

5 WAYS TO MESS UP SCHOOL REFORM

Drawing upon the research by Michael Bay and Samatha Wallace this infographic highlights the reasons why school reform has failed in over a century of attempts.

1

FLAWED IMPLEMENTATION



- Weak and partial implementation of reform policies
- Well-intended reforms at the federal and state levels have simply not been implemented

ONE SIZE FITS ALL APPROACH

2

- One size fits all approach to school reform
- Lack of customization
- Accountability is solely at the feet of teachers and not reformers
- Lack of customization
- Failures are analyzed according to the “solution to success” idea
- Little targeting of reform suggestions based on types of schools, student enrollment, level of schooling.

3

STUDENTS AS EXPERIMENTS



- Significant focus on scientific research for over a century with research showing impact was largely unproductive
- There is not much evidence that the current reform engine of new “scientific evidence” brought to education is working

POLITICAL AND CORPORATE AGENDA

4

- Making education as a supplement to politics and corporate goals
- Critical partners know little about education but are key reformers
- Teachers are marginalized
- Students are ignored and infantilized



5

IGNORING EFFECTIVE METHODS



- Productive schools are defined by both academic success and an active culture of care
- Reformers have a significant focus on curricular content
- Instructors with students with higher scores are prioritized

Citation

Murphy, J. (2020) The Five Essential Reasons for the Failure of School Reforms. Journal of Human Resource and Sustainability Studies, 8, 1-17. doi: 10.4236/jhrss.2020.81001.