

## **Excerpts of comments about Teaching as a Career**

As long as you know what you're getting yourself into....

Not as it is currently - things need to change in a systemic way; not on the backs of teachers

I tell young people it's not worth it

The kids are great. It's all of the new mandates and initiatives and meetings.

It's sad because the first 6 years of my career were incredible!!

This job is high stress with low pay. The class sizes are also not small enough and keep growing.

Yes for the students... no for the stress

It makes me sad to say this, but right now that's how I feel

Maybe 5 or more years ago

I love teaching and being in the classroom with the students but too many of us are too influenced by the small amount of students that require most of our attention. I feel like policies are sent down from people in an ivory tower that have no idea what the day to day life of a teacher is or taught so long ago and assume everything is the same

I wouldn't recommend teaching to anyone. Without true consequences our school is a hostile work environment. Plus since we have a shortage of subs, teachers are giving up their preps to keep up with student demand. This isn't fair to the ones that show up to work.

The pay structure is insanely terrible. Why would someone choose this profession when our own bosses constantly devalue us and tell us we aren't doing enough.

I love teaching but it is exhausting and the pay is so bad. It is the only profession where you feel bad for JUST working your hours.

I would flat out tell people not to consider teaching as a career. Things need to change in the profession as a whole before I would suggest people consider it.

I love love love teaching - but for what we get paid vs the amount of work/level of disrespect, I would not recommend it.

But definitely not in the TTSD School district; three of my children are also educators and my heart breaks for them but luckily only one is currently in the TTSD district

There are so many things being asked of us. It is exhausting and the rewarding aspects of this job are getting fewer and further between.

It is sad, but it is not the same. The amount that TTSD asks of its teachers without ever being acknowledged is disheartening!

So many rewards, but it demands dedication and time way beyond what the contract hours reflect. And the demands continue to increase each year.

Although I enjoy teaching, I am approaching the end of my career. I would not recommend it to a young person seeking it as a career. The policies, pressures, politicization, and change in student behavior makes it a challenging profession for someone new to the field.

For 99% of my friends/former co-workers/acquaintances, this career would not work out

I have talked 2 of my own kids out of it and I cringe when former students come in saying they are going into education. We feel abandoned by the district admin and like we are the bad guys to them.

We don't get paid enough for this much stress and anxiety. It's physically and mentally exhausting. Not enough time in the day to prep for everything and feel like a good effective teacher and also balance home life.

An emphatic NO! Which is so sad. I've always said that I love my job....until about 5 years ago when we stopped having high expectations, consequences and holding kids accountable.

Six to eight years ago I would have but things have gotten progressively worse, I definitely wouldn't recommend teaching at this time.

The above makes me sad. But, I would not recommend teaching. Too much responsibility, too little say in what we do. Too much disrespect from our own district. It's not a career that it is easy to be emotionally healthy in.

This is a yes and no answer. I want desperately to still believe in the power of teaching and in the value of our jobs. But it's starting to feel naive at this point to keep doing this, and to suggest others do this.

I love teaching, I just think there should be much more designated preparation time so that we can do our jobs well and be happy. An appropriate work-life balance is so important.

Children are disrespectful and just want to do what they want to do when they want to do it. Some come to school ready to learn, but all of the teacher's energy is sucked up into the children that are impulsive and not interested in learning.

The disconnect between the board, admin, and teachers is PROFOUND. Teachers want to teach, want to be heard, want to be supported, and feel like our work is valued. We are considered mean, a nuisance, and a distraction by our own school board. Our superintendent is reactive not proactive and is never attending events, connecting with staff, or walking the halls, unless it serves her agenda. It is RIDICULOUS that staff and parents contact Admin and get NO RESPONSE. I have been in the district since 1998 and it feels like it is going downhill.

It is not the teaching experience I had in the late 90's. I'm so glad I got to experience the trust in staff that principals had back then, the flexibility to do things in a way that you know is effective, and the lack of tech addiction from the students.

I know a number of new teachers who are very sorry they have chosen this career, which is very sad.

I hold two master degrees, I need to pay a ridic amount for student loans and I get paid less than a Manager in Mc Donalds.

I've loved being a teacher but I don't like the direction it is going. Too much work, not enough money or respect for the career.

Not to my worst enemy. This job is abusive to some of this country's most compassionate, hard-working people.

Sadly, I would no longer recommend teaching as a career due to increased student misbehavior, too many meetings, and a top-heavy approach in our district with more and administrators but more and more teacher responsibilities every year and less time to prep and grade.

I would recommend teaching for the sake of the kids and how rewarding it can be! However, being overworked and underpaid is not something I would recommend to others.