

# THE CUPE “QUARTERLY”

With another school year drawing to a close, the Union just wanted to give a shout out to all of our members on what an amazing job you have done in supporting students, by way of transporting them to and from their schools, assisting in their social, emotional, and educational growth, always being their to hand out band-aids with a warm and caring smile, and ensuring that all of our sites are clean, safe, and in good repair for all those learning and working in them.

While in-class instruction came with many challenges this year, we are proud of our members that faced those challenges head on to ensure that students were able to continue their studies in an environment conducive to most learners. We are going to be optimistic that the 2021/2022 school year will be more reminiscent of what a K-12 system needs to look and feel like.

We would also like to take this opportunity to focus on some of the positive initiatives this year, one of those being the [Skills, Training and Enhancement Fund](#). To date we have been able to support 17 members in their educational pursuits by way of this fund. We want to encourage members seeking to further their knowledge and understanding in areas that directly pertain to the work they are currently doing, or to enhance their skill sets for future job opportunities within the K-12 system, to review the criteria on the District’s website regarding this fund.

The Clerical Hours fund provided additional clerical time, during the months of September and June, to schools that do not have a full-time clerical, that have part-time clerical, or that only have one clerical supporting their school. So far this has been very well received and has aided our clerical during the two busiest months of the year.

The EA Hours Fund was created to primarily provide EA’s additional time to attend meetings that are relevant to the work that they do. Many of the members in this division have felt left out and disconnected from the larger team that supports the students that they work with as there is no time built into their schedules to attend such meetings. The committee will be working on creating proposals for the 2021-2022 school year and we would welcome feedback from the members to ensure these funds are being utilized in such a way that meets the needs of not only the student, but the EA that supports them.

Your Union’s [Bargaining committee](#) is well underway and working on several initiatives from gathering feedback from members to effectively communicating out information to members both prior to and during the negotiations. Committee member contact information can be found on the Union’s website.

While it is our goal to end the school year on a positive note, we know that many of our members have faced some serious challenges and tragedies in the past 12 months. It is important that you know we always have and will continue to advocate tirelessly on your behalf, that we have mourned your losses and prayed for healing. It is our wish to see all our members be provided with meaningful opportunities as well as the time and space for reflection and the courage to move forward with passion and purpose.....

In Solidarity,  
**CUPE 411 Executive**