



Public dollars should go to public schools.

That sounds like a perfectly logical condition on government spending of public funding, doesn't it? But did you know that:

- For the 2024/25 school year, private schools in BC will receive \$571 million in public funding from the provincial government, an increase of 14.5 percent.
- At this rate, public funds going to private schools will almost double every 5 years.
- The percentage increases in public funding to private schools over the last 20 years far outstripped the rate of growth in public school funding.
- Additional public subsidies to private schools and their patrons include:
 - property tax exemptions,
 - tax breaks on donations and tuition, and
 - a child care tax credit on a portion of tuition attributed to recess and lunch supervision.
- While large sums of public dollars are diverted to private schools annually, public schools are struggling with inadequate funding and unmet needs.

So, what should be happening instead?

IPE/BC believes we need to stop spending public dollars on private schools. Parents have a right to send their kids to private schools, but our tax dollars should not fund them. Funding to private schools, which has been increasing at a staggering rate, should be re-allocated to our public school system — a system that welcomes everyone regardless of economic status, background, religion, ethnicity, diverse needs, learning style or location in the province. A quality, inclusive, well-funded public education system is key to a strong democracy.

For more information go to:

<https://instituteforpubliceducation.org/annual-update-public-subsidies-to-private-schools/>

<https://instituteforpubliceducation.org/projects/funding-public-education-project/>



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