



A Day in the Life of an American School District

Synopsis

GO PUBLIC: A Day in the Life of an American School District is a 90-minute video document of a single day in an urban public school district, from sun up to long after sundown.

On May 8, 2012, 50 directors and their small camera crews followed 50 individuals who attend, support and work in the Pasadena Unified School District, a racially and economically diverse district with 28 public school campuses. Administrators, teachers, students, support staff and volunteers lead us on journeys that reveal their unique contributions in making a public school district function. No voice-over narratives or expert commentaries, just an authentic window into the world of public education. GO PUBLIC is important because there is a national crisis of confidence surrounding public education. This film gives audiences a chance to actually see and hear the people living the public school experience.

Community and Media Reactions

“GO PUBLIC: A Day in the Life of an American School District” is ... an amazingly topical and timely examination of the issues facing those involved in teaching in, running, reforming, or improving children’s experiences... Rather than including a preachy, posturing, or prevaricating narrative, “GO PUBLIC” lets the students, parents, teachers, administrators, school board members, and others ... speak for themselves.”

— **STEPHEN SCHROTH**
Associate Professor of Educational Studies
Knox College

“[GO PUBLIC] is like a magnificent collage, like a film version of a Robert Rauschenberg, capturing the zeitgeist of American public education.”

— **MARK PHILLIPS**
Edutopia

“We’ve seen a stream of films promoting the school reform agenda, but here’s a piece about a different kind of movie, one that actually celebrates public education.”

— **VALERIE STRAUSS**
Washington Post

“This has to get to the governor’s office.”

— **JUDY IROLA**
USC Cinematography Department Chair

“I cried through half of it; my dad was a high school teacher and I was the first in my family to get a college degree. So much of it was familiar to me, and so much of the footage was so genuine. What a great insight to a world rarely seen.”

— **LAURALEE FARRER**
burningheartproductions.com

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