



A few **Interesting Tid-Bits** about schools in America.



* The **number of students enrolled in American schools** from kindergarten through college is quickly approaching 100 million students.

* In 1995, approximately 50% of American schools had **Internet access**. Today, that number statistically is at 100%.

* The **oldest public school** in the United States is Boston's Latin School, which was founded on April 23, 1635. Five of the 56 signers of the Declaration of Independence were Latin School graduates, including Benjamin Franklin, John Hancock, Robert Treat Paine, Samuel Adams and William Hopper.

* In England., **the term "public school"** refers to a private academy. This confusing term dates back to the Middle Ages when private charities started schools to provide education for the poor.

* Although Thomas Jefferson had supported the concept of free public education, **elementary schooling was only available to America's wealthy** until the 1840s when reformers like Horace Mann of Massachusetts and Henry Barnard of Connecticut began to push for tax-funded schools in the belief universal education would produce good citizens, unite society, prevent crime and end poverty.

* Until the 1930s, **most Americans only completed eight years of school**. "High School" only became popular during the Great Depression when job-strapped communities saw benefits to keeping teenagers in class and out of the workforce where they'd only serve as low-cost competition to adults.

* Today, the **largest high school in America** is Morton High School in Berwyn-Cicero, Illinois, a co-op with more than 8,000 students. Its East Campus alone has 6,000 students.

* Of the **10 largest high school gymnasiums** in America, nine are in Indiana.

* The **largest college campus by enrollment** is Ohio State University, with over 50,000 students.

* **Education pays**. According to a reported in U.S. News & World Report, college graduates earn an average \$20,000 a year more than people who only have a high school diploma... and that was over 5 years ago!