

## **ETT, Educators, and Parents to Hold Rally on June 21 in Support of Full-Day Kindergarten**

### **For Immediate Release – June 15, 2017**

**Toronto, ON** - The Elementary Teachers of Toronto (ETT), in solidarity with teachers, education workers, parents, and other concerned citizens, will be holding a rally at the Toronto District School Board (TDSB) office on Wednesday, June 21, 2017, starting at 4:00 p.m., as part of our campaign to improve Full-Day Kindergarten (FDK) and build the schools Toronto students deserve.

“Our kindergarten students deserve a fair start,” said ETT President John Smith. “The TDSB’s inequitable distribution of kindergarten students limits one-on-one time in the classroom in some schools. We have brought this issue to the Board’s attention. To date, they have ignored or deferred our concerns. Parents and educators need a meaningful response, which is why we are holding this rally as the Board meets for the final time this school year.”

Each kindergarten class of 16 or more students is required to have a Designated Early Childhood Educator (DECE). The TDSB has specifically created classes to limit the hiring of DECEs. This has resulted in some kindergarten classes with up to 30 students, while others only have 15.

“This distribution is inequitable,” said Smith. “Cost savings cannot be put before the well-being of our students. The Board’s staffing of educators must meet the needs of our students to ensure the schools Toronto students deserve.”

### **Details**

**What:** Rally in Support of Full-Day Kindergarten

**When:** Wednesday, June 21, 2017, 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.

**Where:** TDSB Board Office (5050 Yonge Street, Toronto)

### **About the Elementary Teachers of Toronto**

ETT is the Toronto local of the Elementary Teachers’ Federation of Ontario (ETFO). The local—the largest in Canada—acts as the representative body for more than 11,000 elementary teachers (K-8) employed by the Toronto District School Board (TDSB).

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### **For more information, please contact:**

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