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On Behalf Of:
Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means
Measure: SB5506

On the job

From September to January, a 1st grader (6) years old flipped me off, spit at/on me, told me repeatedly he was going to kill me, made gestures like he was going to cut off my head, told me he was going to kill my mom. He was sent to principal's office and given gum and candy. It was a huge slap in the face and nothing was learned from it. All the while, no academics are taking place. I told the parent one day at drop off he told me he wanted to kill me, he was off my schedule that Monday. I was a fed up with nothing happening and may have said too much, but I was threatened too many times with no support. My supervisor just says it's part of the job.

At start of year, 4th grader, trauma, in and out of school. Can't be in the classroom, says too many F words and is disruptive. I have video evidence to support, and my supervisors say it's part of my job. He is also at a pre-k or kinder learning level, so everything is above his head. Sits in a cubicle in learning center all day long. Says fuck off, fuck you, gives the finger. 1/18/23, he said he wanted to stab me, and made a small paper to a point and scratched my leg, he said, he stabbed me, and smiled. He proceeded to tell me that he wanted to kill me. He has also tried to bite me, kick me, thrown numerous things at me. Hits kids, runs into them on purpose. 1/26/23- he repeatedly called me a fucking bitch and told me fuck you, while 5 other kiddos with autism were in Learning Center hearing this. This is unacceptable.

Kinder- non verbal, comes to school

Late, inconsistent, and dirty. He has a rash on his genitalia and cries constantly. Comes in diapers from the night before, sometimes soaked through clothes. Bites, hits, scratches. Reported by co-worker to DHS.

Not enough staff- we are in an inclusion district, but we are running the learning center as a closed setting, no integration due to lack of staffing. We block kids from leaving which to me is a secluded classroom. We are meant to come up with our own materials to meet the kids goals. We should be given specially designed instructions to meet these goals. We have no time in our day to do data, and fill out the document.

We have two brand new Learning Specialists that don't know how to do their job. Another one, who is a sub till end of year, but she isn't SPED qualified. They ask what we need, but they should know what we need to reach these goals and give it to us. I am not a teacher, nor do I get paid like one. My entire team is making

materials, buying snacks, buying things that we think will help
Our kids.

Our principal has never come into the Learning Center, has never said we are doing a good job. In fact, I stood right next to her and she didn't acknowledge me as a person in the lunchroom. There's such a disconnect. Also, during our trauma training, she told one of our classified staff to "shut up." We were supposed to be discussing what the speaker was talking about with our teams. Unacceptable. She's also questioning people about their sick time, one person on my team who has a medical condition- she was told it's impacting the team and she needs to be here. She has seizures at night and is working on figuring out why this is happening.

We have had 3 LSA resign since November. We had a LS resign first day of school and finished her contract 60 Days. Has another one contracted who was horrible and got fired. Now we have another one who is impersonal and shows she really doesn't understand autism. It's ridiculous.

I endure all of this for a paycheck of 1750.00 per month, with no PERS included by the district. This amount doesn't even cover groceries these days.