



School Choice Comparisons

ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL	ALTERNATIVE PLACEMENT	CHARTER SCHOOL	PRIVATE SCHOOL (K-12)	HOMESCHOOL	VIRTUAL PROGRAM (PUBLIC)	PUBLIC SCHOOL
OPERATION/CONTROL						
Operated by a local School District.	Operated by WDE - approved facilities (e.g., residential treatment centers, hospitals).	Independently run public school under a contract (charter) with an Authorizer (Local District or Wyoming Charter School Authorizing Board (WCSAB)).	Independent boards govern private schools, which operate separately from local public districts.	Independently operated by parents or guardians with potential use of vendor or homeschool organizations.	The local "providing district" operates the program, and students attending from another district may need a tuition agreement.	Local boards manage daily operations and policy, and the State Board of Education (SBE) and WDE set statewide standards and oversight.
CURRICULUM/FLEXIBILITY						
District-guided flexibility for standards (WCPS & WYES).	Therapeutic setting meets standards.	Significant operational curriculum autonomy.	Independent autonomy over curriculum.	Parents set own curriculum.	Flexible pacing, WDE-approved curriculum.	Aligns with state proficiency (WCPS & WYES).
ACCOUNTABILITY						
WAEA accountability is based on seven indicators: Achievement, Growth, Graduation, CCR, Credits, Climate, and Engagement.	Multi-agency state oversight authority.	Accountable to authorizer and WDE.	Accountable to parents and boards.	Parents remain the primary authority and, beginning July 1, 2025, are no longer required to submit curriculum plans or summaries to their district.	Included in the state ratings (WAEA) of the school.	State: WAEA rates overall school results. Federal: ESSA tracks subgroup results and graduation rates.
ACCREDITATION REQUIREMENTS						
Must receive SBE accreditation as part of the district's process.	State or respective accreditation.	Authorizer-led standards and safety.	Voluntary state or private.	Basic academic program required.	Must receive SBE accreditation as part of the district's process.	Must receive SBE accreditation as part of the district's process.