



25 November 2013

The Honourable Liz Sandals
Ministry of Education
22nd Floor, Mowat Block
900 Bay Street
Toronto, Ontario M7A 1L2

Dear Minister Sandals:

Re: Changes re Providing Extended Day Programming to Families with Financial Need

I would like to arrange an opportunity to meet with you to discuss strategies that would improve equity of access to the Extended Day Program for Ontario families.

We are concerned that providing Extended Day care in schools largely to those who can afford it serves only to widen the economic gap between rich and poor by giving significant educational and logistical advantages to rich families that are denied to the poor. The expansion of public education to include integrated childcare programs must be done with the principle of equity of access as a highest priority. To do otherwise is inconsistent with the government's stated goal of reducing poverty and with the underlying principles of public education. Equity of access to public education is a foundational principle of democratic society and, i

We understand that, under the *Education Act*