

Education Quality

From the Office of
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As I mentioned last week:

Running a school is very easy to get right. Only a government could get it so badly wrong.

We have a bureaucracy with vast numbers of people employed to oversee our public schools.

We even require the teachers to be licensed – on the rather odd theory that somehow having a teacher's license will tell us if they are qualified. It is easy for a school to just check and see if the teachers can teach!

Think about that one for a second. Do we want the sharpest most productive people available who are naturally good at teaching to teach our students, or just those who had the time to slog through the process of getting and maintaining a state certification?

We know the result. Our students are being deprived of a high quality education.

We need to fire this bureaucracy. All of it. Let the local districts handle it and compete for students.

The bureaucracy might not like this but who cares about that? I care about the students.

When was the last time you walked into a grocery store that didn't do a reasonably good job? Free competition keeps the quality up.

Fire the bureaucrats, let schools compete with each other and any charter schools interested. If we had the nerve to do this, Oregon would soon be leading in school quality instead of being last.