

### Chapter 1 : Contact Us - Education for Change Public Schools

*The reader could help her daughter change schools, but it would be difficult both financially and logistically. With so little detail, it's hard to imagine how anyone would advise this parent, but advice isn't really what she's after.*

While those early days were painful, I reasoned that it was perfectly normal to have difficulty adjusting to a big public elementary school from a small, play-all-day preschool. Weeks later, my daughter has stopped crying. But she continues to communicate her unhappiness. What about the next day? These days, my husband and I have late-night talks: Most kids hate school. We hated school and we turned out fine. Why should kids hate school? They should love school. You have to let her get used to it. Why should she get used to something she hates? If she hates kindergarten, she might hate school forever. I know how I sound: When I twice toured the school, both times I came away with the same concerns: I help out in her classroom a few hours a week, and I can see why. The teacher seems kind, but she keeps the kids sitting still on the carpet much of the time. They do a lot of worksheets. My conclusion at the end of this not-so-sweet school honeymoon? Should we wait it out and hope that things get better? And what if next year she gets a superstar teacher? Or is it time to go back to the school district to search for a transfer? Wisdom from the dismal science Experts often point to research that suggests that moving schools midyear is a big mistake, but this research usually includes all sorts of reasons for a school move: A study from the Journal of Public Economics , the largest of its kind in recent years, asks whether switching for better school quality measurably improves student outcomes and finds the answer to be inconclusive. A more recent study from the Consortium on Chicago School Research finds that school mobility can be beneficial if the student is moving for academic reasons. What is clear is high student turnover hurts schools. When a student leaves or a new student starts later in the year, it disrupts classrooms and makes it harder for teachers to establish continuity. Jodi Goldberg, Director of Local Programs for GreatSchools, has worked with thousands of parents on choosing a school and the dangers involved in switching kids midyear. The decision to move your child, Goldberg says, depends on your child – their age, their grade. Is she someone who is mostly happy? However things turn out this year, Goldberg offered one reassurance:

### Chapter 2 : How to Change From Private to Public High School: 14 Steps

*This book tells the stories of four urban middle schools that have undergone deep transformation while participating in the Middle Grades Improvement Program (MGIP), an initiative that has nurtured fundamental change in school climate, structure and classroom practice in 16 urban districts and*

Changing schools and moving can be stressful events, even if the entire family is excited about the move. The purpose of this article is to give you a checklist of all the things you may need to think about as you orchestrate your move and what you may need to do when changing schools. We have set up the list of things to do along a timeline, to mirror your own busy schedule as you get your household and school paperwork in order. As soon as you decide to move Changing Schools? The difference between a top rated school and a school that lags behind its peers could be as simple as living on one side of the school boundary. Also, if your child has special needs or unique goals i. Even public schools may have waiting lists if they are charter or target schools. Found out if there are any extra-curricular activities that require early enrollment or may involve practice over the summer before the school year starts. Enroll your children in their new schools. Find day care services or extended day services as soon as possible. Most of these services will have waiting lists, enrollment applications, and down payments necessary to hold spots. Decide what you want to do with your house. Will you rent it out or sell it? If so, find a realtor. Find a moving company. Ask around for good recommendations. Get a few quotes for the move to help you decide who to pick. Two months before your move Keep immunization records, medical forms, and birth certificates separate from other papers that you plan to pack for the move. Keep them with your important personal papers rather than risk losing them or misplacing them in the move. It might be easier to make appointments with their current doctors than to find new ones after the move. Get a change-of address kit from the post office so that you can have mail forwarded to your new address. Make a list of all the contacts you need to inform of your move: Schedule closings of your gym membership, any community clubs or country clubs which you have joined, etc. Before you close your membership, verify whether these organizations have branches where you are moving. Schedule stoppage of service for your local and long distance phone numbers, electricity, gas, oil, security service, newspaper service, etc. Schedule your move with the moving company. Consider if something is important enough to take with you on the move. Otherwise throw it out or give it away. One month before your move Schedule a party or get together so that your children and you can say good bye to your friends. Take plenty of pictures. Get mailing addresses, e-mail addresses, and phone numbers. Alternatively, throw the party at a local restaurant or park. Show the children the relationship between their new house and school. Highlight any other major landmarks to help the kids get a good feeling for their new place. If the move is in the middle of the year, you may have some extra steps to make sure the move is smooth. You may want to wait until you get to the school to see what uniform pieces most kids wear before you spend a lot of money buying the uniforms. Get a copy of their school guidelines. Your children may be used to different regulations on makeup, acceptable clothes, locker use, PE, etc. By learning as much as you can about their new school, it will really help the children to feel comfortable in their new school. Look into whether the kids will need uniforms many public schools require uniforms now, too. Inventory your major or expensive possessions with a video camera or photographs. Unless you have your money in a small local bank, you probably do not have to worry about changing banks. Still, this may be a consideration. Look into banks in your destination area. Contact your new utilities and schedule to have their services turned on local phone, long distance phone, cable, electricity, oil, gas, etc. Find new doctors in the new location. Make your travel arrangements, if necessary. Consider how you will transfer your pets. Will they travel with you or do they need separate travel arrangements? Are you taking them with you or will you need to leave them behind?. Give your plants away if you have any. Most plants usually cannot make the move. Three weeks before your move Get a babysitter for moving day or arrange to have the older kids hang out with a good friend. You do not want to have the kids running around on moving day. Look into moving insurance; consider whether you need any. Arrange to have a cleaning crew come to clean the house after the move. Arrange to have the lawn maintained after you leave but before the

house closes if you sell the house or until the renters move in. Two weeks before your move Make sure all school books and library books have been returned. Pick up any dry-cleaning that may still be out. Get the locks changed on your new home. Have any necessary repairs made on your new home. One week before your move Return cable equipment that was loaned from the cable company. Moving week Organize your personal belongings so that the movers know what to pack and what to leave alone. After you arrive at your new place Drive the kids to their new school before school starts. Consider introducing yourself to the neighbors, depending on your comfort level talking to strangers. You may want to go door to door or actually throw a backyard or house party inviting your closest neighbors over. Talk to the new school counselors to make sure they know that your kids are experiencing not just a new school but have actually experienced a major house move as well. Look into extracurricular activities associated with and without the school to give the kids opportunities to meet new friends. Work out a fire evacuation plan. General moving tips Research school zones before you look at houses or rental apartments so that you are making an informed decision regarding where your family will live. The best time to move is at the beginning of summer. That gives the children more time to get used to their new home and area and hopefully meet new friends before the first day of school. Follow up with school counselors about a month after school starts to see how the children are adapting to their new schools. Get involved with the new school. Join the PTA; help support an extracurricular activity. Test all of your fire alarms before putting them up. By using an online interface, you can request moving quotes. Direct Your Move is another site that will help you get moving quotes online. Besides moving resources, it also offers storage and packing resources and supplies as well as moving tips. This means that user can browse verified listing only and not be weary of falling for online scams.

### Chapter 3 : changing schools in middle school? | Yahoo Answers

*Intrinsic motivation especially drops during transitions between schools, such as from elementary school to middle school. In other words, kids may get a great deal of pleasure from doing science projects in 4th grade but feel like they are doing a project "just to do it" in 5th or 6th grade.*

Share via Email Moving schools this year? Changing schools is the challenge now, but big changes will happen again and again nothing stays the same , so getting skilled up in dealing with change will help you for the rest of your life. In my book, Keep Your Cool: What are your beliefs about changing schools? How will they affect what happens in the end? Between you and the real world are your perceptions beliefs about the world " and managing your perceptions can make a huge difference to what happens to you in the world. Anxiety is excitement with the added ingredient of fear that things will go badly. By turning your anxiety into excitement, you can enjoy the anticipation of starting at a new school without scaring yourself out of your wits! Create images that excite you! By changing your story and the images in your head , you can create excitement instead. So, instead of imagining what can go wrong, imagine what can go right. Really go for it by seeing yourself arriving in your new school happy, confident, and raring to go! Old teachers, old friends, and an old school building will be left behind " and that can feel sad. So make sure you let yourself experience the sadness by talking it over with friends who are going through it too. Take a sneak peak Many schools will offer a tour of your next school towards the end of your last term. This is a great way of getting excited and removing the fear of the unknown. Choose someone you admire and you feel you can trust. Who can be your allies? Find out which of your friends will also be moving to the same place. You can agree to be allies and look after each other while things are new. Still, see if the new school has a mentor system, which can make the transition easier. Room to express feelings As the first day approaches, make sure you are talking about your feelings to people you trust. You can also explore your feelings through art, writing, plasticine, music, whatever! Be curious about what you produce and share it with family or friends. All the new students will be nervous at a new start " in fact, so will the teachers! Also, be sure your face is clean, your nails are cut, your hair styled, etc. Instead of seeing big change as a scary thing outside of everyday life, learn to accept change as much a part of life as everything else. Become aware of your anxiety and turn it into excitement, think positively about the future, and be resilient to change. These are skills you can improve upon for the rest of your life. Consider changing schools a practice run!

**Chapter 4 : Changing Culture | WEB | The Boomerang Project**

*Is the school changing your child's personality for the worse?" Yes, yes, and yes. My daughter warms to new people and environments slowly, but she's usually happy and enthusiastic.*

The scenario which we are going to discuss is not as uncommon as you might think. After all you have spent a considerable amount of time researching and visiting schools in a serious effort to find the school with the best fit. Your child is miserable. Your child has been expelled. We will discuss this unfortunate reason for finding a new school first. This reason for changing schools is rather like being fired. It is enormously dispiriting and in many ways a life-changing experience just like losing your job is. Continuing that analogy, finding a new school for a child who has been expelled is almost as difficult as finding a new job is. The following video describes what happens when your child is expelled from public school. Private school expulsions are covered by the contract which you and the school signed. The net result is the same and is a very serious situation. You can expect to have lots of questions asked. So, have your answers well thought out. Try not to put too positive a spin on the situation. An admissions staffer will see right through that. Answer the questions truthfully. The school will want to know if your child has learned his lesson. Do not speak ill of his previous school. Nobody wants to admit a trouble maker. Contrition is your watchword. What are your chances of getting into another school fairly quickly? Your child has not been asked back. While not as serious as being expelled, not being asked back after a year at the school indicates that something went wrong. If there were issues which the previous school felt needed to be addressed, then be sure to have your corrective action plan in full swing. The admissions staff will ask about it. In situations like this it makes sense to have the necessary documentation to prove that you noticed things were not working out. Notes of meetings and conferences in which you addressed the situation will be helpful as you explain your reasons for finding a new school to an admissions staffer. Your child is unhappy. An unhappy child is simply not something any parent wants. You need to deal with whatever is creating the unhappiness. If your child is unhappy at school because there is turmoil at home, then you need to get her professional help to deal with those issues. Parents get divorced and financial circumstances change all the time. A skilled professional can help her work through her issues and emerge on the other side a much happier person. As this video explains talking through problems is a good start to turning things around. On the other hand, if the problem is a teacher or something else school-related, do your due diligence carefully and determine if the issues can be resolved and peace restored. If not, then a change of school is most definitely recommended. Incidentally this is a scenario which is not exclusive to any particular grade. I have had a grandson in preschool and a child in 10th grade both suffer from the syndrome. The important thing is not to ignore the symptoms. You are not satisfied with the school. This is not all that common but can happen. Expectations are not being met in one way or another. Perhaps you thought the program was something other than what it actually is. In this case, before you go through all the bother of finding a new school, sit down with the school authorities and see what can be done to resolve the situation. Lay out the issues and concerns as you see them and listen carefully to their response. Your financial circumstances have changed. This reason for changing schools was much more common after the financial meltdown of and the resulting economic chaos which has ensued. While the economic recovery in the United States has proceeded apace, there are many economies elsewhere in the world which are less stable. If you work for a multi-national corporation, you are only too well aware of the cross-currents and slowdowns which seem to come out nowhere. Add to that the impact of sharply lower oil prices and you can begin to see why some families could find their financial circumstances have changed rather dramatically for the worst. Shorb is addressing parents of college students, the message is essentially the same for parents of private K students. You may have thought you were all set financially when suddenly "Wham! If they hold your child in high esteem and she is doing well, they might be able to help. It never hurts to ask. Failing success, then begin to explore your options in the private school world. Changing schools is a serious business. But if you have no other choice and changing schools is your only option, it is doable. You will find in most cases that an educational consultant will save you much angst, time and possibly money. She will know which schools can

be approached. She will know which schools might listen to your situation. There are a host of variables in these cases, so there will be no hard and fast answers. My advice to you is to take her advice and follow it. You may contact me on Twitter.

### Chapter 5 : About Your Privacy on this Site

*Normally you'd want to make changes at the common entry points such as grade 6/7 for middle school and 9/10 for high school. But if you have no other choice and changing schools is your only option, it is doable.*

Authorities where middle schools have been discontinued[ edit ] This section needs expansion. You can help by adding to it. March Many authorities in regions of England previously had middle schools, with either local areas or whole counties since reverting to the more traditional two-tier model. These are listed briefly by region. East of England[ edit ] Norfolk closed its last middle schools - which were deemed primary - in East Midlands[ edit ] Northamptonshire closed its middle schools in and around Northampton in , [24] with its final two middle schools closing in Leicestershire had a number of middle schools which covered the age range, alongside others which were for Key Stage 3 students The last of the middle schools closed in Nottinghamshire formerly had a three tier system around Newark-on-Trent and in Mansfield , with the latter closing in The London Borough of Merton had about 14 middle schools for the age range, which were converted to deemed-primary schools in the s. These schools reverted to primary use by Oxfordshire closed its last middle-deemed-primary schools in Oxford in South West England[ edit ] Devon closed its only middle schools, in Exeter, in Adopted middle schools in normally on different sites to first schools and retained this system until , when the traditional age ranges were re-established. The authority had been merged into Walsall which always had the traditional age ranges in The system was maintained until , when the traditional age ranges were re-established throughout the area. Adopted middle schools in some on the same site or within the same umbrella as first schools and retained this system until , when the traditional age ranges were re-established. This coincided with a major reorganisation in the borough which saw sixth form facilities largely concentrated in further education colleges rather than secondary schools, as well as several secondary schools being closed or merged. Was one of the first local authorities to abolish middle schools when in the traditional age ranges were re-established. Northern Warwickshire the area covered by the boroughs of North Warwickshire , Nuneaton and Bedworth and Rugby “ adopted “8 first schools and “12 middle schools in and retained this system until , when it reverted to the traditional ages of transfer which had always applied in the south of the county. Yorkshire and the Humber[ edit ] Bradford closed its middle schools between and , having been the home of the first purpose-built middle school in the country. The trust proposes merging the two middle schools with the Meridian upper school.

### Chapter 6 : List of middle schools in England - Wikipedia

*Our School Portfolio. Education for Change is a unique charter management organization in that we manage a diverse portfolio of schools. Although all EFC schools have a strong focus on teacher collaboration, teacher leadership, data analysis and providing rigorous academics, the instructional programs through which this is accomplished varies by school.*

Yes, Changing Schools In The Middle Of The Year Works As my friends have children who are school age, more and more of them are becoming concerned about waiting until the end of the school year before they move. So many of them want to be sure that they finish the school year at the current school and start the school year at a new school. I have a different perspective. When I was growing up, I moved around a lot as my dad was transferred. Sometimes we moved in the middle of the year, and sometimes we moved during the summer. It was always easier to move during the school year than it was during the summer. Well, there were a lot of reasons I usually got cards from the entire class welcoming me, which was an amazing feeling for the new kid. It made it easier when everyone knew I was the new kid. A new kid easily gets lost in the shuffle of everyone else. And the biggest part for me? When I moved in the middle of the year, we moved, and I started school right away. We moved and then I waited. The anxiety of the first day of school built up while I waited and waited to start at my new school. It was a lot harder in that sense, too. I get the adults wanting to make a clean break. We know about finishing a task before starting something new. Why do I write this now? We moved Mister Man in the middle of the year. In fact, we moved him from the private school he had attended since kindergarten to a public school with three weeks left in the school year last May. It was a shock to many of my friends at the school, but I explained the whys to them, and they got it. Last year was a rough year for Mister Man for a lot of reasons, but the loving and nurturing teachers he had in kindergarten and the teachers who supported and then challenged him in first grade were not what we experienced in second grade. By spring, it was obviously a toxic environment. And it was amazing. His teacher was incredibly supportive and let us know how wonderfully he was doing in the classroom. I never once heard "He just wants to do what he wants to do" from the new teacher, because that was not my child. There are so many stories I could tell about last year that are just flat out wrong that led us to pushing for a move. Had I not had the experience of moving during the school year and knowing how smoothly it can go, I might have had him finish out the year at the old school before moving. So what about you? Did you ever move schools during the school year or over summer? What was your experience? Would you do it differently?

**Chapter 7 : Smoothing your child's transition to middle school | Parenting**

*Changing Schools What's your Situation? My child is moving from their zoned elementary to the zoned middle school (or middle to high school). If you have not moved, there is nothing you need to do!*

Print article Ah, middle school. Though your child may barely be entering puberty and may still be a pre-teen, the transition to middle school is a big step on the road to maturity. A big, scary step. Regardless of what specific grade marks the beginning of junior high or middle school in your community, your child will be both excited and afraid. Researchers have found that students anticipating the move to middle school worry about three aspects of the change: Your child with learning or attention difficulties shares the same worries as her peers, and may be afraid the change will be even harder for her. The first step is understanding what may worry your child. Logistical concerns When researchers asked kids what aspect of moving to middle school most concerned them, the top answers related to how things at the new school worked Akos, How would they find the right classroom? What happened if they were tardy? Where was the cafeteria? What about the bathrooms? Advertisement Middle school is a much more complex environment than grade school. The campus is larger, there are more students, and instead of one teacher and one classroom, your child will have a separate instructor, and classroom, for each subject or block of subjects e. For your student with learning or attention problems, understanding the rules and procedures of the new school may be even more important. The challenge of navigating multiple transitions between classes and organizing books and materials for every subject may be all she can handle in the first few weeks. Here are some strategies for helping your child make a smoother transition to middle school: Search for announcements, schedules, and events. Accompany your child on campus tours and orientations offered to parents and incoming students. The better you understand the school layout and rules, the more you can help your child. Get a map of the campus and take your child to explore. Pick a time after school in the spring or in the days just before school starts in the fall. Be sure to check in with the school office to get an OK for your explorations. Take advantage of summer programs “academic or recreational” offered at the new school for incoming students. Your child will get the feel for the campus in a much more relaxed atmosphere. Tape both of these inside her binder. If your child has trouble reading maps, walk the route between classes with her more than once, if necessary and note landmarks that the student can use to navigate. Find out the length of the passing period between classes. Time it out for your child. Demonstrate how far she can walk in that amount of time. Get a copy of the student handbook. Buy your child a lock for her locker several weeks before school starts to give her plenty of time to practice opening and closing it. Consider whether a combination or keyed lock is best for your child. Make sure your child has an easy-to-read wristwatch so she can quickly see if she needs to hurry to be on time to class. If she has a cell phone, make sure the time is set correctly and she is in the habit of checking it. Social fears Another area of worry for students moving to middle school is the social scene. Will I see anyone I know? Will it be hard to make friends? Will I have to eat lunch alone? Are the older kids bullies? Your child is moving from the top of the elementary school heap to the bottom rung of the middle school social ladder. She may have heard that the older students tease or bully the younger ones. And if your child with learning or attention problems struggles to make friends anyway, then this all adds up to a potential social nightmare. Remember that, in addition to changing schools, your child is entering adolescence, a stage when kids start to rely much more on peers and pull away from parents. This is a time when being part of a group is very important and being perceived as different can be devastating. The good news is that the more varied social environment also offers many opportunities to meet people. Being in multiple classes each day means your student is surrounded by more potential friends. The better news is that, once students are settled into middle school, they report that friendships and the social scene are among the best things about school Akos, Some things that you can do to ease the social transition: Encourage your child to join sports teams, clubs, or other extracurricular activities. Ease any loneliness in the early weeks of school by helping your child arrange weekend social activities with neighborhood, church, or grade school friends. Encourage your child to join group conversations. Discuss how to join in without interrupting, to add something relevant to conversation in

progress, etc. Talk about traits that make a good friend such as being a good listener. Talk about social skills. Discuss how words and actions can affect other people. Practice skills needed for difficult social situations. Remind your child to make eye contact when speaking or listening. Academic concerns Though most students worry more about the logistical and social aspects of middle school before they get there, once settled in, academic concerns rise to the surface. Will the classes be too difficult? Will there be too much homework? Are the teachers hard graders? There is less small group and personalized instruction. Teachers expect students to take charge of assignments and projects with less day-to-day guidance. For a student with learning or attention difficulties, these changes can come as quite a shock. Organization and time management demands rise to a new level. Though it can seem overwhelming, keep reminding your child that she can manage these changes successfully, though it will take time and practice. Some tips to help ease her academic concerns: Meet with teachers early in the school year. If the school has a homework hotline, make sure your child knows how to use it. Help your student with time management skills. Work together on a schedule for study time, break time, chores, etc. Work out an organizational system with your student. Acknowledge and make allowances for her anxiety; at first, she may need to carry everything for all classes all the time in order to feel prepared. Avoid overreacting to grades. Making sure your child gets a handle on how to meet the demands of the new school is the critical factor in the early weeks. Try to teach your student to work more independently while supporting her enough to give her confidence. Help your child be her own advocate. Encourage her to discuss problems and solutions with teachers on her own, but be ready to step in and help as needed. The best way to help your child through this transition is to keep a positive attitude about middle school. You may remember how clueless, awkward, and self-conscious you felt at that age. Reassure her that she will become more comfortable and confident with time. Remind your child that the school and the teachers want her to be successful and that she has what it takes to make it all work. Most students make the adjustment to the routines and demands of middle school within a couple months. If your child is still struggling as fall gives way to winter, then a meeting with her counselor may be in order. Together, you, your student and the counselor can pinpoint specific trouble spots and brainstorm ways to get things on track. Try to give your tween plenty of information about how things will work in middle school, but be careful not to overload her. Be proactive in sharing information with her while also encouraging her to ask questions.

**Chapter 8 : Our Schools - Education for Change Public Schools**

*Middle school is not the same as elementary school. It is a much larger facility and one enters from being at the top of the heap in 5th grade to the bottom of the heap in 6th grade.*

List of middle schools in England In England and Wales , local education authorities introduced middle schools in the s and s. The notion of Middle Schools was mooted by the Plowden Report of which proposed a change to a three-tier model including First schools for children aged between 4 and 7, Middle Schools for 7â€”11 year-olds, and then upper or high schools for 11â€”16 year-olds. In addition, some schools were provided as combined schools catering for pupils in the 5â€”12 age range as a combined first and middle school. However, that number began to fall in the later s with the introduction of the National Curriculum. The system of middle schools has fallen into complete disuse. Thus, schools which have more primary year groups than KS3 or KS4 are termed deemed primaries or middles-deemed-primaries, while those with more secondary-aged pupils, or with pupils in Y11 are termed deemed secondaries or middles-deemed-secondaries. For statistical purposes, such schools are often included under primary and secondary categories "as deemed". Legally all-through schools are also considered middle schools deemed secondary , although they are rarely referred to as such. Scotland[ edit ] In Scotland , a similar system to the English one was trialled in Grangemouth middle schools , Falkirk between and Northern Ireland[ edit ] In Northern Ireland , in the Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon District Council area in County Armagh , the Dickson Plan operates, whereby pupils attend a primary school from ages 4â€”10, a junior high school from 11â€”14, and a senior high school or grammar school from 14â€” This is not dissimilar to the middle school system. Education in the United States Middle schools in the United States usually cover grades 5â€”8, 6â€”8, or 7â€”8. Historically, local public control and private alternatives have allowed for some variation in the organization of schools. Elementary school includes kindergarten through to sixth grade , or kindergarten through to fifth grade, i. Basic subjects are taught and pupils often remain in one or two classrooms throughout the school day, except for physical education , library , music , and art classes. In , there were about 3. The range defined by either is often based on demographic factors, such as an increase or decrease in the relative numbers of younger or older students, with the aim of maintaining stable school populations. Also, pupils are able to choose some of their class subjects electives. As time passed, the junior high school concept increased quickly as new school districts proliferated, or systems modernized buildings and curricula. This expansion continued through the s. Wiles said, "At first, it was difficult to determine the difference between a junior high school and a middle school, but as the middle school became established, the differences became more pronounced [ Education in Uruguay In Uruguay , the public middle school consists of two stages, one mandatory called "Basic Cycle" or "First Cycle". This consists of three years, ages 12â€”13, 13â€”14 and 14â€”15, and one optional called "Second Cycle", ages 15â€”16, 16â€”17 and 17â€” The Second Cycle is divided into 4 options in the 5th grade: Both these stages are commonly known as "Liceo" Spanish for "high school". Middle school starts at grade 7 and ends at grade 9. Education in Venezuela In Venezuela , public middle schools have a different Spanish name than private schools. In some institutions called "Technical Schools" there is an extra grade, for those who want to graduate as "Middle technician" in a certain area. This education would allow them to be hired at a higher level, or get introduced more easily into a college career. There is a "college test" from main universities of the country. Their score on this test might allow them to more quickly obtain a spot within an institution. Students with high qualifications during the high school, have more chances to have the spot. After finishing grade 9, students have to take the graduating test nationally, which includes Mathematics, Literature and English. The maximum score for each test is 10, with the first two subjects called the Core Subjects multiplied by two for a total possible score of Reward points from the vocational course; spanning from 1. Many other public and private schools require students who apply for those schools to take their entrance exams.

**Chapter 9 : How to Change Schools in the Middle of the School Year**

*Changing schools and moving can be stressful events, even if the entire family is excited about the move. The purpose of this article is to give you a checklist of all the things you may need to think about as you orchestrate your move and what you may need to do when changing schools.*

She finds BHS generally overwhelming, has had a hard time making friends, and - of equal or greater importance - is finding herself bored in class and frustrated with the pace. I know the first course of action is to talk to the teachers and support staff, and we are doing that. She is great student, very academic, takes her work seriously and wants to go to a great college. And I write this with great respect for the educators at BHS; I know they are doing their very best with big classes and limited resources and bring a lot of talent and commitment to their work. For a host of logistical and financial reasons, we chose the public school path, but I can tell this is not a great fit for our daughter and I think she would thrive in a different setting with smaller, more demanding classes and a different peer group. Is it better to switch and take a big gamble on a better situation? I really want to support her love of school, which is just not happening this year at BIHS. Will kids be welcoming? Will she get integrated at this late date? Do kids switch as juniors? HS is such an important time on many fronts. My child went to St. There were students who transferred in as juniors and were welcomed into the community. You might want to consider looking at the school. It is a Catholic education I am not Catholic but it is also an education that is more global in reflection than in religion. It is highly academic but suits students who may not thrive in the sometimes overwhelming atmosphere at BHS. Both students went on to very good colleges and lots of their students end up at Ivies. My daughter is at BHS and is doing very well, but it is not for everyone. International standards restrict the actual IB curriculum to 11th and 12th grade. When my daughter, and I visited colleges last Spring when she was a BIHS Junior, nearly every admissions officer we talked with commented that achieving the IB Diploma represents completing the most challenging high school curriculum available. That may be a good first step before going down the path of switching schools. I am not sure that switching schools is necessarily the best strategy. I have a daughter who graduated from BHS a couple years ago. She was rarely challenged by the classes offered at BHS even though she finished with 10 or 11 AP classes. She is still not particularly challenged. She knows students at her university from some of the east bay small privates and she is definitely doing better than they are and really not very challenged. My husband and I decided early on to look beyond the classroom to stimulate our daughter. Our strategy was lots of activities, community service, travel and work along with an expectation of excellent grades. BHS offers those opportunities much better than a small school could - there are tons of sports, music, drama and extracurriculars to keep students of all academic levels engaged. We always had her at least participating in both sports and arts. On top of that we had to do a lot of active parenting - lots of engaged conversations about life and what was happening in her life, why she was bored and what to do about it. And in the end she is really happy that she went to BHS instead of one of the local private schools, she was exposed to a lot of culture and had some life altering experiences not all good that would not have happened at a small school. You tried a big public school and it is not working out. Kids switch schools all the time. She will probably LOVE her new environment and, even better, kids in smaller schools make a bigger deal about new kids in a good way. It is not unusual for students to transfer to Maybeck after starting high school elsewhere. She might even be able to start mid-year. I suggest you check the BPN postings for Maybeck, and plan a visit if it sounds like a school she would like. I cannot say enough good things about our experience at this wonderful school- strong academics, small classes taught seminar-style, plenty of intellectual stimulation, close student-teacher relationships, and students who are accepting of others. Maybeck students are extremely well prepared for college. The writing program, especially, is superb. They also offer exciting travel programs each spring- last year kids had the opportunity to go biking through Japan, surfing in Kauai, explore the Theater and Art worlds in SF and NYC, or travel through Copper Canyon in Mexico, for example. Tuition is less than at most independent private schools. And the new location at St. I would say that its small size would not suit every kid. But it may suit your daughter very well. Happy Maybeck Parent Ironically, we went the

other way, from a private school which was intense academically and not great socially, to Berkeley High as a junior. A month into the switch, things are going quite well. If you send her to a very demanding private school she could be in for quite a shock academically! Her math and science could be plenty challenging, language should be at 3rd, 4th year level, right? So the main academic issue would be whether other classes are sufficiently engaging, and whether she can help create that challenge for herself. Also, my daughter joined two clubs and a sports team which puts her with some great, interesting kids. Does your daughter have a sport or other interest that would help her integrate with a group of kids at a new school? My gifted freshman daughter goes there and is thriving. For further information, search the BPN files or call the school at Nancy April We are thinking of switching schools next year when my daughter enters 7th grade. She does have one good friend there already. My daughter changed schools in 7th grade. We moved with only 2 months left of 6th grade and I drove her back to her old school every day. In retrospect it would have been better to put her into the new school at the end of 6th grade. Not only would she hopefully make some friendships for the summer but would also be able to figure out how to bridge the educational gap from the old to the new school. It was rather difficult for her to get used to the fact that she was not the top student of her school anymore but rather very average. I got to understand that it is not just how smart your kid is oh, they will do great anywhere they are smart but what materials they were exposed to and which track they were following. Having one good friend at the new school should make the transition much easier.