QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER:

How is information communicated to parents?

Are your standardized test scores going up or down?

How do you measure growth between tests?

How do students at this school perform compared to peers?

What programs do you have for gifted and/or special needs students?

What steps does your school take towards individualized learning?

How much homework is assigned? What supports are provided?

What technology resources are available?

Are there books for all of the children? Can they take them home?

What after-school programs does your school have?

What kinds of demographics are at the school?

What is your average student to teacher ratio?

How are teachers evaluated and rewarded?

What is your disciplinary policy?

MY STUDENT ENJOYS:

- Science
- Art
- Math
- Foreign Languages
- Theater/Dance

I AM LOOKING FOR A SCHOOL WITH:

- Resources for Students with Disabilities
- Sports
- Transportation
- Close to Home
- Robotics
- College Focused
- Gifted Program
- ELL/ESL Program
- After-School Activities
- Technology Focus (STEM)

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Performance-Based Evaluations
Performance-based evaluations require that at least a portion of a teacher’s evaluation be based on student growth, a measure of how his or her students perform on standardized tests. Using a performance-based evaluation will ensure that good teachers are rewarded, struggling teachers are supported, and the few bad teachers are dismissed.

Elimination of Indefinite Contract
In Missouri, tenure for a K-12 teacher is also referred to as an “indefinite contract” and is awarded after a teacher has taught in the same district for five years. The process of firing ineffective teachers who have already been awarded tenure is very long and costly, which discourages schools from holding teachers accountable for low performance.

Removal of Last In, First Out (LIFO) Policies
Last In, First Out is the practice that many states, including Missouri, adhere to when forced to lay off teachers. This practice requires a district to fire the last teacher hired regardless of performance when layoffs need to be made.

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