

Amy Panitz, Teacher, Irvington School District

I am tired. I am an outstanding teacher working in a high performing school district and I am worried about what is happening today. Now. As I am writing this. I am worried about the decisions being made about children and teachers by adults who are self-motivated, uninformed and political. I did not enter the teaching profession 18 years ago to make millions. I entered the teaching profession because I had a thirst for learning and a real passion of the art of teaching. I am fearful that that is no longer enough. I am worried that public schools are being run as if they are businesses. I can assure you that children and their minds are far more important complicated and far more precious than any one item or service a business can produce. I am tired. Tired of initiatives that lead to nowhere. Tired of racing to the "top," although no one is able to tell me what that means. I am tired. I remember being told that education is like a pendulum that swings... I need the pendulum to move. Now. Today.