

Private Schools Lacking Christian Options

Written by: Emma. F. Walters

Did you know, that there are two primary private schools in Union County? These schools are Trinity Lutheran School and St. John's Lutheran School. The schools are serving more than 600 kids. However, neither of the schools go up to high school grades.

The people of Marysville suffer from not having a private high school. There should be a private high school for Union County. I have noticed that all of the private schools in Marysville only go up to sixth grade or eighth grade. If there were more grades in private schools more people would go, or at least would have more options for the education of their children. Currently, the only non-public school option for high school education in the local area is homeschooling or online education.

This could bring additional non-education related benefits as well, such as a potential increase in property values, due to a more competitive and open educational system. The market would go up and the school district could make more money through property taxes to host more events for the community. Mrs. Miller, a teacher of St. John's Lutheran School, says "There is not enough money or kids. It could cost as much as college." Also, people who want a private high school education could get one. This is especially true of those who want a Christian education for their high school age students. Private schools are known to teach harder material in class.

Every day I notice that City of Marysville does not have any private high schools. I think about how for some people, in a couple of years, they can't go to a private school without driving out of Marysville. There is no place in Marysville to get a Christian high school education except online or at home in Marysville. I think that if we have an all day kindergarten, preschool classes, latchkey, elementary grades and middle school grades, then the next step would be adding high school grades. All of the students that currently attend St. John's Lutheran School

will finish their school education at either Fairbanks, North Union, or Marysville High School right after their eighth grade year, because there is not any private high school option, in Marysville, for them.

None of the seventh or eighth graders want to leave the school. I sometimes see other kids from past years in the private schools that are now in high school come to the schools to stop in and see the teachers and new eighth graders. They all have very close relationships from a young age and don't want to admit the fact that they will have to leave each other. The students all wish to go to a Christian high school together.

Something that I admire about a private school is that there are many kids to meet, but not too many. I also enjoy living somewhere that I get to have the choice to go to a school where more than 50% of kids are raised in a church setting. The private schools also have more extracurricular activities and diploma programs. Greg Casto, a retired private and public school principal said, "I also think that high schools are very competitive in the country, with high rankings."