Garland ISD Magnet Programs

2019-20

The Communications team was tasked with promoting Garland ISD’s extensive magnet program. With new magnet offerings, one of the first tasks was to redesign the program’s brochure. While the former three-color simple trifold provided vital information, we wanted to present details in fresh, organized fashion. The piece was transformed into a clean and colorful stair-step brochure, which helps families easily flip to the section of interest. A true Garland ISD product, all writing, design, photography and printing were completed in-house.

To help this brochure stand out from other collateral, it was smaller than normal printed communications, 5.5” x 8.5”, and used faux tabs to create a stair-step format. Garland ISD’s brand color of maroon was used along with other complimentary colors and circles to give it a fun feel. Not only was the client—GISD’s magnet program team—impressed with the final result, they ordered 2,500 to distribute at the #ChooseGarlandISD student recruiting event.

The brochure presents detailed information in a structured and eye-pleasing method. A testament the brochure did its job of promoting interest in magnets, a total of 3,249 families applied for spots in programs this year, a near 10% increase when compared to the 2,982 who applied last year.

With several magnet programs, Garland ISD allows families to customize education based on individual interests and learning styles. There’s something for everyone—from 3 years-old–12th grade.

Each program has unique criteria that students must meet in order to apply. Those already participating in a GISD magnet are eligible to remain in that program as long as they continue to meet the qualifications and expectations. If more students apply for a magnet than there are seats available, a lottery or ranking system will be used to fill all openings.
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1. What is a magnet?
Magnets are specialized programs available at select schools that require an application. Each magnet may have unique curriculum and criteria that students must meet in order to apply.

2. Why should my child enroll in a magnet?
Magnet programs allow families to customize education based on individual interests and learning styles.

3. How do I enroll my child in a magnet?
If you are new to Gisd, you must pre-enroll your student in order to have access to the magnet application in Skyward. If you are a current Gisd student, you will complete a magnet application in Skyward during the magnet application window. Choice of School is different than the magnet process. Choice of School is for students who do not want to apply for a magnet program or who do not get into a magnet program.

4. Will transportation be provided for my child?
Students may qualify for transportation based on their distance from the magnet campus. Check the Gisd website for additional transportation information.

5. How and when do I apply for a magnet program?
You will apply for a magnet program via the magnet application in Skyward during the magnet application window.

6. What if I don’t have a Skyward account?
Call your child’s school to set up a Skyward account.

7. What if I need help with the magnet application?
You can go to any of the magnet schools to get help with the application. The district will also host multiple help sessions. For times and dates, visit garlandisd.net.

8. How am I notified about my child’s acceptance into a magnet school?
Families will be notified about acceptance into a magnet school via Skyward.

9. What if my child isn’t accepted into a magnet?
Your child will attend a nonmagnet school that you have selected through the Choice of School process.

10. If my child is not accepted this year can we apply again next year?
Yes, you are able to apply each year.

11. What if there are more qualified applicants than there are spaces available in a magnet program?
For most magnets, all qualified applicants are placed in a lottery and offered spaces in the order they are chosen. Magnet placement and waitlist information is made available in Skyward. For Academy for Excellence magnets, applicants are ranked according to combined achievement and ability scores and offered seats in that order. Students are also placed on the waitlist in rank order.
**Academy for Excellence**  
*Hillside Academy for Excellence*  
*Kimberlin Academy for Excellence*  
*Walnut Glen Academy for Excellence*

- Advanced coursework in language arts, social studies, math and science
- Wide range of enrichment opportunities, including STEAM School activities and projects that give students hands-on discovery learning
- Full range of fine arts, including choir, orchestra and visual arts
- Combined achievement and ability score of 250 with no less than the 75th percentile in any area

**Classical Center**  
*Classical Center at Vial Elementary School*

- Curriculum enriched with writing/publishing opportunities
- Character education, leadership development and citizenship/patriotism activities
- Full range of fine arts, including choir, piano, visual arts and theater arts
- 50th percentile in reading and math on the achievement test

**Dual Language**  
*Classical Center at Vial Elementary School*

- Students learn to read, write, listen and speak in English and Spanish
- 50% of academic instruction provided in English and 50% in Spanish
- 50th percentile in reading and math on the achievement test
- Only students entering kindergarten and first grade or transferring from another dual language program may apply

**Math, Science & Technology (MST)**  
*Beaver Technology Center for Math & Science*  
*Watson Technology Center for Math & Science*

- Collaborative studies focusing on real-world problem-solving through project-based learning and STEAM School electives
- Classes utilize Apple Macbooks, iPads, Smart Boards and PC laptops
- Full range of fine arts, including music and visual arts
- 75th percentile in reading and math on the achievement test

**Montessori**  
*Herfurth Elementary School*  
*Luna Elementary School*

- Individualized, integrated instruction with multisensory materials rather than textbooks
- Students learn at their own pace through hands-on activities and interacting with students of different ages
- 50th percentile in reading and math on the achievement test, plus a required observation
- Tuition-based for 3 and 4-year-olds

**Academy for Excellence**  
*Austin Academy for Excellence*

- Advanced coursework in English, math, reading, social studies, and science
- Full range of fine arts, including band, choir, orchestra, piano, visual arts and theater arts
- Leadership and enrichment offerings, including Pentathlon, Mock Legislature and Campus Leadership Council
- Combined achievement and ability score of 250 with no less than 75th percentile in any area

**Classical Center**  
*Classical Center at Brandenburg Middle School*

- Curriculum enriched with writing/publishing opportunities, character education and leadership development
- Full range of fine arts, including band, choir, piano, visual arts and theater arts
- Dance, gymnastics and Latin offered
- 50th percentile in reading and math on the achievement test

**Global Business, Language & Leadership**  
*Sellers Middle School*

- Business elective class and language course options, including Mandarin Chinese
- Leadership development through community service activities
- Full range of fine arts, including band, choir, visual arts and theater arts
- 50th percentile in reading and math on the achievement test

**Math, Science & Technology (MST)**  
*Jackson Technology Center for Math & Science*

- Collaborative studies focusing on real-world problem-solving
- Classes utilize Apple Macbooks, iPads, Smart Boards and Chromebooks
- Full range of fine arts, including band, choir, visual arts and theater arts
- 75th percentile in reading and math on the achievement test
Academy of Visual and Performing Arts
Garland High School

• Advanced coursework for artistic students in theater, piano, orchestra, vocal music, film studies, visual arts and instrumental music
• Strong arts foundation developed in conjunction with students’ academic program
• Semi-professional and early collegiate education and experience in students’ chosen disciplines
• Audition or portfolio required

Accelerated Math & Science
North Garland High School

• Allows students to advance faster, taking more math and science courses throughout high school
• Additional testing determines students’ math and science track
• 80th percentile in reading and math on the achievement test
• Only students entering ninth and 10th grades may apply

Air Force Junior ROTC
Rowlett High School

• Leadership development program training students in aerospace science, communication and health/fitness
• Drill and marching team competitions, field trips, community parades and service events are part of the cadet experience
• Overall 3.0 grade-point average in eighth grade or high school years, plus required interview and essay
• Students entering ninth–12th grades may apply

College & Career/Classical
Lakeview Centennial High School

• Business & Marketing, Future Teacher Internship, Law & Criminal Justice, and Television Production & Broadcasting programs allow students to explore college and career interests
• Advanced piano, Latin, dance and gymnastics courses available
• 50th percentile in reading and math on the achievement test
• Only students entering ninth–11th grades may apply

Collegiate Academy
Lakeview Centennial High School

• Dual-credit courses allow students to graduate with a high school diploma and an Associate of Science degree from DCCCD
• 70th percentile in reading and math on the achievement test
• Students can also participate in College & Career/Classical magnet
• Only students entering ninth and 10th grades may apply

Collegiate Academy
Naaman Forest High School

• Dual-credit courses allow students to graduate with a high school diploma and an Associate of Arts or Associate of Science degree from DCCCD
• 50th percentile in reading and math on the achievement test
• Students can also participate in Global Business, Language and Leadership magnet
• Only students entering ninth grade may apply

Global Business, Language & Leadership
Naaman Forest High School

• Courses in business, marketing, finance, Mandarin Chinese and international studies prepare students to be globally competitive
• Opportunities to earn industry certifications, pursue College Board’s prestigious AP Capstone Diploma, and travel or study abroad
• Students network with industry professionals and learn outside the classroom through business etiquette events, internships and job shadowing
• 50th percentile in reading and math on the achievement test

International Baccalaureate (IB) World School
Garland High School

• Teaches proficiency in English, math, history, science, a second language and chosen electives while participating in an in-depth exploration of the study of human behavior and the process of educational inquiry
• Internationally based standards of achievement
• 85th percentile in reading or math on the achievement test
• Only students entering ninth–11th grades may apply

Math, Science & Technology (MST)
North Garland High School

• Interactive multimedia instruction that focuses on practical applications of math, science and technology
• Students select a concentration of study, including architecture, computer science, multimedia applications, telecommunications, medical studies, engineering, biomedical forensics and multimedia broadcast
• 75th percentile in reading and math on the achievement test
• Only students entering ninth and 10th grades may apply
What is ECHS?
Early College High Schools (ECHS) are innovative high schools that allow students who are not on the path to college an opportunity to earn a high school diploma and 60 college credit hours. Early College High Schools:

- Provide dual credit at no cost to students
- Offer rigorous instruction and accelerated courses
- Provide academic and social support services to help students succeed
- Increase college readiness
- Reduce barriers to college access

What is P-TECH?
Pathways in Technology Early College High School (P-TECH) is an open-enrollment program that provides students with work-based education. P-TECH programs:

- Provide students in grades nine–12 the opportunity to complete a course of study that combines high school and post-secondary classes
- Enable students to earn a high school diploma, associate degree and two-year post-secondary certificate or industry certification, as well as complete work-based training, within six years
- Allow students to gain work experience through an internship, apprenticeship or other job training program
- Partner with Texas Institutions of Higher Education (IHEs) and regional businesses and industries, giving students access to post-secondary education and workforce training opportunities

The Texas Education Agency will collaborate with the Texas Workforce Commission and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board to develop and implement a plan for the P-TECH program that addresses:

- Regional workforce needs
- Course credit transfer policies between IHEs
- Internships, apprenticeships and other work-based education programs for P-TECH students
Early College High School (ECHS)
Rowlett High School
South Garland High School
• Dual-credit courses allow students to earn up to 60 college credits in addition to a high school diploma
• Social/emotional support helps students as they earn an associate degree and/or certifications
• Students entering ninth grade may apply with no testing, grading or attendance requirements

Pathways in Technology Early College High School (P-TECH)
Garland High School
Lakeview Centennial High School
Naaman Forest High School
North Garland High School
Rowlett High School
Sachs High School
South Garland High School
• Industry partners provide students with technical and workplace skills
• Dual-credit courses allow students to earn up to 60 college credits in addition to a high school diploma
• Social/emotional support helps students as they earn an associate degree and/or certifications
• Students entering ninth grade may apply with no testing, grading or attendance requirements
Scan the QR code for more information, or visit garlandisd.net/magnets.
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