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**EAST AURORA FACULTY
ASSOCIATION**

PRESS RELEASE

East Aurora Schools Hire Administrators While Cutting Teachers?

Students Suffer from Governor Cuomo's Misguided APPR

East Aurora, August 20, 2012: At the August 8th 2012 meeting of the Board of Education of the East Aurora Union Free School District, Superintendent Brian Russ put forward a recommendation to hire a part-time District administrator for the stated purpose of fulfilling the requirements of the new Annual Professional Performance Review (APPR) process created and imposed by Governor Cuomo. This is a gross misallocation of the District's scant resources. The fact that the District is considering adding an administrator for the stated sole purpose of APPR implementation after already cutting 8 teachers clearly demonstrates a glaring example of the additional hidden costs cited by NYSUT when the plan was enacted by Governor Cuomo that would be placed on Districts' administrative staff.

Cutting 8.6 teachers for the 2012-2013 school year will detrimentally effect our students. Starting this fall, students will have larger class sizes, fewer academic choices, and less contact with their teachers. Across the District, students will suffer due to these cuts, with their educational opportunities limited, and their chances at a high quality education diminished. At the High School, 22% of all classes have been cut, with many of the remaining classes currently scheduled to have more than 30 students in a classroom, creating not only student safety issues, but also curtailing a student's ability get direct one-on-one instruction, turning classrooms into lecture halls.

We should be putting our students first by getting teachers back into the classroom, not putting administrators into the building. If the money is available to hire an administrator, they have the money to hire teachers. The East Aurora Faculty Association believes that the District should be rehiring the teachers cut before it adds administrative staff. Our students deserve to be in small classrooms where teachers can address their student's individual needs, not crammed into overstuffed classrooms that limit their contact with their teachers. Students need teachers, not administrators.

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