

Category		Public School	Magnet (Public)	Charter School	Private School (Secular)	Religious / Parochial School
Operations	Funding Source (For Operating expenses)	100% public tax dollars (state, local, federal)	100% public tax dollars (state, local, federal)	Public tax dollars + grants	Tuition & private funding (may accept vouchers)	Tuition & church/faith organization funding (may accept vouchers)
	Teacher Certification & Hiring	Required (state-certified); Open and Nondiscriminatory	Required (state-certified); Open and Nondiscriminatory	Required in Florida	Not required	Not required; may prefer teachers of same faith
	Health & Safety Regulations	Required	Required	Required	Required	Required
	Open Records / Sunshine Laws	Yes; Shared in all HCPS	Yes; Shared in all HCPS	Yes; Shared in all HCPS	No	No
	Civil Rights Laws	Fully covered under federal/state law	Fully covered under federal/state law	Fully covered	Covered only if federal/state funds accepted	Covered only if federal/state funds accepted (religious exemptions apply)
	Accountability & Testing	State testing (FAST, EOCs, etc.); school grades	State testing (FAST, EOCs, etc.); school grades	Must participate in state testing; accountability via charter contract	No state testing unless voucher-funded	No state testing unless voucher-funded
	Accountability for Results	State report cards and inspections	State report cards and inspections	Annual charter review; performance-based renewal	Internal or accreditor oversight	Internal or religious accreditor oversight
	Governance	District school board	District school board	Independent nonprofit or board (contract with district/state)	Private owner or board	Religious organization or church
Student Experience	Admissions Policy	Zoned by district	Merit Application	Application; Lottery if oversubscribed	Selective Application	Selective Application; may require faith alignment
	Tuition to Families	None; Free	None; Free	None; Free	Yes	Yes
	Special Education (IDEA)	Required	Required	Required	Optional	Optional
	Curriculum	Must follow state standards (B.E.S.T.) Includes access to AICE, Dual Enrollment, and AP programs for eligible students.	Must follow state standards (B.E.S.T.) Includes access to AICE, Dual Enrollment, and AP programs for eligible students, but offers specialty focus/programs	Flexible, can design own program	Independent, set by school	Faith-based curriculum; includes religious instruction
	Schedule, Calendar, Meals, Transportation, Dress Code, Discipline Policies	Dictated by by HCPS; Universal to all schools	Dictated by by HCPS; Universal to all schools	Individual to each school	Individual to each school	Individual to each school
	Sports	All FHSAA Sports at all schools		Depends on student interest at each school		
	Clubs & Extracurricular Activities	Depends on student interest at each school				