

Schools Checklist



Our surveys of relocating families show that the most effective way to learn about schools in your new area is to talk with the school superintendent and the individual school administrator. Whether in person or on the phone, this discussion will allow you to gain firsthand knowledge of the school and its activities, as well as provide an opportunity to discuss your children's particular needs.

School District

School district name _____

Contact name _____ Telephone _____

Total Enrollment _____ Number of schools _____ Grades _____

What percentage of the school district's funding comes from the following sources?

_____ % local _____ % state _____ % federal _____ % other

Expenditure per pupil \$ _____

Is the school district unionized? yes no

If yes, what is their strike record? _____

Individual School

School name _____

Contact name _____ Telephone _____

Grade levels _____

Towns/areas attending this school _____ Total school enrollment _____

Bus routes _____

How long a ride? Miles _____ Minutes _____ What percentage of pupils use the buses? _____

Is there a charge to ride the bus? yes no If yes, what is the cost? \$ _____

Can high school students drive to school? yes no If yes, is there adequate parking? yes no

Food services available: breakfast lunch snacks

Is it state funded? yes no Cost \$ _____

Is on-site or nearby daycare available: Before school? yes no After school? yes no

Names of nearby daycare facilities _____

Faculty

Teacher's salary: Starting \$ _____ Average \$ _____

Does your school require competency testing of faculty? yes no

Are parent-teacher conferences provided? yes no

If yes, how many per school year? _____

Is there a parent-teacher association (PTA)? yes no

If yes, what percentage of parents have paid PTA membership dues? _____ %

What activities does the PTA sponsor? _____

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Classroom

How is the classroom organized? open traditional team teaching other _____
Average class size _____ minimum _____ maximum _____ Student/teacher ratio _____ / _____
Are the students given homework? yes no If yes, approximately how many hours per night? _____

Education

What percentage of students continue to higher education? _____ % college _____ % vocational _____ % combined
Testing scores:
SAT: _____ verbal _____ math _____ combined
American College Testing (ACT): _____ natural science _____ reading _____ social science _____ mathematics
Other achievement tests relevant to the school system: _____
Must the students pass a literacy test before graduating from high school? yes no What is the required passing grade? _____
What is the dropout rate (by grade or overall)? _____
What additional programs are available?
 computer literacy tutoring work study programs other _____
 electives adult education vocational curriculum
 bilingual education honors program gifted & talented programs
Are computers available to students? yes no
What type of laboratory science equipment is available? _____
Is there a library on the school premises? yes no If yes, how many volumes? _____ No. of periodicals? _____
Is there an organized student government program? yes no If yes, is there student participation? yes no
Is there a guidance program with career counseling? yes no If yes, is it individual or group? _____

Sports

What organized sports are available?
 football field hockey hockey baseball softball swimming basketball
 golf cross country volleyball skiing soccer track lacrosse
 tennis other _____
What type of gym/sports facilities are available? _____
What type of playground equipment is available? _____

School Clubs

What school clubs are available?
 band foreign language newspaper computer orchestra American Field Services
 glee yearbook drama ski pep club international relations
 chorus debate/speech chess science career development
 DECA (Distributive Education Clubs of America) other _____