

Our Conclusion

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

- ❑ to protect Toronto's publicly financed school system;
- ❑ to maintain a viable education system which functions as an "education model", rather than as a business model,
- ❑ to prevent privatization in any form, and
- ❑ to give each student what they need to succeed.

Campaign for Public Education is an open assembly of public education advocates designed for exchange, coordination & advocacy. Since 2002 we have campaigned to rebuild Toronto's publicly-funded education system. We welcome delegates from groups representing parents, ethno-racial communities, students, adult learners, teachers, education workers, school trustees, city councilors, neighborhoods, early childhood educators, social planners & researchers.

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a 10-point program for education in Toronto

GIVE ALL OUR 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.

Previously 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 Canada¹ on education, claiming the province isn't able to do anything about underfunding because "the deficit must be paid down first".

Key economists disagree, observing that Ontario has a revenue problem, not a deficit problem.



A 10-point Program for Education in Toronto

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

- ❑ **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.
- ❑ **EQUITY:** Providing equity and access to education¹ from early childhood through adult re-training and education, including affordable seniors' program.
- ❑ **RENEWED ROLE FOR TRUSTEES:** Restoring the role of democratically elected trustees as representatives, advocates and spokespersons for the community as a whole, and responsible for transparent policy, human resources, bargaining and budget decisions of the Toronto Board.
- ❑ **FULL DAY KINDERGARTEN:** Extending full day kindergarten to all schools so that there is full day before & after school care, year round "seamless" play-based learning for Junior & Senior Kindergarten students.
- ❑ **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 research¹.
- ❑ **SPECIAL EDUCATION:** Guaranteeing that there is sufficient staffing and resources to meet the needs of all special needs students and their families.
- ❑ **"WHOLE CHILD" LEARNING MODEL:** Ensure teaching of the "whole child" and student by replacing standardized testing with skills such as critical thinking¹ leading to "lifelong-learning".

