QUESTIONS TO ASK WHEN VISITING A SCHOOL

GENERAL SCHOOL CONCERNS
• What is the school’s mission? The mission statement is usually a sentence or two that describes the school’s values and purpose.
• How does the school approach safety or follow its code of conduct?
• How does the school approach discipline?
• What are the school’s greatest successes?
• What are the school’s greatest challenges?
• What is the student mobility rate? *(The student mobility rate represents the number of students leaving the school each year for reasons other than graduation.)*
• What is the teacher attrition rate? *(The teacher attrition rate represents the number of teachers leaving the school each year.)*

MEETING STUDENT NEEDS
• How does the school keep track of student academic progress *(grades in classes and test scores)*?
• How do teachers teach students who speak a language other than English?
• How do teachers help students catch up if they are falling behind?
• What services do you have for students with special needs or learning disabilities?
• How do students get to school? Is bus transportation available?
• Does the school have free or reduced-price meals for students who qualify based on family income?
• If a child is doing really well in his or her classes, does the school have advanced courses or programs that help them continue to succeed?

CLASSROOM AND LEARNING
• What rules and systems are most important in classrooms?
• What is the typical class size? What is the maximum class size?
• How is technology used to support teaching and learning?
• What additional activities are available for students?
• How does fine arts fit into the curriculum?

PARENT INVOLVEMENT
• How can parents get involved?
• How do teachers and staff communicate with parents?
• What programs are available for parents to support their child’s education?