

Achyut Ansa, 13

8th Grade, Imagine International Academy of North Texas

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CCHC Student Essay Competition

These days, the world has become so advanced. Schools rely on digital learning, children stay in front of the TV all day instead of going outside, and technology has made life much easier. Even life as a Collin County student has become much easier compared to the students of 100 years ago.

First of all, the institutions have changed a lot. 100 years ago the schoolhouses were small, made of wood, and thus prone to damage caused by rain or wind or even termites. They required a lot of maintenance. Children carried all their books with them to school every day, because they didn't have cubbies or drawers to put their things in. If they needed to go to the washroom they went straight outside. There were no plumbing facilities in a schoolhouse. Mainly because plumbing cost money, and also because they had little room to spare. Many schoolhouses had only one room for the children to gather and learn in. Now schools have become so much bigger with at least 30 rooms and dozens of hallways.

Second, many resources and technologies have become available that weren't available back then. Things like computers and laptops and phones and printers weren't a thing back then. If there were laptops back then, things would have been much easier. Students had to write notes on chalkboards or paper instead of on a keyboard. Nowadays, we use laptops and phones to complete projects at school. Even homework is mostly done on the computer nowadays. 100 years ago, it was a different story. Every piece of homework you were given was either reading something or writing something on a piece of paper.

Third, the learning curriculums have changed. 100 years ago all the teacher did was read notes to a class all day long. Not very interesting. Nowadays teachers incorporate fun and interesting learning projects and games into their curriculum. They have dozens of educational websites that teach kids more information. But this also relates back to the technology issue. They didn't have the internet 100 years ago. There were educational magazines or newspapers, and those acted as educational sources of information for students.

In conclusion, schools and the students learning in them in Collin County have changed so much since 100 years ago. There have been many contributions to the schools for better learning tools, better curriculums, and better classrooms. When we reflect on our past, it is only then that we realize how easy our life is and how privileged we are to live in these times. This is how life as a Collin County student has become much easier compared to the rough school life of 100 years ago.

MLA Citations:

- Scott, O. S. "Higgins Schoolhouse Jottings." *Collin County History*, 9 Jul. 1938, www.collincountyhistory.com/higgins.html. Accessed 6 Jul. 2023.
- "Early Schools." *Collin County History*, 21 Feb. 1907, www.collincountyhistory.com/early-schools.html. Accessed 6 Jul. 2023.