

Backgrounder: Broten to hire 300 teachers, 300 EAs

The current reality:

- The most frequently cited “sources of stress and dissatisfaction” for teachers include “overwhelming workloads” and “large class sizes.”¹
- The Saskatchewan Teachers’ Federation acknowledges that “large class sizes” present “significant barriers” for students.²
- The Sask. Party cut 350 full-time equivalent educational assistant jobs between 2007 and 2011.³ With school enrollment rising, the ratio of educational assistants-per-student has dropped dramatically.

Cam Broten’s plan:

- Hire 300 more teachers
- Hire 300 more educational assistants
- Restore the mid-year adjustment, to properly fund student growth that happens after the start of the school year
- Improve funding for school divisions
- Work with school boards to set caps on class sizes, starting with the kindergarten to grade 2
- Total cost over a four-year term: \$137 million

¹ Teacher Time: A Study of the Challenges of Intensification of Saskatchewan Teachers’ Professional Time. Saskatchewan Teachers’ Federation and Saskatchewan Instructional Development and Research Unit. December 2013.

https://www.stf.sk.ca/sites/default/files/teacher_time.pdf

² Saskatchewan Teachers’ Federation. Governance Handbook. July 2015.

https://www.stf.sk.ca/sites/default/files/stf_governance_handbook.pdf

³ <http://yourfairshare.ca/files/2011/09/Union-blasts-EA-cuts.pdf>