

## Speech

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Dear Sirs...

A child is not a number. And neither is an employee. While data and statistics can help guide actions, it is the heart mind, and spirit that can see what numbers cannot tell.

Please note that NO ONE that I have talked to who works in a school...not teacher...not administrator...not support staff..and no one in the entire school district...has said they see anything positive from this Reorganization AB469. There is less money, less resources, and less support. Schools have less staff and less support than before the bill. The District Central Services has less resources for student support or operational support. Employees who work directly with students...who work with OUR children are less supported both emotionally and financially; placing more stress in the work environment...which is the learning environment of students.

Administrators at all levels are over-worked and being forced to implement that which it seems to me as an observer, they do not believe in or have faith in...And in my opinion, that is because they have had it thrown at them with such irrational force that they are reeling from the hits...And they are being asked to support political agendas that do not match their personal knowledge, beliefs or experience in educating children...causing a dichotomy that is difficult to reconcile...

Because many important factors were IGNORED by LEGISLATORS and those working to Implement the Reorganization, there has been MUCH COLLATERAL DAMAGE!! Careers have been damaged...teachers have been cut...services to schools are not being provided by Central Services...employees, including administrators are seeing the negative impact and reeling from the damage.

All of those Legislators and Groups that pushed this through...shame on you all!! All of the Labor Organizations and Leaders who did not fight to stop this...YOUR members will all lose!! This was a back door way to Union Bust Public Education Labor Organizations. And it is domino-ing into HURTING THE CHILDREN!! Not only can they feel the stress of those educators around them, their rights as employees if they choose to go into education when they become adults, are being destroyed!!

Education Funding...Is it enough? Is it being wasted? More money is needed...etc... Since I have begun working in the district, there have been many new laws passed affecting education. Some of the more impactful ones have been unfunded mandates. Others have added more requirements for wrap-around services like feeding children in the summer and feeding them dinner; while still others have been increasing other Professionals like Social Workers. This ALL takes money...yet money was NOT given to match those mandates!! Instead employees contracts were IGNORED and VIOLATED to reach those goals. Health Insurance costs and plans have diminished greatly, adding more to the strain on family budgets...

Looking at Categorical Funding, there are some positives. Plans and Ideas can be tried out. But once the money is gone, so too is the success that came from it. Those successful programs need to be built into the system without

the money that supports them being taken away. New students come in every year that need that support. If the school becomes a success, and then the money and program is taken away, HOW can it still be a success? That is NOT logical. It is like saying that a plant that gets adequate water and sunlight will only need that water and sunlight for a limited time. And that new plants will not need that same water and sunlight to grow. That is a false concept. Current students and new students need to be nurtured and taught with consistent and positive programs which need to be sustained with consistent funding.

Under NO circumstances should Trustees be appointed!! That is the only way the people of this community have a voice! How dare you recommend taking away the rights of the public to appoint who they choose to protect the education of their children!!

I am deeply disappointed and disillusioned with what has happened. I am hoping that new people, such as Superintendent Jara, will find a way to help children be successful as students, without hurting the employees that serve them.

Thank-you,

Autumn Tampa