



TOGETHER, EVERYTHING IS POSSIBLE

OSBCC Bargaining Update 2012

Issue 11

June 5, 2012

Sisters and Brothers:

The OSBCC Bargaining Committee, elected to represent over 50,000 CUPE education workers across Ontario at the Provincial Discussion Table (PDT), met with the government and school board associations on May 30 and May 31, 2012.

On May 30, we reinforced our position on four items – job security, a provincial benefits plan, grid movement and sick leave. We were very clear the government’s position of imposing a monetary penalty on those who were ill would never be acceptable to our members. We then told the government to get back to us should they be prepared to move on those items.

At that point, the school board associations approached us in order to engage in informal talks. On May 31, we met solely with the school board associations to discuss ways we can come to an agreement we can bring forward to the government.

We agreed to continue these discussions and have dates scheduled for June 12 and 13 to meet with the school board associations. We remain committed to our mandate of no concessions and are working hard to get a deal.

Other parties remain in bargaining at the PDT and our position is to achieve a deal that works for CUPE support staff as one settlement does not fit all.

Some private members’ bills were recently introduced in the House by the Conservatives asking for wage freeze legislation. CUPE will vigorously oppose any attempt to legislate our wages.

Please continue to send information on layoffs or staff reductions (including through attrition) to Paul O’Donnell at podonnell@cupe.ca and Terri Preston at terri.preston@cupe4400.ca.

A reminder that we are holding a leadership meeting on June 9 and encourage local executive committees as well as those on local bargaining committees to attend as we will be discussing ways to move forward. The registration form can be found on the CUPE Ontario website and has been sent electronically to all local presidents and national staff servicing school board locals. Please register as soon as possible if you haven’t already done so.

Please ensure your local has its bargaining proposals ready before June 9. Make sure you incorporate the coordinated language in your proposals and have not put forward language on issues related to the provincial table.

We count on you to maintain clear and consistent messaging to our members. Please distribute our Bargaining and Mobilization Updates to your members. Information is power and a well-informed membership is the key to our success at the bargaining table.

In solidarity,

Your Bargaining Committee

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