

INTERVIEW TIPS

- The key to a good interview is as simple as 1, 2, 3! 1) Eye contact; 2) firm hand shake; 3) preparation.
- The interview begins when you walk into the room, before you even sit down. Walk in with purpose, smile and make eye contact, and shake hands firmly.
- Spend some time reviewing the materials on each school with which you will be interviewing and think about why that school would be a good fit for you. Look at school websites, Inside Schools, and the DOE Directory.
- Think about what story you can tell about yourself that highlights your strengths and makes you stand out. Stories are always more compelling than a list of accomplishments.
- Practice, practice, practice! Review commonly asked questions and think about how you might answer them. Have an adult who is not a parent ask you the questions! If you are not sure how you want to answer the question, it is okay to pause! Give yourself time by saying “That’s a really interesting question...I’ve never thought about that before.”
- In group interviews, make sure you get some air time. If the other person is monopolizing the interview, use something they said to segue way into something about you, e.g., “It’s so interesting you mentioned that book – I am reading something very similar in my English class and it...”
- Be yourself! The people running these interviews are there to get to know you, and they want candidates who have a strong sense of self.