

SB 2260 Testimony - In Regards to Lesson Plans

Dear Legislators,

Thank you for taking the time to view my testimony. I have been teaching in the ND Public School System since August of 1998, and love my job. While I love my job I, as many other teachers, am challenged each school year with new initiatives set forth to improve the education of our students. Whether it is SEL, PLC's, Literacy meetings, Love & Logic, I could go on and on. It is great that we have the opportunity for improving the education of our students, but it comes at a cost to us teachers. This cost equals more time. Time away from our families, time away from our hobbies, time away from our classroom planning, time away from second and sometimes third jobs that are needed to make ends meet on a teacher's salary, etc. This time is not compensated for, which is a factor that deters many young graduates from pursuing a teaching degree. SB 2260 will also deter those young graduates. Not only will it deter them, but it will also push many of our more experienced teachers into retiring, whether it is an early retirement or if they have been hanging on after retirement age to help out with the teacher shortage. Many will decide that this is the sign they need to retire. This will not help the teacher shortage.

Creating and making available every lesson plan and bit of curriculum to parents at least seven days ahead of time will be challenging for teachers in Class A schools that teach one class five to six times per day, but it will be detrimental to teachers in Class B schools that teach up to six different classes each and every day. There are not enough hours in the day to get this done. If parents are interested in the curriculum they could email or call and visit with the teacher. They could also talk to their children about it and if they see a concern, then they could talk to the teacher. I have four of my own children, and have trusted that their teachers will teach the Standards as set by the state of North Dakota. If I had any concerns about the material covered or not covered I would contact their teachers. As a parent and a high school teacher, I would think that parents would be more concerned about the content of TikTok, Youtube, etc and put more effort into supervising their children on their devices.

If you were to ask a professional in any other career field to do this they would be appalled.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Stacy Aasen

Citizen
Public School Teacher
Parent