



Issue # 8

October 31, 2022

A Strike has been called for Friday, November 4, 2022

The OSBCU has announced that a Notice to Strike has been issued on October 30 and that a strike has been called for Friday, November 4. Three more days of negotiations are scheduled – stay tuned for more information.

How we got to this point:

Mass membership meetings across the province to provide updates about negotiations and to ramp up pressure on the Ford Government. The Toronto meeting was held on Sunday, October 30. At the meetings, OSBCU leaders are presenting a timeline of important events which will unfold over the next few weeks as well as a report on current collective bargaining.

On Saturday October 22, education workers and labour allies held a spirited demonstration at the Toronto Congress Centre where Conservative MPPs were meeting.

Negotiations have been ongoing – since the summer. Guided by a Conciliation Officer, there have been three days of mediation. The government has not moved off its puny offer – increases of only 1.25% for most of our Members per annum over the next 4 years. Those wage “increases” are so far below the rate of inflation that it would be more accurate to describe them as WAGE CUTS!

At least one commentator remarked that the government is forcing us to make “an impossible decision” – deciding whether to put food on the table and pay the rent or go on strike and try to live on \$300 a week. It is disgraceful that the government would put us in this situation. As it turned out, it was a tough decision but clearly not an impossible decision. Members know that the impact of this settlement will be felt for years and delivered a strike mandate of 96.5%.

In the event of a strike, Members will be notified of picket locations for the first week via their local4400.ca email accounts. All picketing will take place at central locations, not at schools, until further notice.

A leaflet for parents is now being shipped to all School Councils. It will also be made available to Union Members. The leaflet will help us communicate with parents about what’s at stake in this round of negotiations. Take the time to read the parent leaflet yourself. Its messaging will also be useful when you talk with family, friends and neighbours. It is posted on the Union website and can be downloaded for distribution.

Stick together. Stay informed. Spread the word.



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