

Disinvestment of Philadelphia's Public Schools

Who's really being affected?

In 2013 the Philadelphia School District suffered major budget cuts which in turn spurred the closing of nearly 10% of all their public schools. Eight of those were high schools and now different scholars are beginning to worry of a possible domino effect occurring. Through the closing of these schools students are being displaced to other schools in the city that are often just as bad or even worse than the school they were previously attending. These kids are being crammed into schools who don't have the resources or room for them. Of those being effected 81% of those students were African American although they only consist 58% of the total school district population. Also, of the 9,000 students on the move around 93% of them comes from a poor background. An idea that is often thrown around with the domino effect is that of an urban desert. This basically means not many people want to live where there is low access to quality education, and this in turn dictates the socioeconomic demographic of these areas. Where there is low education and little money there will often be sparse opportunity for employment. The first domino has fallen now only time will tell for the rest.

