



**Wayne Gates**

MPP, Niagara Falls



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December 3, 2019  
Shannon Smith, President  
OSSTF District 22  
1877 Merrittville Hwy  
RRI Fonthill, Ontario L0S 1E6

Dear Ms. Smith and District 22 Executive Members,

Education workers are at the front lines of the fight against Doug Ford's cuts. Students, parents, teachers and education workers know the chaos that was created by increased class sizes; classes were cancelled, teaching positions were eliminated and students scrambled to get the classes they needed to graduate. Every parent knows that the individual attention of Ontario's world-class educators is a key driver of our students success. Threatening their success with increased class sizes, mandatory online learning, and the elimination of caps makes no sense. It takes a tough situation and makes it worse.

Doug Ford has been spoiling for a fight with educators since day one, attacking teachers and trying to drive a wedge between students, teachers and parents. So let's be clear: the responsibility for this challenging situation rests squarely with the Premier.

Standing up for students is going to take all of us.

New Democrats stand together with you and your members in the fight for our public education system here in Ontario.

Regards,

Wayne Gates  
MPP, Niagara Falls

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MPP, St. Catharines

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