

'An education alert' for parents of Person County

To the editor

Dear Editor,

This is an Education Alert for Parents and Grandparents in Person County.

Some in the State Legislature want to continue to steal the teacher assistants from your young elementary school children.

They claim assistants are unnecessary, and claim they will spend the money on more teachers, but with no guarantees.

Have we heard this before? Yes! What is guaranteed is that your elementary school children and grandchildren will be hurt in many ways. Here are just three:

SECURITY: Having 2 adults in each classroom teaming with 25 to 30 young students helps make it more orderly and safer. In a crisis much better care can be taken of your children and grandchildren.

LEARNING: Having two adults working in a classroom means that one can be instructing while the other is modeling, or demonstrating, or keeping wandering minds on task, or explaining things again to those having trouble. It could be your child or grandchild getting that extra help.

INDIVIDUAL

ATTENTION: During seat-work, having two teachers to monitor and help with individual students has been proven better for scholastic success. Research has also shown that having a lower student to teacher ratio helps students succeed, especially in elementary school, where skills and habits of a lifetime are learned.

The Person County Democratic Party believes that taking teacher assistants from young school children is a mistake, and that all classrooms, pre-K to grade 5 need assistants. We call on all Personian parents and grandparents who love their children and value education to let the state legislature know, right now, that we do NOT want fewer, but more, teacher assistants. Please

write, call, e-mail or visit your representative (Mike Woodard-919-733-4809 and Larry Yarborough-919-715-0850).

Giving our school children the best possible public education should not be a Democratic or a Republican goal, but should be a Person County parent goal.

Howard M. DuBose
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