## Site Options

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Pros</th>
<th>Cons</th>
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</table>
| School Buildings            | ▶ Ideal academic setting as located in neighborhoods and very accessible  
                             | ▶ Already arranged with classrooms, gym, cafeteria, library, administrative offices  
                             | ▶ Good parking, playground space                                      | ▶ Sharing space with charter schools difficult in some districts  
                             | ▶ School buildings sometimes deed-restricted to educational use (decreasing the resale value for charter schools purchasing these facilities)  
                             | ▶ Lack of available school buildings in some jurisdictions  
                             | ▶ Rarely available in good condition                                 |
| Commercial Space (includes office space and warehouse/flex space) | ▶ Frequently available in strip malls  
                             | ▶ Large, open spaces easily converted to classrooms  
                             | ▶ May have easy bus and car access  
                             | ▶ Less likely to involve political battle over building compared to former school buildings | ▶ Hard to create “school culture”  
                             | ▶ Extensive renovations required  
                             | ▶ Few windows, poor light and ventilation  
                             | ▶ Setting often inappropriate for school  
                             | ▶ Limited playground space  
                             | ▶ Often have limited parking space  
                             | ▶ May have limited access to public transportation  
                             | ▶ Busy traffic may be safety issue  
                             | ▶ May not be zoned for education use  
                             | ▶ Potentially hazardous material issues                               |
| Residential Space           | ▶ Location accessible to student homes                               | ▶ Extensive renovations required  
                             | ▶ Limited non-academic space  
                             | ▶ May not be zoned for education use  
                             | ▶ Limited parking  
                             | ▶ Potential difficulties accommodating growth  
                             | ▶ Possible resistance from neighbors                                  |
| **Modular Units (trailers)** | - Might be obtained more quickly than other space but can still require lengthy permitting process  
- Appropriately sized space provided  
- Configured in flexible ways  
- Short-term commitment  
- May offer flexibility of location  
- Growth easily accommodated | - Must identify suitable piece of land for modular units and pay for necessary site work  
- Suboptimal in bad weather conditions (not all under one roof)  
- Limited office and non-academic space  
- May require ground lease with school district  
- Less attractive to some parents  
- More difficult to find financing |
|---|---|
| **Houses of Worship** | - Usually very affordable  
- Frequently available during school days  
- Often configured with classrooms  
- Often include gym, cafeteria, playground  
- Good access, parking | - May need to set up every Monday, pack up every Friday |
| **New Construction** | - Tailored to the school’s needs  
- Low maintenance costs  
- Attractive to prospective parents | - Very expensive (though sometimes cheaper than renovating)  
- Code requirements for new buildings may be more extensive  
- Disposition of building if charter is not renewed |