

School Comparison Chart

When it comes to finding the best school for your child, it's important to gather and reflect on all the information you can. This comparison chart has been designed to help you organize your thoughts and insights as you evaluate different schools. After using the [Prospective School Interview Tool](#) to gather answers to key questions, this chart provides a space for you to reflect on what you learned and compare your impressions across different schools.

The first step is to review the answers you've gathered. After visiting schools, meeting with staff, and speaking with current parents and students, you will have collected valuable information. Once you have this, refer to the chart to organize your reflections on what you've learned. Consider what stood out in each category and whether the answers the school provided align with your child's specific needs, whether it's related to gifted programs, curriculum flexibility, or social-emotional support.

Next, use the chart to compare and contrast your insights across different schools. This will help you see where each school excels or falls short in key areas, allowing you to weigh your options more clearly. It's also a way to ensure that the school can provide the right balance of academic challenge, social-emotional growth, and extracurricular opportunities for your child.

As you fill in the chart, it's important to focus on what matters most to your family. Some sections will be more important depending on your child's unique needs. For example, if your child thrives in creative environments, you might want to spend more time reflecting on the school's arts programs and opportunities for creative expression. If academic rigor is a priority, focus on how the school addresses gifted students' intellectual growth. The goal is to ensure that the school offers the support and opportunities that best suit your child's interests and abilities.

What to Keep in Mind:

- You don't need an answer in every section of this chart. The goal is to focus on the questions and sections that are most relevant to your child's needs and interests.
- This chart is designed to help you reflect on and compare the schools you've researched. The answers you've gathered through the [Prospective School Interview Tool](#) will guide this process.
- Remember that choosing a school for your child is a personal decision. What works for one family might not work for another, so trust your instincts and prioritize what feels right for your child.

| Comparison Component | School Name: | School Name: |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|
| School Mission & Administration | | |
| Practical Considerations | | |
| Scheduling, Transitions, and Free Time | | |
| Instructional Design & Flexibility | | |
| Gifted Program | | |
| Special Education Program | | |

| Comparison Component | School Name: | School Name: |
|------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Student Services | | |
| Behavior & Discipline Policy | | |
| Language Arts | | |
| Math | | |
| Science | | |
| Social Studies | | |

| Comparison Component | School Name: | School Name: |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|
| World Languages | | |
| The Arts | | |
| Technical Education & Life Skills | | |
| Physical Education & Health | | |
| Social-Emotional Learning | | |
| Independent & Advanced Learning Opportunities | | |

| Comparison Component | School Name: | School Name: |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|
| Extracurricular Activities | | |
| Homework, Grading, and Assessment | | |
| Teaching Staff – Size & Composition | | |
| Teaching Staff – Experience, Education, and Support | | |
| Teaching Staff – Culture | | |
| Social Scene & Student Culture | | |

| Comparison Component | School Name: | School Name: |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Parent Community | | |
| Individual Considerations | | |
| Overall Considerations | | |

What lingering concerns or unanswered questions do you still have?