



BURLINGTON SCHOOL DISTRICT

Building a Learning Community

Questions & Answers on the Magnet Schools

1) How do I apply to a magnet school if I have a child entering kindergarten?

- You need to complete an application form for the magnet schools along with a complete registration packet. You can pick these up at any elementary school or at Burlington School District Offices at 150 Colchester Ave. Also, both forms will be available on our website, www.bsdt.org.

2) How do I apply to a magnet school if I have an elementary student currently enrolled in a Burlington School?

- If you have an elementary student currently at Barnes or Wheeler, you do not need to apply.
- If you have an elementary student at Champlain, Smith, Edmunds or Flynn, you must complete a magnet application form and registration packet.

3) When do I apply to the magnet schools?

- Application for the magnet schools is from March 4th through March 13th. Decisions will be made the week of March 16th. Applications received after March 13th will be considered based upon space available.

4) If I am not interested in a magnet school, and I have an incoming kindergartener, when do I apply?

- Kindergarten registration is March 24th and 25th. You may register at any elementary school or the Burlington School District Offices at 150 Colchester Ave.

5) Is there special criteria for the magnet schools?

- Yes. The criteria for the magnet school includes: socio-economic balance (reflecting the diversity in our community), siblings, proximity, school and classroom capacity.

6) Will the criteria be weighted? What is the weighting?

- Yes. The weighting will be prioritized as follows:
 1. Socio-economic balance (reflecting the diversity in our community)
 2. Siblings at the magnet school
 3. Proximity to magnet schools
 4. School and classroom capacity.

JEANNÉ COLLINS ~ SUPERINTENDENT

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7) What is the decision time line and process?

- Students will be assigned to a magnet school or be placed on a waiting list. The week of March 23rd we will notify parents by mail whether they are assigned to the magnet schools. If your child is not assigned to a magnet school, you will be asked to choose from the other schools and will be offered the opportunity to be on a wait list for decisions in May.

8) What does socio-economic integration mean?

- This means that all schools reflect a similar balance of students, based on free or reduced school meal status, as in the district as a whole.

9) What is the timeline for socio-economic integration of the schools?

- We anticipate a six year time line.

10) How were teachers chosen to teach at the magnet schools?

- Teachers at both schools have participated in intensive professional development related to the magnet theme for their school. Following that Professional Development, teachers were given the option to stay and teach or to transfer to another school. Teachers who remain indicated their interest to stay because of their commitment to the magnet school.

11) Do students in the Barnes and Wheeler neighborhood have a neighborhood school?

- These two magnet schools are citywide schools. Therefore, students in the Old North End may choose from any school in the city, subject to capacity.

12) What if I don't get my application in on time?

- Applications received after March 13 will be considered as space is available.

13) Where can I get more information?

- You can get more information at www.bsdmagnet.com or at www.bsdivt.org.

14) Have another question?

- Let us know what it is so we can add it to the list. Send your question to mkalman@bsdivt.org.

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