

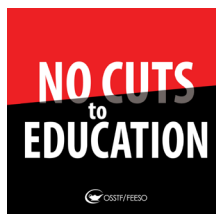


# MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release: Wednesday March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2019

The Ministry of Education's recent announcement of funding cuts will turn the learning environment in local area high schools upside down. Students will see larger class sizes for compulsory subjects, the loss of smaller programs, and these cuts will leave the most vulnerable students without the supports that they deserve. "This government's corresponding announcements about cell phones and sex education are an intentional distraction from the real issue, which is the announcement of devastating cuts that are an attack on students and the quality of public education in Ontario. Cutting nearly 25% of the teaching staff will destroy the ability of schools to meet the diverse learning and program needs of students. Our local area MPPs Todd Smith and Daryl Kramp have let our students and communities down. Their government is attacking one of the pillars of strong communities, which is a fully funded public education system with opportunities for all students" said Scott Marshall President of the Local OSSTF District 29. "Students in Bancroft, Madoc, Trenton, Bayside, Belleville, and Picton will not have the same opportunities, nor have access to a strong, publicly funded education system as those before them if these announced cuts are not opposed. This government announcement is, at best, a recipe for inadequate schools and unmanageable classrooms. At worst, it is a recipe for chaos".

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