

Hello,

I will try to keep this brief. I have been teaching math for 14 years. I am a good teacher and I care about my students. I have an Electrical Engineering degree. I scored a 4 on the Best Portfolio (which used to mean something, but BEST is a thing of the past).

I remember when the Superintendent and many of the administrative staff applauded my success. I was the first to score a 4. And, I know Common Core, Danielson Frameworks, this evaluation system, mostly like will be added to the junk heap with along with BEST, and the many other past fads. (You think we would recycle).

But back to the main point, I held an A average through the teaching program, which I completed to become a teacher. I earned a Master's degree in Secondary Education. From the beginning parents, students, internship and student teaching advisors, have applauded my efforts and style and the way I reach out to students. My effort and dedication have not changed in 14 years.

As teachers we have to keep up with SLO's, producing tons of evidence (the new word of the hour; it used to be data, before that it was teaching), keeping up with a parent contact quotas, making use of preassessments, skills assessments, performance task assessments, AEA's (academic evaluation assessments), post assessments, formal and summative assessments, informal assessments, reflections, warm-ups and exit slips, etc. And let's not forget about planning and grading. And, more and more is added on.

Point blank ... My job is on the line. Over 14 years, the evaluation system keeps changing, and I am lost. I am the second longest serving math teacher in my high school. How would you feel if you were me, and the new "Evaluation System" which you are being judged with is being reworked or reconsidered midway through the year. How would you feel if your school has made a decision not to incorporate any flexibility options b/c they were optional? How would you feel if you were the only teacher, being exterminated, because of an evaluation system in which you are being scored by opinion rather than fact, even though you along with every other teacher was told that all teachers would start off on the same level this year (effective)? How can this system have any credibility? And, how would you feel if you looked around at all the dysfunction that is allowed, unattended to, and rewarded. (Too many things, especially at my school, to go into detail). The bottom line is that education is like today is being evaluated like an unopened xmas present on how well it looks from the outside and the better the wrapping, the better the illusion. And teachers who are better at wrapping and creating the illusion of providing quality education are our "model teachers".

Who is evaluating the people at the top? They are causing more anxiety, confusion, apathy and angst in even the best of the best. Thanks to them, games are being played with my livelihood, and many other teachers'. Teachers are leaving, retiring early and are suffering, that's a fact. If these innovative and intelligent people were in fact both innovative and intelligent, then why do we keep changing things faster, and why are both parents and teachers alike frustrated with the system, now more than ever? Shouldn't we expect efficient and productive systems and

processes, that students, teachers, and parents. would agree with? And, students are not becoming more proficient learners. In fact, in every course, they are covering less material and learning less.

Thanks for the opportunity to speak my mind,  
Alfonse Forgione.