

HB 5331

The structure of the new evaluation has rendered my administrator invisible. Instead of spending time in classrooms getting to know students and teachers, my brand new principal is locked behind her desk, at her computer, furiously trying to keep up with the process. I had my formal observation in December, and beyond the hasty delivery of a birthday pencil or two, have not seen her in my classroom since. I am proud of my work. I welcome anyone to come and watch. I recognize the need for evaluation. However, the current evaluation is counter productive. One, or even three, observations does not give my administrator an accurate picture of my, or my fellow teachers' performance, especially when the overwhelming demand on her time assures that is all she'll see of my classroom. I don't blame her... In fact, I feel sorry for her.

I resent that the profession I love, and commit on average 12 hours a day to, is being reduced to a checklist. ...Assessment drives assessment, ...the art of teaching replaced by the science of test prep, data trumps kids, a principal who knows the students and their families, replaced by an evaluator, who is otherwise a ghost... An evaluation that invites dog & pony shows. If I was a conspiracy theorist I'd believe this was an evil plot to destroy public education. Plot or not, the result may be the same.

Sincerely,

Joan Robb

Sent from my iPad