

Some of the issues that public education faces: teachers

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When a teacher is first hired at a school, they are vulnerable. This is because at the end of their first few years, they will get fired, even if they were an effective teacher, just because they haven't been tenured yet. While the teachers who are older and are poor teachers stay until they harm or harass a student, they quit, or they retire. The older tenured teachers who have few students with good grades stay...while the newer teachers that teach the same subject and have more students with good grades are forced out, but they're teaching better, this is the basis of the teacher's union.

The teachers aren't graded on performance, but by how long they've been teaching. Even though the union idea usually requires teachers and professors of a certain age to retire, the system is faulty. Instead teachers should be actually looked at from a standpoint of teaching efficiency and effectiveness, not the classic 'age' view. Teachers should be ranked by each school by how well their students do in comparison to the difficulty of the class, then they should be kept or fired by how well they actually teach. This would save the school valuable time that could be spent on more important things instead of whether or not a new professor should be replaced or retained. The other main issue with teachers and professors is why and where they are hired.

As a teenager I saw several different hiring issues. At schools where there is a certain program that is focused on, say for example: science, when hiring teachers, they focus on finding good science teachers over anything else. Though, by doing this other teachers are neglected and not thoroughly considered, inasmuch that other subjects become poorly taught, because the wrong teachers were given the job. Example number two, schools that focus

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largely on sports often hire teachers because they can coach and they 'kinda-sorta' know how to teach a subject. So the teachers are not necessarily true professors, even though they have the title of a teacher.

What we should instead be doing is hiring mentors of other subjects first, then focusing on finding teachers for the focus program, thus making the schools generally better.