

...more time for creativity.

More time for programs like phys-ed, music, and art helps children two ways.

Children benefit directly from the specialized skills and knowledge of teachers dedicated to these subjects.

Children also benefit when regular classroom teachers have more time to prepare creative, high quality lessons in core subjects such as reading, writing, sciences, and math. Teachers have more time to devote individual attention to children's learning needs.

That's why Ontario's elementary teachers are asking for your support in our call for more phys-ed teachers, art teachers, music teachers, and teacher-librarians in our elementary schools and more preparation time for classroom teachers.

"Helping children learn to express themselves, and appreciate the world around them is what being a teacher is all about."

The percentage of schools with a visual arts teacher fell from 20% in 1998-99 to 15% in 2003-04.

— People for Education 2004 Elementary Tracking Report



Quality education includes:

**more phys-ed teachers,
more music and art teachers,
and more teacher-librarians.**

Quality education includes...

For more information on the benefits of a diverse, well-rounded public education and what Ontario's public elementary school teachers are doing to strengthen our schools, please visit our web site.

You'll find a whole section dedicated to tips and resources for parents.

etfo.ca

Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario
Fédération des enseignantes et des enseignants de l'élémentaire de l'Ontario

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...more phys-ed teachers...

Quality education starts with a solid grounding in academic subjects, but it also includes exercise, an understanding of the arts, and an ability to think independently.

More phys-ed teachers in our elementary schools will help make Ontario children healthier. Regular exercise can also help classroom behaviour and improve concentration.

In recent years many Ontario schools have lost skilled phys-ed teachers due to funding cuts.

"Every child is different. My job is to help each of them meet their full potential. Phys-ed helps foster the kind of healthy choices that last a lifetime."

The number of Ontario elementary schools with a phys-ed teacher has dropped by 27% since 1997-98.

— People for Education 2004 Elementary Tracking Report

...more music teachers...

Music and art are essential parts of a well-rounded education. But while some Ontario children have wonderful music programs in their schools, others are losing out.

Classroom teachers work hard to fill the gaps, but large classes and the wide range of subjects they have to teach means less time to develop challenging lessons and help individual students.

Every child should have a chance to experience music at school.

"Music is a joy for children to discover – and a joy for me to teach. We know that children do better academically when they have music, art, and phys-ed."

Today only 40% of schools have a full- or part-time music teacher, down from 58% six years ago.

— People for Education 2004 Elementary Tracking Report

...more teacher-librarians...

Libraries help promote our children's reading skills, give them information they need, and strengthen their ability to find information and be independent learners.

More teacher-librarians will give our children more library hours and more help using resources.

Quality elementary education is the foundation of future success.

"Children should be able to turn to their library whenever they need it. With more teacher-librarians on the job, we can be open more, and offer all the help that kids need."

Only 10% of schools report having a full-time teacher-librarian.

— People for Education 2004 Elementary Tracking Report

