
From: ahowell@nstu.ca
Sent: Monday, March 05, 2018 3:17 PM
To: Office of the Legislative Counsel
Subject: Law Amendments

Dear Sir or Madam,

Thank you for taking the time to read my letter. I am a very concerned teacher and I am worried about the proposed changes to the education system. I tried to make an appointment to come in and speak to you today (I'm on maternity leave) but there were no time slots available. I would like to see the changes in the Glaze Report put on hold until we see the changes that are proposed in the inclusion report. We can all agree that the current model isn't working and changes are necessary but we need to make sure that these changes will be positive ones for our students and not to support a hidden agenda by the premier. I do not see how the Glaze Report recommendations will be beneficial for students.

We need to focus on adding more resources in the classroom. Last year I taught a grade five class of 30 students in a portable. I felt like a failure. I was trying to meet the needs of the students who were just learning English, students on I.P.P's and students with adaptations. I consider myself a very dedicated teacher and I love what I do and I'm very afraid that if things don't change, my profession will have to for the sake of my health and family. I'm afraid that our province will lose many caring and dedicated teachers.

Another reason to put the proposed changes on hold is that many administrators will want to leave their positions and go back to the classroom. I'm wondering who will fill these positions. Administrators are people teachers go to for advice and guidance and if new graduates are placed in these positions, this guidance will not be available to teachers. Principals have spent years creating a positive school climate and getting to know the staff and students. When they leave their positions, this will all be lost. Principals didn't go into their profession to be managers.

This Government is forcing solutions to non-existent problems. Bill 72 is a solution without a problem. What it lacks are solutions to the problems that do exist. One real problem in our province is poverty. Let's address this problem.

As an educator, I feel as if I am being kicked while I am down. After the terrible events from last year and a contract being imposed, I feel as if I have my hands tied behind my back. A large majority of teachers were willing to go on strike as a scream for help. We are drowning and the government is ignoring our cries by increasing fines for us if we do take job action. Please do the right thing and do not allow Bill 72 to pass.

Thank you,

Alicia Howell
Middle Sackville

