

November 5, 2025

Dear Member of Provincial Parliament,

The Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA) and its members are deeply concerned by yet another attack on local democracy. The government's decision to attempt to bypass the standard legislative process for Bill 33, Supporting Children and Students Act, eliminating the usual opportunity for public input through committee hearings at Queen's Park, is both disheartening and anti-democratic.

By removing consultation, the government has denied education partners, including school boards, the opportunity to provide constructive feedback. Invoking time allocation undermines public trust and conveys that expediency is being prioritized over openness and accountability. This is particularly alarming given the fact that the bill gives the Minister the authority to bypass cabinet and take over a school board for any matter they choose.

OPSBA has always valued collaboration and has worked productively with all Ministers of Education – regardless of political stripe – on behalf of Ontario's students, families, and school communities. It is unfortunate that the current Minister appears not to value input from those who understand public education best.

In the absence of an opportunity to present publicly or provide input on Bill 33 through the normal process, OPSBA will be sharing its full submission directly with Minister Calandra and your party's Education Critics.

I would like to thank you and your caucus colleagues for your ongoing advocacy on this issue. OPSBA will continue to engage with our communities and raise our concerns on the minister's broader proposed school board governance changes through our campaign "[Democracy is not Outdated](#)".

We strongly urge all Members of Provincial Parliament to vote against the time allocation motion and continue to speak out publicly in support of the full legislative process, including public committee hearings.

Ontario's education system, and our democracy, are stronger when all voices are heard.

Sincerely,



Kathleen Woodcock
President
Ontario Public School Boards' Association