

Dear *[Insert Trustee Name Here]*

I'm writing to ask that you refuse to pass any budget that makes cuts in order to comply with the Ford government's austerity policies.

You were elected to represent the best interests of students, their families, and their communities, not bend over backward to support a government bent on [cutting public services](#) and [determined to ignore](#) the needs and [desires of parents](#).

A vote to endorse Ford's agenda by balancing the budget is a vote to accept an unacceptable attack on our students, parents, and communities. We refuse to fight amongst ourselves over scraps of funding.

The *[Insert Board Name Here]* quite rightly, is proud and protective of its efforts to create equity within the system. However, we all know that real success in closing achievement gaps requires major investment in an underfunded system. Balancing the *[Insert Board Name Here]* budget will ultimately hurt those students already marginalized by economic, racial and other forms of inequality.

As *[an education worker / parent / your constituent / voter / concerned citizen: use any and all that apply]* I'm especially worried about:

- *[Please list specific items of concern here; suggestions below which could include: large class sizes due to removing class caps; loss of extra-curricular opportunities given loss of teacher supervisors; loss of course options given cuts to teaching staff; loss of mental health and guidance support; etc.....]*

I'm aware voting "No" to a cuts budget risks a direct takeover of the board by the Ford government. I realize you might be worried about the legal implications of not passing a "balanced" budget.

Please remember you have a greater professional and moral duty to listen to the vast majority of your constituents. By refusing to implement Ford's cuts, you will contribute to an historic solidarity movement that has the power to reverse these cuts and win the investment our students and communities so desperately need.

Know that I and thousands of others will support you in voting "No" to these cuts. To do otherwise is to settle for scraps. We deserve so much better.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Name / Address / Contact Information