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Hidden, Now Revealed: the True Cost of Public Schools

By Bob Ellis on March 6th, 2010

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STATED PER-PUPIL SPENDING
\$28,170
\$17,542
The schools...and the hidden costs of

The Cato Institute has an informative new video out about the cost of public schools...and the hidden costs of public schools. The per-pupil spending in the average public school is staggering enough (especially when you consider how little homeschool parents spend per-pupil and manage to out-perform their public school peers).

But as this presentation will show, there are considerably more hidden costs that even the published figures seldom reveal.

Throwing more money at public education (which is the only number liberals can sing) is a waste not only of the taxpayer's money, but of the student's time and potential.

From the video description:

What is the true cost of public education? According to a new study by the Cato Institute, some of the nation's largest public school districts are underreporting the true cost of government-run education programs.

Cato Education Analyst Adam B. Schaeffer explains that the nations five largest metro areas and the District of Columbia are blurring the numbers on education costs. On average, per-pupil spending in these areas is 44 percent higher than officially reported. Districts on average spent nearly \$18,000 per student and yet claimed to spend just \$12,500 last year.

It is impossible to have a public debate about education policy if public schools can't be straight forward about their spending.



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