

PAID CONTENT

Our Children Deserve Better—But the System Is Failing Them

Who's In Charge Here?

Part 7/12

Who's To Blame?

Steve Jobs had a no-nonsense approach: find the right person to lead and hold them accountable. But in our schools, who's really in charge? Is it the teachers, principals, superintendents, or school boards? Teachers often face the blame, yet they don't make the rules, control the budget, or set the policies. That power—and responsibility—belongs to school boards and superintendents. So why are so many of our schools still failing our kids? According to Steve Jobs, they aren't doing their job.

Where Loyalties Lie

Picture a world where your child gets the education they need to succeed—where school leaders are true champions for change. Right now, that's not the case. Administrative costs are spiraling out of control, resources are wasted, and our children are falling behind. The numbers don't lie: According to Hillsdale College, between 2000 and 2019, while U.S. public school student enrollment rose by just 7.6%, administrative staff ballooned by 87%. With an average salary of \$101,320 for school administrators per Franklin University, you can see where loyalties might lie.

Fixing The Problem

What would happen if we could live without unnecessary overhead and ballooning administrator salaries? This could lead to better teacher pay, boosting retention, and more resources and tools that benefit our kids. How do we, the stakeholders of our children's future, hold schools accountable?

Some proposed resolutions include:

1. Consolidating school districts and administrative structures could reduce overhead and free up funds.
2. Having state legislatures pivot to reducing the overall cost of education while raising its quality, which ultimately benefits children and the country.
3. In business, unsatisfactory performance leads to personnel changes; school boards and superintendents should be held accountable for educational outcomes.
4. Some advocate for the dissolution of school boards due to their ineffectiveness. Is there a better solution?

Don't let poor leadership steal your child's future. It's time for a bold change. Start by joining your school's parent-teacher association, where you can talk to others about issues and what we can do to better our children's future.

Authored and Paid For By:
Richard W. Garrett PhD,
www.elevateschools.us