

From: Stephen Winn <s_winn@ftc-i.net>
To: Lt. Governor's OfficeLtGov@scstatehouse.gov
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Subject: Commentary ...

Greetings!

Thank you for your commentary that appeared in the Sumter ITEM today.

I taught for twenty-eight years in public elementary schools of South Carolina.

After "retirement", I taught an additional eight years for Sumter County Adult Education.

When I began my career (in 1980), teachers generally were trusted to do what needed to be done.

By the time I "retired", that confidence had eroded drastically.

Micromanagement was the order of the day.

What I hear from former colleagues who still are teaching is that the situation now is much bleaker.

My years at Sumter Adult Education were a wonderful way to end my career.

Our director, Sharon Teigue, was wise and hired the best teachers she could find.

Although supportive, she left us alone to do what we knew to do.

I do not agree with all of your views, but I appreciate your speaking out for South Carolina's public schools.