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Community & School Profile Comparative Analysis

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Every school has their differences. I went to a private Catholic school my entire life, so I did not see much diversity in the classroom. When I attended St Jude Catholic grade school, until fifth grade there were only Caucasian children that went to school with me. When I was in fifth grade a student from India was welcomed into our school. This changed a lot for my classmates and me. After I “graduated” from eighth grade I went on to Roncalli High School. Again, there was not much diversity in the classroom when I was there.

Both of the Elementary schools I have researched seem to have about the same number of kids enrolled. St Jude has 88 more students than school 58. The only difference is St Jude has kids at the school until they are finished with eighth grade. Ralph Waldo Emerson only has children enrolled through sixth grade. Both schools have about the same number of kids in the classrooms. All elementary schools have similar rules for the classroom. They both have twenty-seven teachers and around the same size staff. Even though St Jude and Roncalli are private schools, there are still children that need assistance when it comes to getting lunch. All of the schools have children whose lunches are paid for.

At IPS school 58 (Ralph Waldo Emerson), there are 454 kids enrolled. There is a lot more cultural diversity at school 58 than there was at St Jude. Like I mentioned earlier, there was not much diversity in the classroom at St Jude when I was there. Now there is more diversity, but not much. There are only thirty four children at St Jude that are not Caucasian. At school 58 there are 285 out of 454 children that are not Caucasian. At Arsenal Tech only 471 are Caucasian out of the 2374 that are enrolled. Roncalli has 1061 out of 1113 students that are Caucasian. The actual school atmosphere is also very different from St Jude. St Jude is not as

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old of a school as school 58, so they have newer things. The classrooms at St Jude have more decoration to them. The front office is a lot different than St Jude. At St Jude the front office is really big and at school 58 there is barely room to move. Behavior of the students is also a huge difference. Every school has children that misbehave, but school 58 definitely is poorly behaved compared to St Jude. Arsenal Technical and Roncalli High School are also very different. Their graduation rates are not even close to each other. Roncalli has a graduation rate of 97.1% and Arsenal Tech has a graduation rate of 56.5%. There are also a lot more students at Arsenal Tech than there is at Roncalli. The teachers have more time to sit down one on one with the students at Roncalli because there is not so many students. At St Jude the students have after school sports they can participate in. There are many differences between a public and private school.

I think a teacher could really benefit from all of this information. It is nice to know what you are going into before taking a job. I would love to be able to go to a school with low test scores and low graduation rates and try to help them find ways to get their statistics up. They could also use this data to look at the cultural diversity.

My perceptions have not changed at all. I was expecting the children to be underprivileged, and a lot of them are. I really did not know how bad it was until I got in the classroom. Some of my student’s parents cannot even afford to buy them uniforms or food for dinner that night. I feel like some of my student’s parents do not pay attention to how their child is doing in school. I thought the teachers were going to be a lot different than they are. I feel like some of the teachers yell more than they teach. All schools are the same in their own ways, but there are many differences in each school.

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References

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