children on the day of the strike.

The school will need to close for instruction during this strike action.

School transport will be unavailable for the day of the strike action.

I know that this is inconvenient for parents and students alike, but please be assured that student safety is our main concern.

Thank you for your understanding.

Please contact me if you have any queries relating to this decision.

Yours sincerely,

David Lawton

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Chair Board of Trustees Tokomaru School