button-making /2/ who's to blame?

Before long, the slogan-driven buttons deteriorated into more random ones, with students making
buttons out of magazine clippings, stickers, and items found around the classroom. "Nobody
to do it," Chao said. "It's just so fun to pull down the handle and the
button drop out all made. Some kids were making them they could hear the sound."
Orlowski said neither Chao nor any other student has been willing to " out" all of the
conspirators. Even students known to have been involved are claiming to have been in the
bathroom during the incident. "From the number of improper buttons madeI've personally
seen at least 50this was not limited to the nine kids in detention," Orlowski said. "As far as I'm
concerned, everyone wearing a button not related to the student-council elections is guilty. From
the look of, that's almost everyone."
Though the students clearly acted improperly, some Harrison staffers are blaming Orlowski,
suggesting that the incident resulted from her willingness to let the students use school
equipment unsupervised. "I wasn't sure why Karen let those kids use the button maker in the
firstit's not even pep week. But at the time, I didn't think it was my place to,"
school secretary Millie Barthes said. "Well, I'm just the machine came back in one piece."
The button-making machine is kept in the main-office supply closet and is available for classroom
checkout from Barthes. The school purchased the machine 14 years ago for \$79, a hefty sum that,
according to Barthes, indicates that the machine is not a toy. In May 1987, days
after the school purchased the maker, Barthes made a sign that has remained to its base
ever since: "For classroom use only! Do not waste materials! They cost \$\$!!"
According to school principal Dr. Richard Wagner, such incidents have unfortunately it
necessary to keep school equipment locked up. Wagner said that every piece of restricted
equipment is the result of a incident. "We have to lock up the balls and playground
equipment so they don't end up on the roof," Wagner said. "Kids have to go to the to get
bathroom supplies or we risk another Jeremy Sachs. He's also we can no longer use the
honor system for extra milk in the lunchroom. Then the photocopier. I'll never forget
what happened with the photocopier."

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