

## CUPE education workers are ready to negotiate a contract that protects and expands services for students

- The Canadian Union of Public Employees CUPE Ontario School Boards Council of Unions (OSBCU) represents over 55,000 education workers in 600+ different jobs in schools each of whom play a vital role in student success.
- Over the last 4 years funding for schools has been cut by \$800 per student (adjusted for inflation). That works out to a cut of \$1.6 billion in 2021-2022 alone.
- Cuts to funding mean cuts to services for kids. For example:
  - > 60% of CUPE Educational Assistants provide support to 5 or more students each day, denying students the one-on-one supports they need. Less than 8% of EAs work with only one student.
  - > Many school libraries no longer have library workers to provide supports.
  - > Kids do without the supports of Child and Youth Workers, Psychologists, Social Workers and other professional staff.
- There is no provincial standard for school cleanliness or maintenance. Many school boards cut corners on custodial and maintenance staffing due to underfunding. The repair backlog is over \$16.8 billion.
- Over 51% of CUPE education workers have to work a second job to make ends meet.



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## Education workers are demanding improvements for our publicly funded schools including:

- More education workers to:
  - Improve the quality of education
  - Better meet the needs of students with increased direct support from Educational Assistants, Designated Early Childhood Educators, Child and Youth Workers, and more
  - Keep all school libraries open for students
  - Ensure enough clerical workers to run the school safely and smoothly
  - Guarantee healthier cleaning standards and tackle maintenance backlogs.
- Significant wage improvements for all education workers to:
  - Keep valued and experienced education workers from leaving the field and to prevent burnout;
  - Address the hardship faced by education workers who earn an average of \$39,000 per year and have faced a real wage cut of 11% over the last decade due to provincial legislation.



## Students, Parents, and Education Workers Deserve Better

Support education workers' demands for Student Success and Good Jobs.



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