

### Software/Website Evaluation

One of the most helpful resources I have come across in the journey through graduate school is [www.schooldigger.com](http://www.schooldigger.com). I chose this website to evaluate because it has been one of the tools I use almost every day in the counseling field. This website has come to be a dynamic tool of resource for the schools in the Floyd County district, those districts that surround Floyd County, and other districts that Johnson Elementary students may transfer to. The content on this website is valuable to me because it allows school counselors, teachers, and parents to view information on different schools' student populations, AYP testing statuses, and possibilities for housing in each school district. The site can be used as a means for informational resources for anyone who wants to learn more about the districts they are currently residing in or other districts all around the United States. The site supports the standard of being informed and educated about educational settings and surroundings.

### Software/Website Evaluation Form

Title of Software/Website: SchoolDigger

Intended Grade Level: All levels

Content Area:

SA	A	D	SD	NA	Content
	X				The content is accurate.
X					The objectives meet my curriculum needs.
X					The reading level and vocabulary is appropriate for the intended user.
	X				The website/software has various levels of instruction for varied abilities.
SA	A	D	SD	NA	Technical Aspects
X					Uses the unique capabilities of the computer.
				X	Sound can be turned off.
X					Maintains a record of student performance/progress.
X					Instructions are clear.
X					User can skip over familiar instructions.
SA	A	D	SD	NA	Design
	X				Graphics and sound add to effectiveness of the program.
X					Screen format is well planned and consistent.
			X		Difficulty of instruction adjusts according to student response.
X					Feedback is effective and appropriate.
		X			Students can access menu to change activities.
X					Responds to errors effectively.
SA	A	D	SD	NA	Support
X					Documentation is clear and comprehensive.
X					Print materials are provided for students.
			X		Additional learning activities are suggested in the documentation.
SA	A	D	SD	NA	Motivation
X					Easy to use.
X					The students will like it.

Three things I liked about the website/software:

1. The website is very easy to use and navigate through.
2. The website provides information to teachers, school faculty and staff, parents, and students.
3. Website has housing listings for specified areas.

Three things I disliked about the website/software:

1. Information on some schools has not been updated since 2009.
2. Some schools' AYP testing scores are not available on the website.
3. There is no linked information to other resources.

My Overall Recommendation: I would recommend this site to anyone who would be interested in learning about diversity, population, and progress of various school systems.

School counselors use many resources in a typical work day. One of the most helpful resources available to school counselors is [www.schooldigger.com](http://www.schooldigger.com). This website can be useful as a resource to refer to parents, students, and faculty, and staff. In the classroom, teachers can use this website to compare their schools' AYP testing status to other schools in the United States. The SchoolDigger website can also be useful to students who are researching different school systems and need a wealth of background knowledge on them. This website allows interested viewers to observe progress in school systems and individual schools, information on school populations, and housing and babysitting possibilities for the school districts' residents.

The SchoolDigger website is very organized and easy to navigate through. Its emphasis is not on graphics, but on simple and accurate information. The website's simple façade allows viewers to only observe the information they are looking for and does not include any additional information on other topics. Some of the information on the website has not been updated in a couple of years, which would be considered its downfall.

Overall, I would highly recommend this site on an information basis for communities to learn more about their school systems. The website was created for a purpose and serves that purpose only: to get the information out to the communities. The importance of knowing relevant information about school systems is great and this website is the perfect resource to provide that information to communities.