

# New Action/UFT

Fall 2014

## Abusive, Incompetent Administrators – Overlapping Problems in our Schools

The number of incompetent principals in the system, according to Carmen Fariña, is over 300. Many are the same principals who are abusive of our members, other staff, or students.

The UFT has a PINI Program – principals in need of improvement. Unfortunately, PINI is not utilized as much as it should be, and Unity Caucus will not use PINI in the hundreds of schools where members are too afraid to fight.

Campaigns against these abusers are especially needed. Can you imagine conditions so bad that your colleagues are too scared of reprisal to complain? These are schools where the union should be going in to organize, where the leadership should be addressing the problem principal directly with the Chancellor. But instead, our leadership may provide some individual support to the teachers involved, but does not challenge the abuser.

**What do do:** Contact your District Rep. Contact New Action. Read “A Primer on School Change” <http://www.uft.org/news-stories/primer-school-change>. (*New York Teacher*)

## Special Education

Bloomberg’s reforms devastated Special Education. Services were provided based on factors other than the children’s needs. Parents and staff often were forced to file complaints to receive appropriate programs and related services for their children. Impartial Hearings spiked 300%. Caseloads for school psychologists and school social workers increased considerably, causing a rise in work disputes! Increased paperwork and SESIS forced special education teachers and providers of related services to interact more with computer monitors than with children.

We need to encourage the new administration to reverse the damage done to thousands of children during the Bloomberg years of harm and neglect.

## Disappearing Black and Latino Educators

This summer in a huge court victory Black and Latino educators who were fired or denied jobs based on just the LAST exam won compensation. But the problem of decreasing diversity in our schools remains. The UFT’s bipartisan Social and Economic Justice Committee analyzed this problem well. Our Delegate Assembly passed a resolution addressing it. We need to make sure we are working to actively implement those policies and addressing this issue.

## New Action Wants Your Thoughts and Your Help

What do you think about this leaflet? Do you have suggestions for future topics? E-mail us, write us, or call us. We want to hear from you.

You can join us by filling in the coupon below. Financial contributions are always welcome. Do you receive these leaflets in your school? If not, one of the most important ways you can help is to distribute leaflets in the mailboxes in your school. Fill in the coupon below, and let us know how many you need.

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