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<광고>



**Summary**

If you're interested in discussing current issues with English-speaking foreigners in Korea, you'd better be prepared to talk about the education system. Common questions will include why there are so many private institutes and how students and parents can survive. Another question is likely to be added to that: whether or not to close down elite high schools such as foreign language or autonomous high schools.

In theory, Korean high school education is equal no matter where you go. You're just assigned to the closest school from where you live. But in reality, various elite high schools exist, mostly for academically advanced students. The rationale is that the schools add diversity and provide students and parents with more options to choose from. However, as students with higher grades prefer to attend these elite schools, the academic level of regular schools has gone down, seriously hurting the principle of education equalization.

Consequently, heads of education in multiple provinces have pledged to shut down the elite schools. But opposition from the parents is strong. They say their children are falling victim to the government's short-sighted and politically motivated education policy.

There has been a joke that says that there are two jobs in Korea whose holders will inevitably end up being cursed. One is the head coach of Korea's national soccer team and the other is the Minister of Education. Amending Korea's education policy is no easy task, and people are curious how the new government's Ministry of Education will deal with it.

해석

1. elite high schools such as foreign language or autonomous high schools 외고나 자립형 사립고와 같은 명문고
2. is equal no matter where you go 어느 지역에서든 교육 수준이 동일하다

3. You're just assigned to ~에 배정을 받다
4. academically advanced students 학업 성적이 우수한 학생들
5. The rationale is that 그런 조치의 논리적 근거는 ~이다
6. add diversity and provide students and parents with more options to choose from 다양성을 부여하고 학생과 학부모의 선택권을 넓혀 준다
7. as students with higher grades prefer to attend these elite schools 성적이 좋은 학생들이 자사고나 특목고에 가려 하기 때문에
8. the academic level of regular schools has gone down 일반고의 학업 수준이 떨어졌다
9. heads of education in multiple provinces 여러 시도의 교육감들
10. are falling victim to ~의 희생자가 되다
11. short-sighted and politically motivated education policy 근시안적이고 정치적인 의도를 지닌 정책
12. there are two jobs in Korea whose holders will inevitably end up being cursed 한국에는 누가 맡든 결국 욕만 먹고 끝나는 자리가 2개 있다
13. head coach of Korea's national soccer team 한국 축구 국가대표팀 감독

### Keywords / Key Sentences

1. 고교 평준화를 강화하기 위해 자사고 특목고를 폐지하고 일반고에서 정상적인 교육이 이뤄지도록 해야 한다. To uphold the value of an equal high school education, those elite schools should be shut down. With the shutdown, the education in regular high schools can be back on the right path. / To protect the principle of equality in high school education, we need to do away with those elite schools. With their abolishment, education in the rest of our high schools can be back on track.
2. 특목고와 자사고가 원래의 설립 취지와는 달리 명문대 진학을 위한 수단으로 전락해버린 지 오래다. Contrary to their initial goal, elite schools have long become a means to enter prestigious universities in Korea. / Contrary to their original purpose, elite schools have long been a way to get into top universities in Korea.
3. 특목고와 자사고의 폐지는 다양한 교육에 대한 학생과 학부모의 권리를 빼앗는 행위다. Closing down the elite schools will take away students' and parents' rights to various educational needs. / Shutting down the elite schools will deprive students and parents of their various rights to education.
4. 특목고와 자사고 때문에 일반고 학생들의 학력이 저하되는 것은 아니다. The elite high schools are not the ones hurting the academic achievement of students in regular schools. / The elite high schools are not the ones to blame for students' lower academic achievement in regular schools.
5. 특목고와 자사고를 폐지하더라도 장기적인 계획에 의해 순차적으로 진행해야 한다. 갑작스럽게 폐지하는 것은 현재 재학중인 학생을 희생시키는 일이다. Even if the elite schools should be abolished, the closure of the schools should be done in stages based on a long-term plan. An abrupt shutdown of the schools would simply victimize currently enrolled students. / Even if the elite schools end up being shut down, it should happen in phases according to a long-term plan. Any sudden closure of the schools would only hurt their students.