

## Rally appeal

We held this Regular Rally of the Teachers and Staffs Union of Osaka Prefectural High Schools today to share the difficulties we face every day. At the same time, we were able to share the joy and mission of people engaged in education, thinking of the growth of high school students living in the present.

Following the spread of the new coronavirus infection, Osaka Prefecture issued a third state of emergency from April 25<sup>th</sup> to June 20<sup>th</sup>. Prefectural high schools were closed one after another on a school-by-school basis, and school trips, school festivals, sports festivals, club activities, etc., which should be irreplaceable experiences for students, were forced to make major restrictions and decide to postpone or cancel. On the other hand, "online learning" was shouted in response to the national "GIGA school concept" ahead of schedule, and in Osaka City, the mayor's top-down instructions confused the site, which the incumbent principal criticized severely. In the background, there is a situation in which the education industry and the human resources recruitment industry are eagerly aiming to find profitable seeds for public education. Now is the time for us to re-question "what is the education we really need?" The purpose is to aim for "completion of personality". It does not stand on the money-making supremacy that has become apparently bankrupt. In order to be close to each and every child, the priority is to realize a small class, not to introduce machines or software for "individual optimization".

On the other hand, even under the scourge of Corona, many new practices have been born, valuing the connection between people and try to do their best while devising ingenuity. We have cherished the desire to "improve education together." At the end of last year, many schools raised "workplace resolutions" against the reduction from 2 to 1 school nurse at 19 schools. Starting with discussions on "what is a workplace resolution in the first place" and "how to raise it", we were able to gather our earnest wishes as "requests" while sharing our know-how with the school for the first time. In the latest initiative, the number of signatures calling for the abolition of the teacher license renewal system has spread significantly to over 1,000 people,

and the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology has finally decided to abolish it. Let's continue to value the voices of the field, send everyone's wishes to the authorities and politics, and create better school education.

In national affairs, the forces aiming for constitutional amendment took advantage of the pandemic to move the Constitutional Review Board and pass the national vote bill. Beyond that, it is clear that there is an aim to rewrite Article 9 of the Constitution itself. We will never forget the origin of postwar education, which began with the determination to "not send students back to the battlefield." The way of politics is directly related to the way of education and the way of working. If you raise your voice, politics will move. Now, just before the general election, let's actively discuss in the workplace. And let's use each dialogue as an opportunity to expand the organization.

The educational practices are constantly creating a new era. Let's greatly expand the circle of solidarity with the aim of protecting children's lives and guaranteeing abundant learning.

That's all for the resolution.

July 17, 2021 the 92nd Regular Rally of Osaka Prefectural High School Teachers and Staffs Union