

Testimony; Peter J. Zezima  
Re: My Formal Observation.

I'll try to be brief

We reviewed and agreed on four of the five domains citing specifics. I felt that those four areas were very positive and it was my understanding that you felt the same way.

Domain 3 Planning for Active Learning – He said was "Very Good"

Domain 4 Instruction for Active Learning – He said "Content was Very Good:

Domain 5 Assessment for Learning " He said was the best perhaps in the School"

Domain 6 Professional Responsibilities and Teacher Leadership - "was again Very Good". Citing my contributions communicating and collaborating with colleagues, students, parents and others. Co chair and for three years a member of the school Data Team created SIP for SHS. I was the Curriculum Committee that created the new Curriculum for Social Studies - Standardizing School Web Page Design. Member of School Culture Committee – Spoke to Staff at large in Auditorium about a Proactive Grade Model with graphic interface I designed to ID students at risk. Model tracked student grades, used CMT, Lexile Scores, Assessments, Attendance, and follow up with parents and guidance to improve student success was Exemplary.

**The one area we were not in complete agreement on was:**

**Domain 2:** Classroom Environment, Student Engagement and Commitment to Learning.

I thought I nailed it, he thought I was over valuing the Mini Group “Barter Discussion” and “Middle Man discussions”. He also refused to admit the Writing Assignment given for Homework and as part of the Mid Terms the following week.???

1. I pointed out a number of individual Students engaging and discussion of new forms of Cyber trade used today. Mini Group of students actively discussed. You felt there wasn't enough- You stated.. "almost got the..." " I got close.... you were waiting a number of times." but you said you just didn't see enough.??? Throughout the class there were one on one, two on one and mini group discussions. (student engagement).

1b. Toward the end of class I explained and assigned a Writing Assignment that spoke to the Topic and would be the Essay part of their Mid Term. (It was Assessment of what they had learned from the class). **Evaluator told me he could only use what was done the day of the evaluation not taught in subsequent classes...** THERE WERE NO SUBSEQUENT CLASSES.. The following week was MLK Day and Mid-terms. The written assignment was part of their Mid Term grade (and very good work) that came from the class he evaluated. It should have been credited in the Evaluation. It was the Assessment. (The Evidence if you will)

2. I tried to see him the following day- he was busy, then I had to go to a Dr Evaluation that was set up months earlier. The Doctor Evaluation did not go well- still don't what has to be done- Seeing Surgeon on Wednesday.

Issues:

1. I was told the new evaluation (16 pgs) was to eliminate subjectivity.

2. I nailed that class.. – **Overcoming Several Obstacles**

a. Last Period on a Friday before Mid Terms.

b. 5 of 18 Students Came in Late- 7minutes lost to get them to self regulate their behavior.

**C. Last, Please Read This!!**

**In the middle of the Observation a man throws himself out the 10th floor of the apartment house directly across the street from my classroom...** Cars blowing their horns, police and fire sirens, 10+ Police cars, Channel 12 News Satellite truck out in front of my classroom in the middle of my Evaluation.

"Practice Year of not", I put a lot into the Prep, and the Observation. Student Engagement and several transitions were in that class. I respect Administrator opinions and want to make sure this gets done right. Bottom line, I never signed/received the Observation and then was told by SEA Legal that someone reported I had a “**Bad Observation**” my credibility was an issue. How is this possible??

I wrote the Administrator, no response to date. I copied CEA Reps and am still wailing to get a copy of the Observation.

Respectfully,

Peter J. Zezima