

# OUR CONCLUSION:

**This Program, including each of the 10 points, are urgently required to:**

- ✓ **Protect Toronto's publicly financed school system**
- ✓ **Maintain a viable education system which functions as an "education model", rather than as a business model**
- ✓ **Prevent privatization in any form**
- ✓ **Give each student what they need to succeed.**

#### SOURCES:

- [1] Annie Kidder People For Education 2012
- [2] Tim McCaskell, Race to Equity: Disrupting Educational Inequality, Between the Lines Press 2005
- [3] Kenneth Leithwood and Doris Jantzi, Review of Educational Research, March 2009; vol. 79.1
- [4] Dr Dale Shuttleworth, Education for Life, University of Toronto Press 2010

## About the Campaign for Public Education:

CPE is an association of Toronto organizations, civic agencies and groups representing community leaders parents, adult learners, students, teachers, school trustees, education workers and ethno-racial communities representatives who have been campaigning together for the full funding of quality public education since 2001

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Save Our Schools Toronto

# A 10 POINT PROGRAM FOR EDUCATION IN TORONTO

# Give students what they **NEED TO SUCCEED**

Following the 1998 amalgamation of school boards, Trustees lost the ability to determine local needs and to tax in order to fund them. Toronto's seven school boards did NOT have constant year over year financial crises.

However, when the province took over complete control of funding, the serious and serial problems began. Right now, Ontario spends the lowest rate in Canada[1] on education and claims the province is not able to do anything about underfunding because that Ontario has a revenue problem, not a deficit problem.

A major infusion of public funding is needed and could be secured by bringing revenues back up to the pre-2009 tax rate. This would begin to restore a level of fairness to Ontario's taxation system.

[campaignforpubliceducation.ca](http://campaignforpubliceducation.ca)



# To protect, renew, restore, and to give all students what they need to succeed, Toronto's public education system will require:

**1. NEIGHBOURHOOD SCHOOLS:** Ensuring that all local neighbourhoods have well-maintained schools, the hubs of their communities, providing programmes and services for all -from young children through to adults and seniors- and valuing parent and community involvement and input.

**2. EQUITY:** Providing equity and access to education[2] from early childhood through adult re-training and education, including affordable seniors' program.

**3. RENEWED ROLE FOR TRUSTEES:** Restoring the role of democratically elected trustees with local taxation powers and as full representatives, advocates and spokespersons of the whole community and responsible for transparent policy, human resources, bargaining and budget decisions of the school board.

**4. FULL DAY KINDERGARTEN:** Extending full day kindergarten to all schools so that there is full day (including before and after school care), year round "seamless" all day play-based learning for Junior and Senior Kindergarten students.

**5. SMALL-SCALE DELIVERY:** Ensuring there is support for small schools, small classes and small adult/student ratios in all classes, as has been supported by current research[3].

**6. SPECIAL EDUCATION:** Guaranteeing that there is sufficient staffing and resources to meet the needs of all special needs students and their families.

**7. "WHOLE CHILD" LEARNING MODEL:** Ensure teaching of the "whole child" and student by replacing standardized testing with skills such as critical thinking[4] and ESL leading to "lifelong-learning".

**8. ADULT EDUCATION:** Providing a fully funded and robust adult education system that includes credit secondary school courses plus non-credit courses including English as a Second Language, LINC, Literacy and Basic Skills, Native Languages, Citizenship, Parenting and Family Literacy programs, affordable & accessible seniors' and General Interest programs.

**9. CURRICULUM:** Restoring and renewing a well-rounded curriculum that includes the arts, trades, physical/health education, libraries, nutrition education, science and the environment, taught by trained / certified staff.

**10. BUILDINGS:** Constructing new schools as population warrants and restoring school buildings by providing adequate staffing and capital so that all schools will be safe, clean, and well-maintained