

Dear Students and Parents,

The California Faculty Association (CFA), representing professors, lecturers, coaches, librarians, and counselors at the CSU, has called for a work-stoppage strike between January 22 and January 26, 2024, which coincides with the beginning of the Spring Semester at CSU, Bakersfield. The Teamsters union, which represents our skilled trades employees, has also announced a strike at this same time. Our campus will remain open and operational to support all our students during this time.

Both CFA and Teamsters have demanded a general salary increase that would result in cuts to programs and potentially layoffs on our campuses. Despite this, we are committed to fairly compensating our employees in a financially sustainable manner. To that end, the CSU has provided professors, lecturers, coaches, librarians, and counselors with a 5% general salary increase. This is the amount we offered and are providing to the other employee groups with whom we've reached agreement. We have not concluded our bargaining process with Teamsters.

The University is taking steps to lessen the impacts of the work-stoppage to students. The strike should not interfere with students' ability to complete their courses and graduate on time. Some faculty will continue to hold classes, so students should check with their instructors about their individual class schedules and assignments. If a class or service is cancelled, you are welcome to share that information with us [here](#) so that we can best assure continuity and fulfillment of instruction.

As noted above, the campus will be open. Move-in day for the residence halls will not be affected. Students who live in residence halls will continue to be provided with all the usual services. The student union, library, and other student service centers will also remain open.

There may be picket lines. We acknowledge it can feel uncomfortable to cross a picket line. You are welcome to choose an entrance that does not have one. If asked, please know that you are not obligated to provide a member of a picket line with your name or any other information.

We remain committed to providing students with the highest quality educational experience. Your understanding, cooperation, and patience during this difficult period are greatly appreciated, and we will notify you immediately if there are any changes.

If you have any questions or concerns surrounding strike activity, please call (661) 654-2500, between January 22 and January 26, 2024. We look forward to seeing you soon.

Sincerely,

Vernon B. Harper Jr.
CSU Bakersfield Interim President

James L. Rodriguez
CSU Bakersfield Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Thom Davis
CSU Bakersfield Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

Thomas Wallace
CSU Bakersfield Vice President for Student Affairs

Heath Niemeyer
CSU Bakersfield Interim Vice President for University Advancement

Claudia Catota
CSU Bakersfield Chief Diversity Officer and Special Assistant to the President

Kristen Beall Watson
CSU Bakersfield Chief of Staff to the President

Ronnie Gomez
CSU Bakersfield University Counsel