

255,000+ Teachers and Education Workers Unite and Take Action!

Catholic teachers, joined by AEFO, ETFO, CUPE-OSBCU, and OSSTF/FEESO members, are taking action across Ontario in a powerful show of unity among teachers and education workers on April 29.

Our Schools Need Adequate Funding to Ensure Student Success

- **Our students are the future** – and our schools need real investment, and they need it now.
- **Ontario schools are facing \$6.3 billion in underfunding over the past eight years.** When adjusted for inflation, school boards receive less per student than they did before the current government took office in 2018.
- The most recent **provincial budget fails students, families, teachers, and education workers yet again** and will only exacerbate the situation in our schools.
 - A \$750 school supplies card does not make up for years of government underfunding. We need real and sustained investments to ensure student success, not another band-aid solution.

We See the Impact of Underfunding Every Day in Our Classrooms

- **Every day, Catholic teachers see the negative impact that underfunding is having on our students** – which are magnified for our students with special education needs – including:
 - Overcrowded classrooms, with no plan to address growing complexity.
 - Almost 3,400 fewer teachers – contributing to a growing teacher recruitment and retention crisis, with more classes being covered by unqualified and uncertified people.
 - Lost programs and services that school boards have been forced to cut.
 - Rising violence in schools, with more teachers and other school staff reporting burnout.
 - More than 2,000 schools in disrepair.
 - A lack of basic school supplies, like paper, pencils, and textbooks.

Our Schools Cannot Continue To Do More With Less

- We call on the Ontario Government to:
 - **Start the bargaining process as soon as possible**, so we can address the critical issues facing students, families, teachers, and education workers in our schools.
 - **Support real and sustained investment in our students and publicly funded schools**, so that the per-student funding rate is increased beyond the rate of annual inflation.
 - **Invest in smaller class sizes**, so that every student gets the dedicated, one-on-one attention they need from their teachers to help them thrive and succeed.