

# Magnet Schools of America Recommendations: Status Update

MSA Recommendation	Status
1. Magnet schools should analyze student achievement data by demographic groups and conduct ongoing research and evaluation of student outcomes in magnet schools and programs, and develop plans that address ways in which the magnet program can become more inclusive, accessible and equitable. The district should explore ways to make programs within schools, schoolwide.	To be implemented with modifications
2. JCPS should clarify the purpose, mission, and goals of the magnet programs throughout the district. All stakeholders, including parents, business partners and principals should know the purpose they serve for the entire community, not just individual schools.	To implement in short term
3. JCPS should create a community task force or steering committee with various stakeholders to determine the purpose, goals, and types of magnet programs that will serve students in the county. The goals of the task force should be to develop a fiveyear strategic plan, monitor the implementation, and serve in an advisory capacity upon its implementation.	To implement in short term
4. The Traditional School model should be reviewed and updated to reflect current research, and examine the following: purpose, philosophy, goals and expectations of the Traditional Program, academic program, student discipline and removal policies and practices, and feeder patterns.	To be reviewed further by steering committee
5. The district should create a process to eliminate redundant, undersubscribed, and low achieving magnet schools and programs within one year. This process should require affected schools to submit a plan that specifies how the school will address theme integration, targeted student recruitment, and professional development and training. JCPS should determine which schools, based on their plan, have a viable chance of success and provide them with adequate resources to meet their goals, granting an extension on an annual basis if significant progress is being made. Those that are not making progress, fail to submit a plan, or for whom the plan is deemed inadequate, should be discontinued by the 2015-16 academic year.	To implement in short term
6. JCPS should create a process for establishing any new magnets or replicating "mirror" magnets based on the following tenets: a. Schools should have a research base that supports their development; b. Building capacity and adequate facilities must be available to accommodate the theme; c. Professional development for principals and staff must be around the theme and instructional focus that supports the theme; d. Demonstrated demand and need should be shown for such a program due to waiting lists or void in offerings; e. Evidence must demonstrate that student achievement and diversity can be sustained, and f. Reasonable and cost effective transportation should be offered.	To be implemented in the long term
7. Develop mirror magnets, or replicate popular and successful schools where students apply to the theme, and are then assigned to a school with consideration for distance and diversity. These mirror programs may be split between upper and lower campuses that serve continuous grades at nearby campuses.	To be reviewed further by steering committee
8. JCPS should evaluate the Five Star Schools to determine to what extent programs are being duplicated, undersubscribed, overenrolled, etc. in conjunction with the magnet program offerings.	To implement in short term
9. Eliminate programs within schools, and either make them wholeschool magnets or consider phasing them out.	To be implemented with modifications
10. Require all magnet schools to submit to the magnet office for review and approval an annual, publicly available plan that addresses student recruitment, curriculum, instruction, and professional development.	To implement in short term

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11. JCPS should adopt a centralized application process and conduct lotteries for all magnet schools that take into consideration existing factors. This central process should also determine eligibility of students if academic criteria is used. Essays and letters of recommendations should be discontinued as a part of the selection process. Academic records should not be transferred by the families. a. Dupont Manual High School should remain a selective school, however, the student selection process should be made available to all families and students via the website and other sources. b. Students should be aware of the score given to their application, cut scores should be made publicly available, and students should be notified where they stand on the waiting list if placed on one.	To be reviewed further by steering committee
12. Redesign the Math, Science and Technology (MSP) programs to include engineering and emerge as comprehensive STEM programs that have K12 articulation between schools and grade levels.	To implement in short term
13. Align the Fine, Visual, and Performing Arts programs K12 and provide clearly articulated pathways.	To be implemented with modifications
14. All JCPS students should have access to magnet programs, and transportation should (continue to) be provided at all schools with the addition of Brown.	To be implemented with modifications
15. Industry standard equipment specific to the theme should be provided to students in all magnet programs, especially at the secondary level.	To implement in short term
16. JCPS should conduct a facilities assessment to determine the capacity, ability to accommodate the theme and students, and attractiveness to families.	To implement in short term
17. Adopt the Career Academy model at the following schools to ensure greater preparation of students for college and careers: Southern, Central, and Iroquois High schools.	To implement in short term
18. JCPS central office staff responsible for magnets should be organized to collaborate more effectively with Curriculum and Instruction staff to give these areas greater leadership and support within schools.	To implement in short term
19. Magnet schools should analyze student achievement data by demographic groups (race, socioeconomic status, linguistic, etc.) and conduct ongoing research and evaluation of student outcomes in magnet schools and programs.	To implement in short term
20. Provide teachers and magnet coordinators with professional development around the theme and curriculum development.	To implement in short term
21. JCPS should support a fulltime position with significant responsibility, resources, and autonomy to coordinate and provide professional development and training to magnet school teachers and principals, as well as coordinate purchasing and oversee all marketing and recruitment efforts.	To be implemented with modifications
22. JCPS should conduct a fiscal analysis of magnet programs to determine what impact program elimination, duplication, and reinvestment would have on the district.	To be implemented in the long term
23. JCPS magnet school and district staff should find exemplary models of like schools to learn from immediately.	To implement in short term
24. Convene an industry advisory board to provide validation, feedback and suggestions to ensure magnet schools are relevant and continually improving.	To be implemented with modifications
25. Marketing materials, applications and choice information should be provided in multiple languages to make them more accessible to families.	To implement in short term
26. JCPS should work to ensure greater inclusion and access for English Language Learners and Special Education students in magnet programs by providing services at all magnet schools to the greatest extent possible.	To be reviewed further by steering committee