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Winter 2011

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Magnet Schools offer Open Houses and School Tours

Families interested in exploring their Wake County Magnet School options are encouraged to contact the magnet schools directly for a tour schedule. In the meantime, magnet elementary schools are offering open houses on Wednesday, February 9th at 10:00 am and again at 12:30 pm. Magnet middle schools are offering open houses on Thursday, February 10th at 9:00 am and again at 12:00 pm.

Enjoy the opportunity to visit magnet schools and to explore your magnet program options before the application period ends.

To determine which k-12 magnet schools serve your residential area, visit the following URL and type in your street address:

<http://www.gis2.wcpss.net/cgi-bin/prod/mainscript/MainScript.pl>

What is the process for applying to a Magnet Program?

Magnet applications will be available online at www.wcpss.net beginning February 21, 2011. The application period ends March 7, 2011. Magnet applications will only be available online during the acceptance period. Priority for selection is not linked to time/date of application. All magnet applicants will be notified around March 22, 2011. An applicant may apply to 3 magnet programs and an alternate calendar.

The Magnet Resource Center is open Monday – Thursday 8:00 am – 4:00 pm and staff are available to assist you in filling out the magnet application online. Please call 501-7900 to speak to a magnet staff representative.

There are no tests or performance requirements to apply to a magnet program; however, students interested in the AG Basics program at the middle school level must be AG identified by WCPSS prior to submitting an application.

Rising kindergartners and students currently not enrolled in WCPSS must register first at their base school prior to submitting a magnet application online. For information about registering your child in WCPSS, visit the following URL: <http://www.wcpss.net/newcomer/getting-started/registration/>

News from Leadership & Technology Magnet Pathway

Southeast Raleigh Magnet High School (SRMHS) Center for Leadership & Technology will host an open house on Thursday, February 10th at 6:30 pm. Explore the exciting components of the Leadership and Technology magnet program, interact with SRMHS students, and talk to staff about their dedication to teaching and providing SRMHS students with 21st century skills and experiences. For more information about the SRMHS magnet program, visit <http://www.srhs.net/>.

Centennial Campus University Connections & Leadership Magnet Middle School partners with pathway magnet school, Brentwood Magnet Elementary School of Engineering. Members of Centennial Campus Helping Hands club read to students at Brentwood Magnet Elementary School of Engineering, as part of Read Across America.



Congratulations Centennial Campus University Connections & Leadership Magnet Middle School Service Learning Club members Nilsa Becerril, Julissa Oliveros, Gabriella Nie, Cris Robles, Willa Jaber and Dimitri Malheiros for their entry in the North Carolina Society of Hispanic Professionals (NCSHP), "Stay in School" video contest. Centennial won FIRST place out of 29 entries. Service Learning Club members will have an opportunity to appear on TV Station Univision 40 and learn technical aspects related to video and PSA production.

Brentwood Magnet Elementary School of Engineering will celebrate *National Engineering Week* Feb 21 - 25. Staff and students will be engaged in grade level engineering challenges and local engineers will visit the campus. Come see Brentwood students doing engineering challenges on Feb 25 from 11:30 - 2:45.

News from the Gifted & Talented Magnet Pathway

One varsity and three junior varsity Science Olympiad teams from Enloe Gifted & Talented/ IB Magnet HS, competed in the Raleigh Regional Science Olympiad. The varsity team finished second behind the North Carolina School of Science and Math. The Enloe JV1 team finished first overall, and Enloe JV3 team finished second in the JV division. The Varsity team will compete in the State Competition in April and possibly the Nationals in May! On January 29th, the Enloe GT/IB Magnet HS Varsity Science Bowl team, placed 2nd place in the State Science Bowl Competition. The JV team earned 5th place.

Members of the Enloe GT/ IB Magnet High School dance department will perform with Even Exchange Dance Theater on Saturday, March 5th at 8:00 and Sunday, March 6th at 2:00 at The Murphy School Theatre. The first half of the concert is inspired by the work of Piedmont Laureate, Zelda Lockhart and the second half includes several pieces based on NC Poet Laureate, Cathy Smith Bowers. Both Ms. Bowers and Ms. Lockhart will participate in this concert.

WCPSS Gifted & Talented magnet middle school students earned some of the top honors in the [North Carolina Regional Future City Competition](#). *Future City* is an engineering competition that challenges over 33,000 students in sixth, seventh and eighth grades from more than 1,100 schools in 39 regions nationwide to consider how to revitalize America's cities. Students design future cities with simulation software, build scale models, write essays and give oral reports on their city's design. The Ligon GT Magnet Middle School team earned second place in the competition. The Martin GT Magnet Middle School team earned third place and will display its award winning model at the school's open house on Feb. 10. WCPSS magnet school teams earned honors in several categories including: Best Incorporation of Cultural, Arts, and Historic Resources - Ligon Magnet Middle School; Best Incorporation of Healthcare Product - East Millbrook Magnet School; Best Use of Energy - Martin Magnet Middle School.

Zebulon Gifted & Talented Magnet Middle School students Emily Askew and Kate-Lynn Hamilton were the Gold Key winners in the Regional Scholastic Art & Writing Awards. Zebulon students, Monica Castro and Natalia Blount were the Silver Key winners in the competition. Congratulations!

News from the International Magnet Pathway

Thinking Green at Douglas Creative Arts and Science Magnet Elementary School
Did you know the US generates more than 34 million tons of food waste each year (<http://www.epa.gov/osw/conservation/materials/organics/food/fd-basic.htm>)? Douglas Creative Arts and Science Magnet Elementary School is doing their part to minimize food scraps, thanks to a new compost bin built by select fifth-graders, Douglas dads, and under the direction of Science Specialist, Mrs. Gurkin. The project is part of the students' portfolio for the grant, *Disney's Planet Challenge*. The students also organized a school-wide composting effort. Each day after lunch, the entire student body sorts their food scraps, and the scraps are deposited in the compost bin. The humus created by the compost bin will be used to fertilize the Douglas Community Garden. Thanks, fifth-graders and Mrs. Gurkin for your efforts in "going green!"

Wendell Creative Arts & Science Magnet Elementary had several students who voluntarily entered the annual writing competition sponsored by the Raleigh-Wake Council of the North Carolina Reading Association. The theme for this year's Young Authors contest was "That's a Fact." Students created original nonfiction pieces in accordance with the competition guidelines. Wendell Creative Arts and Science Magnet is proud to announce that Keona Edwards, 2nd grade; Jennifer Shirley, 5th grade; and Hannah Finch, 5th grade won at the Raleigh-Wake Council judging. Two of these students, Keona Edwards and Hannah Finch, went on to win at the state level. These state winners both wrote about a global awareness theme – what they learned from their experiences traveling in other parts of the world. Winners at both local and state levels will be published in books to be awarded to students at respective celebrations, and state winners will receive a medal from the North Carolina Reading Association. Wendell Creative Arts and Science Magnet is proud of every aspiring young author who entered the competition and encourages all students to WRITE!

