

**Ontario Human rights commission said learning to read is a human right:** “If classroom instruction is based on an evidence-based core curriculum, most students (80–90%) will learn to read words accurately and efficiently, and few students will need more intensive instruction or intervention.”

My SU spent \$615,000 in the past two years developing curriculum and implementing training for teachers in a scientific approach to teaching literacy. When school districts throughout the state spend that kind of money, vetting programs and training on their own, the costs multiply and contribute to avoidable educational spending.

House Education was told the literacy position is not included in the AOE budget. Please support literacy positions in the AOE.

I am additionally here to advocate for a bill you will hear next week creating Boards of Cooperative Education services. Districts like mine already collaborate with other districts but this bill provides a start up process so all districts can access this benefit. What will they do? bulk purchasing, federal grant writing, contracting for professional development or evaluations and more. Some out of state placement for kids requiring extraordinary special educations can cost up to \$200,000 per year for one student. Many in state locations are \$60k + \$30k for transportation. That prompted my district to collaborate to provide this service at \$15k per child/year—teacher/para/transportation and special education needs dropped from 19% to 12%. We are asking for \$60k, \$10k each for start-up funds. Help schools collaborate at scale to save time, resources and reduce spending. Another out of state collaborative saved their members \$4M on insurance.