

California's Schools are UNDER Administered

Compared to national standards, California's schools are woefully under administered. Nationally, there is one school-site administrator for every 295 students.

- ✓ **In California, there is one administrator for every 468 students—nearly 60 percent above the national average.**

For district-level administrators nationally, there is one for every 761 students; in California the ratio is 1 to 2,366.

- ✓ **Compared to the national average, California has an astonishing *1,605 more students per district-level administrator*.**

Politicians like to describe administration as “fat” or “bloat” that just “takes money away from the classroom.” The fact is, administration provides important functions that have a direct impact on what happens in the classroom.

Administrators are needed to observe, evaluate and mentor teachers to improve the quality of instruction. Administrators evaluate student performance and program effectiveness in order to identify strengths and weaknesses and plan appropriate improvements.

Decision-makers from President Obama and Governor Schwarzenegger on down have stressed the importance of increasing and improving the use of data in schools to effectively assess student, teacher and school performance. It is administrators who design and implement data collection systems and use the information provided for program improvement.

- ✓ **Just as in private business, administration is essential to quality control and improvement.**

Having too few administrators to fulfill these vital functions is a major impediment to achieving the quality improvements that Californians expect of and deserve from their schools.