



# TOGETHER, EVERYTHING IS POSSIBLE

OSBCC Bargaining Update 2012

Issue 16

August 31, 2012

Sisters and Brothers:

The OSBCC Bargaining Committee was elected to represent over 55,000 CUPE school board support workers at the Provincial Discussion Table (PDT) with the school board associations and the province of Ontario.

Over the past week, we have been working towards a solution that meets CUPE members' needs. As your bargaining committee, we tried our best to get our issues resolved but unfortunately, the government's final position is unacceptable and is far from the mandate given to us by the membership.

One size cannot fit all and the OECTA deal does not work for CUPE school support staff. We need an agreement that respects the value of the work education support workers do and that is suitable for members, students and their families.

The Putting Students First Act is set to pass on Monday, September 10th. A summary of the Act was sent for distribution to local Presidents. Remember that while legislation is pending, the terms of your collective agreements remain frozen under the *Labour Relations Act*. Therefore, we are asking locals/members to take specific action that will help protect our collective agreements upon their return to work next Tuesday.

If your employer changes your working condition or indicates they will be changing the terms of your collective agreements, we ask you to please submit individual grievances with the wording below as soon as possible. This must be done the moment a collective agreement is not being followed. Please forward all grievances to your CUPE National Representative immediately.

*"The Employer has violated my Collective Agreement by changing my terms and conditions of employment. I hereby immediately demand that the terms and conditions of my Collective Agreement be fully complied with and that I be made whole for all losses suffered."*

We will be holding another Town Hall conference call on **Wednesday, September 5 at 7 p.m. EST** to provide a detailed update and to discuss further actions. We ask local Presidents to again please provide us with the telephone numbers of activists who should be included in future Town Hall conference calls. Please send the information to [terri.preston@cupe4400.org](mailto:terri.preston@cupe4400.org) no later than Monday, September 3rd. We will be providing Presidents with call-in numbers and all other information related to the Town Hall shortly.

A Leadership Meeting is also set to take place on Saturday, September 22nd in Toronto. We will provide information relating to that meeting as soon as it becomes available.

There is no question we are heading into a challenging fall but it is equally clear that "Together, everything is possible." We thank you for your support as we continue to move forward together.

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