Magnet Steering Committee

Updates and Progress



September 27, 2016

Work Session Objectives



Reaffirm goals and completed work

Present two updates on recent work

- ✓ Magnet Program Standards
- ✓ 2001 Policy for Options/Magnets Exit Process for Students

Receive feedback from Board members and describe next steps

JCPS Mission for Magnet Schools JCPS

The mission is to provide specialized educational options that attract a diverse population of students to cohesive, theme-based learning environments that promote excellence in student learning.

Committee Charter



PURPOSE

The primary responsibility of the Magnet Steering Committee is to determine purpose and goals of magnets offered by JCPS. The committee will develop and monitor a long-term plan for implementing work to improve magnet programs and schools districtwide. This work is based on, but not strictly limited to, recommendations made by Magnet Schools of America (MSA).

In Scope

SCOPE OF WORK

- Prioritize and clarify/modify MSA recommendations to improve JCPS magnet schools and programs.
- Provide input on how to implement MSA and any committeeinitiated recommendations in coordination with district departments.
- Review and make recommendations on district-wide guidance and policy documents related to magnet schools and programs.
- Ensure district work is coordinated, focused, equitable, and aligned with the Magnet Mission to offer students programs that enhance their future opportunities.

Out of Scope

- Approve policy (purview of the Board)
- Adoption of district documents with policy implications for school implementation (purview of the Board and district offices)
- Decisions about status of individual magnet programs and schools

MSA Recommendations Completed

2 Mission statement

- 3 Task force with community members and long-term implementation plan
 - 4 Traditional program guidelines review
- 5 Process to review undersubscribed, low achieving magnets
- 6 Process for new magnets
 - 8 5-Star HS review
- 17 Career academy model
- 21 District program coordinator

Agreements in May 2016



Continue to work on Magnet Program Standards

Review the current policy for exiting magnet students

Why Magnet Program Standards?

Purpose?

✓ Indicators of magnet program quality and success

□ How will they be used?

- ✓ Guidance to schools applying to start new magnet programs
- ✓ Tool for self-assessment by existing magnet programs
- Road map for improvement for underperforming magnets

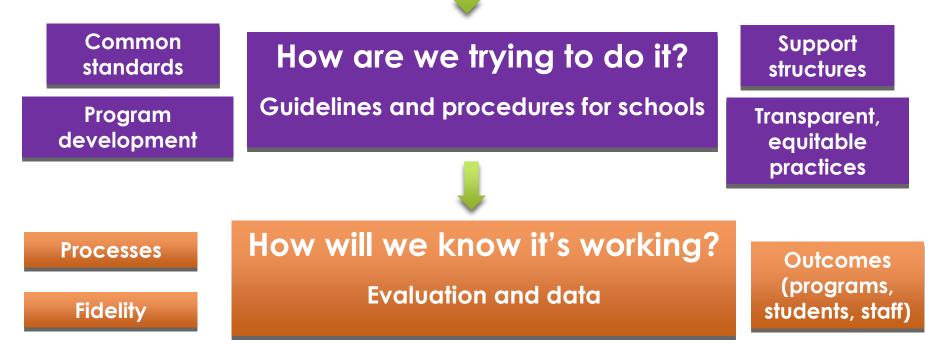
Magnet Steering Committee Guiding Framework

Systems approach

What are we trying to do?

Improve cohesive, magnetic options

Support strategic priorities



What makes a successful magnet?

5 Big Areas for Standards

Diversity

- ✓ Clear, equitable entrance and assignment criteria
- ✓ Guidelines supporting student diversity

Innovative Curriculum & Professional Development

- ✓ Theme is clearly defined and integrated into all subjects
- \checkmark All faculty receive training related to theme

Student Achievement and Support

- Student support for program success
- Opportunities to do and display theme-related work \checkmark

High-Quality Instructional Systems

Family & Community

- Transparent, publicly available purpose, guidelines

- ✓ Clear theme-based learning objectives, authentic tasks
- ✓ Leadership champions magnet theme and mission

Which MSA recommendations do Magnet Program Standards address?

- **#2** Clarify <u>purpose</u>, mission, and <u>goals</u> of magnet programs throughout the district
- **#5/#8** Create a process to review/eliminate undersubscribed programs; demonstrate progress (including 5 STAR magnets)
- **#6** Create a process for establishing new magnets or replicating magnets
- **#9** Evaluate programs within schools; consider shifting to whole school
- **#10** Submit plans for review and approval, publicly available
- **#19** Gap group achievement tracking by program
- **#26** Greater inclusion, access for ELL and ECE students

2001 Policy and Options/Magnets Exit Process for Students

How did the Committee conduct their review?

- Understanding the current policy and process
- **Review of student exit data**

Community conversation and survey



□ What: Allows magnet schools/programs to exit students to non-magnet schools.

Why: Low academic performance or persistent behavior violations.

When: End-of-year only; after interventions and supports exhausted by school; due process for students.

How many magnet students are impacted? Magnet Students Exited by Magnet enrollment = Schools = 400 (2%) 25,000

Non Magnet Students Magnet Students Exits

Non-magnet

enrollment = 75,000

What policy and process will help students be successful?

- Issue: Varying positions on exit policy within Committee and community-wide
- Consensus: Focus on student success, fairness, equity
- Approach: Present several options to community in a survey and during community conversation
 - Retain?
 - Eliminate?
 - Adjust to focus on academic OR behavior issues only?
 - Other approaches?

What policy and process will help students be successful? JCPS

Retain the current exit policy BUT... improve the process with significant changes.

3 Refocus the process emphasize student support, improvement, completion (e.g., 'continuation requirements')

Increase consistency school processes, documentation, data collection

Establish greater transparency clear responsibilities for schools, district, and families before a student can be removed

Seek feedback from families who leave magnets



□How to improve magnet admissions process? (MSA Rec 11)

□Should some programs move to whole school magnets? (MSA Rec 9)

Should some magnet programs be replicated? Should there be criteria for how, when, and where? (MSA Rec 7)

Magnet Steering Committee

Questions? Feedback?



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