

SEPARATE STUDENTS BY CAPABILITY

By Joe Venuti

Many countries separate their students by ability. Not all students have the ability to successfully complete a college degree. To recognize a student's ability during middle school would assist the school in properly educating him/her in high school in order to prepare that student for a productive life. Teaching subjects which prepare students for careers in the trades is better than giving them watered-down college prep courses. The major cities in Massachusetts had separate high schools for college prep, trades, and secretarial programs. That idea does not need separate high schools, just separate curricula within one high school. With a four-quarter school year, students in the trade and secretarial programs could attend school alternate quarters, and apprentice in local businesses during the other quarters. This will allow efficient use of the classrooms by allowing twice as many students to participate in these programs.