

November 2, 2022

Dear Minister Lecce.

We, the undersigned, are the executive of the parent and school council for RH McGregor Elementary School.

As parents we understand the importance of keeping kids in school after the last few years of COVID-19 related disruptions. Our children deserve more than just being in a classroom. They deserve an education system that's fully staffed by qualified education workers.

The 55,000 members of CUPE's Ontario School Boards Council of Unions (OSBCU) – custodians, maintenance and library workers, secretaries, early childhood educators, educational assistants, IT professionals – who are working in publicly funded schools across Ontario are the backbone of the province's public education system. As parents, we have witnessed how their skills and dedication to our children are vital to both the operation of schools and our kids' educational experiences.

Low wages, coupled with significant cuts to education of \$1.6 billion by your government alone, have led to a critical staffing shortage and poorer educational outcomes of students, all while your government is sitting on \$44 billion in unspent taxpayer dollars.

It's time to take education workers' proposals seriously because they're reasonable, necessary to our children's education, and affordable.

Pay workers better, guarantee increased services for students, make significant investments into our schools, and ensure adequate staffing levels. Focus on building our schools for the students, not on austerity.

We look forward to your timely response and resolution.

Yours very truly,

Maryn Madoff

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PSC CHAIR ON BEHALF OF THE RH MCGREGOR PARENT AND SCHOOL COUNCIL EXECUTIVE OF THE RH MCGREGOR PARENT AND SCHOOL COUNCIL