January 2, 2013

Dear Partners,

As you know, our government has been working to secure negotiated agreements with the province’s teachers since last February. Our aim was for these agreements to both meet our fiscal objectives and protect the classroom experience. Under the *Putting Students First Act, 2012*, teachers and support staff had until December 31, 2012 to negotiate an agreement that would meet these goals.

Over the coming days and weeks, teachers and support staff, as well as all those in the education sector, will be hearing a great deal about the government’s next steps and what those steps mean for them. We feel it is very important that teachers and support staff hear all perspectives so they are fully informed about the government’s actions.

Towards that end, I am attaching a letter from the Premier of Ontario, Dalton McGuinty, to all of the teachers and support staff who work in our schools. I encourage you to share the letter with all of your staff, members and colleagues so they can hear directly from the Premier.

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to ensuring Ontario’s education system remains one of the best in the world.

Yours truly,

Laurel Broten

Enclosure