

ADVOCACYDENVER

providing active voice and supporting civil rights
for people with disabilities

WHAT SCHOOL IS BEST FOR MY CHILD? OBSERVATION CHECKLIST

AdvocacyDenver does not recommend schools or tell families what school would be best for their child. The following is an observation checklist that serves as a tool as you visit a school. Contact the school to arrange a time to visit (make sure students will be in the building). Please note: all Denver Public Schools have at least one special education teacher, a speech/ language pathologist, other related service providers such as a physical or occupational therapist are assigned to the school according to individual student needs.

1. School Name: _____ Grades served: _____
2. Does the school follow a traditional school calendar? _____
3. What time does school start and end? _____ Is the start and end time the same each day? _____
4. What is the curriculum or methodology (e.g. Core Knowledge; Expeditionary Learning; Dual Language)? _____

5. Does the school offer electives/specials, other activities?

• art	• music
• physical education	• computer
• library/media center	• assemblies
• field trips	• afterschool activities/clubs

- other: _____
6. Does the school have a:
 - Nurse
 - Psychologist
 - Social Worker

CLASSROOM ENVIRONMENT

1. A daily schedule of activities is posted in the classroom: _____
2. Each student spends most of his/her time engaged in active learning activities _____
3. Transition between activities are handled smoothly and effectively _____
4. Classroom rules are worded positively and posted in the classroom _____
5. Positive feedback is provided to students frequently and at a rate that exceeds corrective feedback _____
6. Friendships between students with and without disabilities are promoted _____

Notes: _____

