

Our resolution

A school cannot exist without students, so let us protect their lives and ensure their rich learning.

We met at this Regular Rally of the Teachers and Staff Union of Osaka Prefectural High Schools today to share the difficulties we face every day. At the same time, we were able to talk about the joy and mission of persons engaged in education, thinking of the growth of high school students who are living now despite of their difficulties.

The infectious spread of Covid-19 has had a great impact on an educational setting. The situation is changing rapidly, from the request for school closure to the declaration of emergencies at the national level, the preparation of educational materials for classes divided in the morning and in the afternoon, and for home study and online lessons . On the other hand, these problems spurred the issues and contradictions that society has been facing up to, and are rapidly accelerating the changes of the times. So far, our society has reduced the medicine, welfare and other social security systems in the name of efficiency or competition. In Osaka's prefectural and municipal schools, reorganization and consolidation have been promoted under Osaka Restoration Association, and the number of staff has been reduced. Top-down education and teaching to the test have exhausted the school itself. In addition, the marketization and privatization of public education have progressed rapidly, and the economic disparity has resulted in the disparity in education. What we have been demanding, such as a small size class, high schools free of a school fee and benefit scholarship, is now emerging as an urgent issue. It is necessary to expand the budget for public education drastically. If the scale of both the school and its class is small , we should be able to afford to deal with the "new lifestyle".

Demand for the union is rising because of the severe situation. In the national politics, the tweet of “#Protests against the proposed amendment to the Public Prosecutor’s Office Act” rapidly gained support, and the Cabinet

had no choice but to change its policy. Even in Osaka Prefecture, it is time to build a bottom-up school rather than a school that can be ruled by a single word of the governor. We learned from a school with no students for three months that students play a leading role in a school. You should cherish what you are feeling now. We humans cannot live "only now, only for gold, only ourselves". The purpose of education is to complete the personality. It's time to go back to it and call for the solidarity of all faculty and staff at this time. There are some companies in the world that have made unprecedented big profits during this period, and there are political movements that call for the introduction of emergency clauses and aim for constitutional revision. In this situation, the world has learned the failure of the principle giving priority to moneymaking. Our daily educational activities will undoubtedly create the next era. It is necessary to make that era full of generations with good sense. Let us extend our movements further, protect the lives of our children, and ensure a wealthy learning.

The above is our resolution.

June 20th, 2020

The 91st Regular Rally of the Teachers and Staff Union of Osaka
Prefectural High Schools