

Public Vs. Private Schools: Considering Your Child's Future

When it comes time to decide whether to enroll your child in public or private school, there is a lot to weigh while making that decision. While everyone will have different priorities to consider, here are a few points that we think make private education the better choice.

Small Class Sizes

This is a phrase that is mentioned a lot when considering schools at all levels of education, and with good reason. Small class sizes ensure that your child is getting individual attention from the teacher and developing a personal relationship with educators. This can both foster an enthusiasm for learning in your child as well as give teachers the best chance possible of accurately gauging your child's progress and providing extra support when necessary. Students in small classes may interact more closely with one another as they go through school together. In public schools, the average teacher to student ratio is 1:24, making it much easier for some students to fall through the cracks and be edged out by their peers.

Quality Teachers

Private school boards are highly selective in their choice of staff. Teachers at private schools often have a degree in the subject they teach, and a higher portion of teachers than in the public school system have graduate education in their subject, as well. The range of subjects available for students to take is often greater and more varied than in public schools, especially with regard to arts, sciences, and languages. Staple subjects, such as history and English, may also be taught with more depth.

Personal Development

In public schools, a major focus of high school is preparing students for college entrance exams and standardized tests, such as the SAT or ACT. While private schools prepare students to face these milestones as well, they also focus deeply on the personal development of the child as an individual. Because of the greater variety in elective offerings, students are encouraged to explore different subjects to discover what they are most passionate about.

Advanced Facilities

At public schools funding can be a problem, so sacrifices are made to keep the institution running even though students may be deprived of modern facilities. This is not an issue at private schools, which maintain high standards. Students have access to greater support services to help them achieve their educational goals. The libraries and media centers are filled with current resource materials as well as up-to-date computers and software. Accessing these technologies may give students an advantage in college where they will be expected to frequently use email, word processing, PowerPoint, and other features of the Internet and technology.

Grand River is an [all boys private high school](#) committed to providing college preparation and life skills to boys as they pass through this pivotal phase of their lives. To find out more about the services, staff, and facilities available at Grand River Academy, contact us today or visit www.grandriver.org