

# Understanding Public Schools

## Parent Checklist

Identify the best public school option for your child

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### About the Program:

- ☐ What special magnet/programs does the school offer?
- ☐ How are special magnet/programs within the school structured?
- ☐ How many students are accepted?
- ☐ What are the admission requirements? What are the requirements to remain enrolled?
- ☐ What academic/professional development guidance is provided to students?
- ☐ What special program-specific certifications or training does administration/faculty have?
- ☐ What type of student is successful in your program?
- ☐ What type of student is most challenged in your program?
- ☐ Are there any fees involved with the school or magnet program?
- ☐ Is transportation provided to the school? Is there a required fee?

### Academics and Electives:

- ☐ What special courses and/or electives are required of students enrolled in the program?
- ☐ Are students enrolled in the program allowed any flexibility in selecting their classes?
- ☐ What support does the program provide to special needs students?
- ☐ What support does the program offer to gifted students?
- ☐ What extra-curricular clubs or activities are available to all students at the school?
- ☐ What special activities or clubs are exclusive to the program?
- ☐ What percentage of students enrolled complete the program?
- ☐ Are students able to remain enrolled in the school if they withdraw from the program?

### Parent Involvement:

- ☐ What are the parent involvement opportunities for students enrolled in the school/program?
- ☐ Are there requirements through fees or parent volunteer hours to keep students enrolled in the program?
- ☐ How do teachers and administrators communicate with parents at your school?

### For High School:

- ☐ What AP classes are offered the school?
- ☐ Are students able to earn college credit through dual enrollment?
- ☐ Are students exposed to professional experience or on the job training?
- ☐ Do students have the opportunity to participate in internships or other career opportunities?
- ☐ Do students graduate with a technical certification, ready to work?
- ☐ What percentage of students enrolled in the program are admitted to college?
- ☐ What is the range of career opportunities available to students enrolled in your program?



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