

# Mission: Possible

## FIXING UNREALISTIC TEACHER EXPECTATIONS

### THE JEANS PASS ECONOMY

**The Problem:** Schools rely on gimmicks like jeans passes instead of funding basic needs.

#### Solutions:

- ▶ Schools should **budget** for supplies instead of charging teachers.
- ▶ PTAs & community partners can create a **teacher appreciation fund**.
- ▶ Fundraising? Let students run it as a **learning experience**, not charge teachers.

### FUNDRAISING FIASCOS

**The Problem:** Teachers are forced to fundraise for classroom materials, even PD.

#### Solutions:

- ▶ Organize **collaborative** arts integration fundraisers.
- ▶ Districts should **equitably allocate funds** so teachers aren't scrambling.
- ▶ **Mini-grants** within school budgets can replace teacher-led fundraising.

### INFINITE DUTIES

**The Problem:** Hall duty, bus duty, supervision... when do teachers actually teach?

#### Solutions:

- ▶ Hire **additional support staff** for non-teaching roles.
- ▶ Offer **comp time or stipends** for extra responsibilities.
- ▶ **Rotate duty assignments** fairly instead of overloading the same people.

### JUST ONE MORE THING...

**The Problem:** Teachers are bogged down by redundant paperwork & micromanagement.

#### Solutions:

- ▶ **Trust teachers** as professionals! Lesson plans should be guidelines, not essays.
- ▶ **Automate tracking systems** to reduce redundant paperwork.
- ▶ Weekly check-ins, not daily plan submissions, **save time** without sacrificing quality.

### TESTING CHAOS

**The Problem:** Testing takes away instructional time & adds stress for little benefit.

#### Solutions:

- ▶ Reduce over-testing by using **portfolio-based assessments** instead.
- ▶ Allow **classroom-based assessments** to count for student progress.
- ▶ Support **teacher unions advocating for legislation** to cut excessive testing.

### BIG-PICTURE SOLUTIONS



**Transparency:** Open budget meetings so teachers see where funds go.



**Legislation:** Support bills that prioritize classrooms over testing companies.



**Community Support:** Businesses & parents can help fill funding gaps.