

VALUE

CLERICAL, SECRETARIAL, TECHNICAL, LIBRARY WORKERS in our schools



Cycle of administrative staff cuts — key feature of funding model

The Mike Harris Tories purposely designed the education funding model to “achieve administrative efficiencies” primarily by laying off thousands of secretaries and library, clerical and technical staff.

This cycle of staff cuts is repeated in every budget round as school boards sharpen their pencils to extract more “efficiencies” from administrative staff.

These cuts take many forms — from outright staff layoffs to “twinning” staff between departments to save money. Some school boards are finding “efficiencies” by laying off as many as a third of their computer and audio visual technologists.

***“ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF ARE IN THE
SAME BUDGET LINE AS SCHOOL
SUPPLIES. WE’RE TIRED OF BEING
TREATED LIKE WE’RE NO MORE
IMPORTANT THAN ERASERS AND PAPER
TOWELS. ENOUGH IS ENOUGH.”***

Tina DiVona
President, CUPE 2026
Dufferin-Peel Catholic
District School Board



Who’s supervising students?

The failure by McGuinty Liberals to adequately fund class size caps and agreements with teachers is resulting in some schools boards using administrative staff to supervise students.

In some cases, library technicians are sidelined to supervising hundreds of high school students without any help. Secretaries are often left in charge of students sent to the office as principles spend more time in classrooms filling in for teachers or away at “twinning” schools.

It’s not a responsible strategy to ensure students and workers have healthy and safe school environments.

Fewer administrative staff

With fewer staff to do the work, many administrative and clerical support workers take their work home and complete it on their own time to keep from falling behind.

Unless the McGuinty Liberals fix education funding like they said they would, layoffs province-wide will continue this spring as many school boards have depleted reserve funds.

Those administrative staff left in our schools are picking up the work done by their departing colleagues, adding to already heavy workloads.

Increased supervision duties threaten to be the straw that breaks the back of many administrative staff.



Less support for students, teachers and parents

Teachers and parents know how that administrative staff are an important part of the school team that help students succeed.

Teachers depend on secretaries and clerical staff, library, computer and audio visual technicians in order to do their jobs as best they can. When we deny them these vital supports, students suffer.



The funding model — what needs to change?

- Elimination of the use of 'per-pupil' funding as the basis for the model.
- The province must fully fund the April 2005 Teacher Framework Agreement and the 20-pupil class size cap initiative.



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