

# Idaho State Department of Education

## User Guide for Idaho Similar Schools Tool

### Step 1 – Select a school

Start by selecting the school of interest

**Similar Schools Comparison Tool - 2019**

**Step 1. Pick a reference school**

<Select a school>

**Step 2. Select characteristics for finding similar schools**

Enrollment  
Yes

Economically Disadvantaged  
Yes

English Learners  
Yes

Students with Disabilities  
Yes

**Step 3. Restrict the schools by characteristics (optional)**

Grade Range  
Similar Grade Range

Distance in miles  
null 550

**Select Student Group**  
All Students

**Select Measure**  
ELA Proficiency

Restrict to schools with higher performance on this measure?  
No

**ELA Proficiency, All Students**

IDAHO State Department of Education

Schools with under 20 students not included due to data limitations and privacy considerations. Data for matching may be perturbed when including small population sizes.

By default, the site will then populate with data for the school you selected and the five most similar schools, with similarity is based on:

- Enrollment
- Percent of students who are economically disadvantaged
- Percent of students who are English Learners
- Percent of students who are students with disabilities

## Step 2 – Select matching characteristics

If you want to turn off any of these characteristics for matching, use the Yes/No drop downs under “Step 2.”

**Similar Schools Comparison Tool - 2019**

Step 1. Pick a reference school  
<Select a school>

Step 2. Select characteristics for finding similar schools

Enrollment: Yes  
Economically Disadvantaged: Yes  
English Learners: Yes  
Students with Disabilities: Yes

Step 3. Restrict the schools by characteristics (optional)

Grade Range: Similar Grade Range  
Distance in miles: null to 550

Similar Schools Based on User Selections

Select Student Group: All Students  
Select Measure: ELA Proficiency  
Restrict to schools with higher performance on this measure?: No

**ELA Proficiency, All Students**

IDAHO State Department of Education

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A red arrow points to the 'Enrollment' dropdown menu in the Step 2 sidebar.

## Step 3 – Restrict by grades served and distance

You can also restrict the potential schools by grade range and distance in miles. By default, the tool returns schools with a similar grade range across the entire state.

**Similar Schools Comparison Tool - 2019**

Step 1. Pick a reference school  
<Select a school>

Step 2. Select characteristics for finding similar schools

Enrollment: Yes  
Economically Disadvantaged: Yes  
English Learners: Yes  
Students with Disabilities: Yes

Step 3. Restrict the schools by characteristics (optional)

Grade Range: Similar Grade Range  
Distance in miles: null to 550

Similar Schools Based on User Selections

Select Student Group: All Students  
Select Measure: ELA Proficiency  
Restrict to schools with higher performance on this measure?: No

**ELA Proficiency, All Students**

IDAHO State Department of Education

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A red arrow points to the 'Grade Range' dropdown menu in the Step 3 sidebar.

## Step 4 – Review the data

After you have set the criteria you want to use in finding similar schools, you can look at the list of schools and their characteristics. Please note, the tool returns the five most similar schools based on the characteristics selected, and some schools are unique enough that even the most similar school may not be all that similar. Use these data to review the matches.

**Step 1.** Pick a reference school  
A B MCDONALD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (0756)

**Step 2.** Select characteristics for finding similar schools

Enrollment: Yes

Economically Disadvantaged: Yes

English Learners: Yes

Students with Disabilities: Yes

**Step 3.** Restrict the schools by characteristics (optional)

Grade Range: Similar Grade Range

Distance in miles: 0 to 550

IDAHO State Department of Education

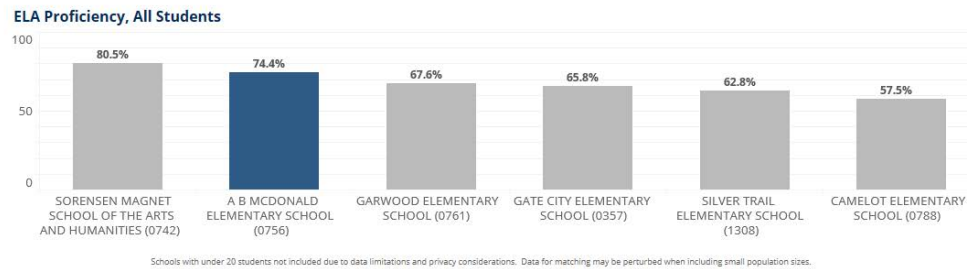
### Similar Schools Comparison Tool - 2019

	Enrollment	Percent Economically Disadvantaged	Percent English Learners	Percent Students with Disabilities
<b>A B MCDONALD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (0756)</b>	365	26%	2%	11%
Similar Schools Based on User Selections				
CAMELOT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (0788)	442	22%	<2%	13%
GARWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (0761)	384	32%	n size	10%
GATE CITY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (0357)	474	23%	<2%	10%
SILVER TRAIL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (1308)	459	25%	1%	11%
SORENSEN MAGNET SCHOOL OF THE ARTS AND HUMANITIES (074..)	313	22%	<2%	10%

Select Student Group: All Students

Select Measure: ELA Proficiency

Restrict to schools with higher performance on this measure?: No



Below the list of matches, you will see the performance data for the school you selected and the similar schools. The school you selected will be in blue.

**Step 1.** Pick a reference school  
A B MCDONALD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (0756)

**Step 2.** Select characteristics for finding similar schools

Enrollment: Yes

Economically Disadvantaged: Yes

English Learners: Yes

Students with Disabilities: Yes

**Step 3.** Restrict the schools by characteristics (optional)

Grade Range: Similar Grade Range

Distance in miles: 0 to 550

IDAHO State Department of Education

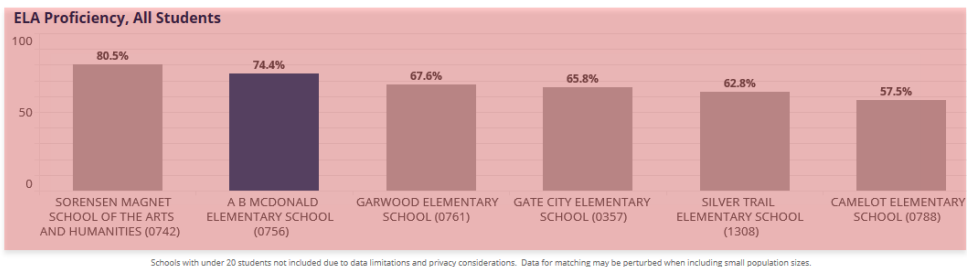
### Similar Schools Comparison Tool - 2019

	Enrollment	Percent Economically Disadvantaged	Percent English Learners	Percent Students with Disabilities
<b>A B MCDONALD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (0756)</b>	365	26%	2%	11%
Similar Schools Based on User Selections				
CAMELOT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (0788)	442	22%	<2%	13%
GARWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (0761)	384	32%	n size	10%
GATE CITY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (0357)	474	23%	<2%	10%
SILVER TRAIL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (1308)	459	25%	1%	11%
SORENSEN MAGNET SCHOOL OF THE ARTS AND HUMANITIES (074..)	313	22%	<2%	10%

Select Student Group: All Students

Select Measure: ELA Proficiency

Restrict to schools with higher performance on this measure?: No



## Step 5 – Review other measures

By default, the tool returns performance on *ELA proficiency* among all students. You can change both the student group and the measure of interest.

**Step 1.** Pick a reference school

A B MCDONALD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (...)

**Step 2.** Select characteristics for finding similar schools

Enrollment: Yes

Economically Disadvantaged: Yes

English Learners: Yes

Students with Disabilities: Yes

**Step 3.** Restrict the schools by characteristics (optional)

Grade Range: Similar Grade Range

Distance in miles: 0 to 550

IDAHO State Department of Education

### Similar Schools Comparison Tool - 2019

	Enrollment	Percent Economically Disadvantaged	Percent English Learners	Percent Students with Disabilities
<b>A B MCDONALD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (0756)</b>	365	26%	2%	11%
<b>Similar Schools Based on User Selections</b>				
CAMELOT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (0788)	442	22%	<2%	13%
GARWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (0761)	384	32%	n size	10%
GATE CITY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (0357)	474	23%	<2%	10%
SILVER TRAIL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (1308)	459	25%	1%	11%
SORENSEN MAGNET SCHOOL OF THE ARTS AND HUMANITIES (0742)	313	22%	<2%	10%

**Select Student Group**

All Students

**Select Measure**

ELA Proficiency

Restrict to schools with higher performance on this measure?

No

**ELA Proficiency, All Students**

School	ELA Proficiency (%)
SORENSEN MAGNET SCHOOL OF THE ARTS AND HUMANITIES (0742)	80.5%
A B MCDONALD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (0756)	74.4%
GARWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (0761)	67.6%
GATE CITY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (0357)	65.8%
SILVER TRAIL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (1308)	62.8%
CAMELOT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (0788)	57.5%

Schools with under 20 students not included due to data limitations and privacy considerations. Data for matching may be perturbed when including small population sizes.

## Step 6 (optional) – Restrict data

You can also restrict the matches to schools performing better than the reference school on the selected measure. If you do this, be sure to check your match characteristics again because new schools will likely be in your list.

**Step 1.** Pick a reference school

A B MCDONALD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (0756)

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**Step 2.** Select characteristics for finding similar schools

Enrollment: Yes

Economically Disadvantaged: Yes

English Learners: Yes

Students with Disabilities: Yes

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**Step 3.** Restrict the schools by characteristics (optional)

Grade Range: Similar Grade Range

Distance in miles: 550

### Similar Schools Comparison Tool - 2019

	Enrollment	Percent Economically Disadvantaged	Percent English Learners	Percent Students with Disabilities
<b>A B MCDONALD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (0756)</b>	365	26%	2%	11%

Similar Schools Based on User Selections

CAMELOT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (0788)	442	22%	<2%	13%
GARWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (0761)	384	32%	n size	10%
GATE CITY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (0357)	474	23%	<2%	10%
SILVER TRAIL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (1308)	459	25%	1%	11%
SORENSEN MAGNET SCHOOL OF THE ARTS AND HUMANITIES (0742)	313	22%	<2%	10%

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Select Student Group: All Students | Select Measure: ELA Proficiency

➔ Restrict to schools with higher performance on this measure? No

#### ELA Proficiency, All Students

Schools with under 20 students not included due to data limitations and privacy considerations. Data for matching may be perturbed when including small population sizes.

Users can use the same steps for navigating the similar districts tool.

If you have questions on using the tool, contact us at [assessments@sde.idaho.gov](mailto:assessments@sde.idaho.gov)