Tenure

Tenure should be banned from schools because it brings out indolent teachers. In order for a teacher to receive tenure they must undergo a long process first. If a teacher has tenure, then they have a secure teaching job at the school. Even though tenure brings many benefits to teachers it should be forbidden because it brings out lazy teachers which the government has to pay for, those teachers could not easily be fired and it damages the quality of education students are receiving. Tenure can bring motivation to teachers to do their best and a sense of security to them however it’s not favorable if teachers take advantage of that benefit by lowering their teaching standards.

One of the biggest reasons why teaching standards decrease is because teachers will become lazy after receiving tenure. The standards of a class have to be met or students don’t get the right education and are not prepared to go to the next class. Students are the future of this country and if we are expected to better this country, we could not have indolent teachers. If teachers want tenure then they know they are doing a great job, and just as Edward Krigbaum from our forum stated, “if teachers are effective, they shouldn’t worry about being fired” (1). A teacher doesn’t have a reason to worry about being laid off of their job if they are doing everything correctly. During my high school experience I had a few lazy teachers; one of them couldn’t be easily be fired because he had tenure. Throughout my four years of high school I can frankly say I only had one good English teacher, the others didn’t give out many assignments, projects, or tests. My sophomore year I had possibly the worst English teacher a student could have, we only did one essay in the entire year and no exams or quizzes. The entire year during that class we watched movies or left the class to “go to the bathroom” and stayed out the entire
class period. When the teachers would ever assign a worksheet, nobody would do it because we knew she wouldn’t check the work or even have us turn it in. We had a teacher who didn’t care about their job and who didn’t care about how well they did in her class, so we would decide not to do her little work, we already had enough homework from other classes. That teacher was finally fired by my junior year. My senior year for my Economics and Government class I had a teacher with tenure; he was a horrible teacher. During the first week we had a few quizzes but as the days passed he began to give us less and less work. By the time the first month of my senior year ended my Economics and Government class was almost like a break time for my classmates and I. The office administrators know about how that teacher’s lack of teaching because of the tons of complains they have had, but he still could not be fired.

Yet, despite the fact that teachers can become lazy after receiving tenure there is many benefits why it is very beneficial to teachers. For example, when a teacher receives tenure they have the freedom to teach many controversial subjects and they finally have a feeling of relief because they have job permanence. These benefits may help a lot of teachers and possibly even make them a better teacher, but some take advantage of all those benefits. When a teacher takes advantage of the benefits is when they began to leave their work aside. I understand that a lot of teachers work very hard and enjoy their job but I agree with Edward Krigbaum from our forum who says teachers, “should be rewarded other way than tenure” (1). Their could be other ways to reward a teacher other then tenure, maybe a yearly contract or a reasonable raise. Teachers with tenure should try to be better at what they do even more after they receive tenure, to prove to the administration that they did deserve tenure.

Trying to fire a teacher with tenure is highly impossible; tenure brings lots of government rights to teachers. Just like the author of Time Magazine M.J. Stephen claims “Though tenure
doesn't guarantee lifetime employment, it does make firing teachers a difficult and costly process, one that involves the union, the school board, the principal, the judicial system and thousands of dollars in legal fees” (1). To get rid of a bad teacher shouldn’t take so many steps and have to pay money to fire that person. The government pays every teacher working in a public school, so even though a teacher is not doing their job they still get their pay. All the money that the government wastes on paying languid teachers should be spent on paying for better teacher or other things that the state really needs. The state does not need lazy teachers, what we need are better ones that will teach students the right materials.

Teachers become lazy after receiving tenure, so they should be fired. We know already that firing a teacher with tenure is not easy but just as Dr. Jim Riggs claimed in our forum, “Protecting somebody who does not do the job is highly unacceptable”( 1). When a person doesn’t do the job right, they should be fired. With the huge problem of lazy tenure teachers, students do not reach the standards they should reach. Although teachers do receive many advantages and a feeling of liberation, tenure brings lots of negativity to schools because many teachers will cut down on their standards. Instead of tenure, teachers should receive other rewards for their great work or maybe come to an agreement over a contract. But deciding that a teacher will have tenure is too much, especially for those teachers who take advantage of their rights. Some teachers may deserve tenure and will receive it but it just shouldn’t be so difficult to get rid of one who doesn’t deserve it. There is other great teachers out there that could do the job and will enjoy doing the job of teaching students.
I decided to use this article because it gives the reasons about how difficult it is in firing a tenure teacher, even though they are not doing their job. It takes lots of government money to fire a teacher with tenure.


This website does talks very well about tenure and on the benefits that it brings out to the professors. It also mentions that even though professors have tenure they don’t live up to the standards sometimes. Yearly contracts are great for professors as well and give them a job for a few years.


This journal tells me the process that a professor has to go through in order to get tenure. For my paper I want to know the process and I think this journal will tell me.

Olsen, Kristin. “Perspectives in Higher Education.” California State University, Stanislaus. 25
October 2011 Forum Presentation.
Kristin Olsen was my favorite speaker and I chose to quote her in my paper because she sided with my statement.

Krigbaum, Edward. “Perspectives in Higher Education.” California State University, Stanislaus.

Edward Krigbaum was not one of my favorites from the forum but he had some great things to say about my topic, so I decided to use some of his opinions in my paper.

Riggs, Jim. “Perspectives in Higher Education.” California State University, Stanislaus.

Dr. Jim Riggs had little to say but just about everything he said, I agreed with. When it came to speaking about my topic I agreed with him again and decided to add his words into my paper.