

Description of Handouts for 1/24/12 Work Session

Number of Magnet Applicants Selected by School, 2012-13

This report shows the number of students selected for magnet school seats for 2012-13. It includes all students who were given a seat based on first, second, third, fourth, and/or fifth choice. It does NOT include students who were pre-assigned to magnet schools for 2012-13.

Number of Students Seated by Pre-Assigned School, 2012-13 Magnet Application Round

This report shows the number of students selected for magnet school seats for 2012-13 based on the schools to which they were pre-assigned for 2012-13. It includes all students who were given a seat based on first, second, third, fourth, and/or fifth choice. It does NOT include students who were pre-assigned to magnet schools for 2012-13.

Magnet Application History

This report shows the number of students selected for magnet school seats as well as the number of applications denied over time. "Accepted" students includes all students who were given a seat based on first, second, third, fourth, and/or fifth choice. "Denied" students is the number of students applying to each school who were not seated in any magnet school. For the 2012-13 school year, it also includes information on magnet students who were pre-assigned to magnet schools based on the new assignment plan.

Overview:

Demand for magnet seats in WCPSS remains strong as we received over 4200 total magnet applications. There were more than twice as many magnet applications as there were magnet seats and there are currently 2671 students on a waitlist at all but four magnet schools. As compared to last year, the overall number of magnet applications was lower. Factors that contributed to the lower number of magnet applications include:

- In past years many families chose magnets for stability purposes. According to the 2011 Magnet Application Survey data, 85% of families identified *school assignment stability* as somewhat or very important in the decision to apply for a magnet program.
- Many families that would have had to apply for magnets in the past were pre-assigned to a magnet school. Over 1800 magnet students were pre-assigned to a magnet school at 6th and 9th grades.
- In the new plan, many students have access to magnet schools as a proximity choice. A larger number of students that used to see the school as a magnet choice now see the school as a proximity choice, thereby reducing the need for many families to apply for a magnet school.
- The number of available magnet seats was posted for parents to view prior to applying. This is the first time parents have had an indication of the number of seats available at the magnet schools.
- It is the first year of a new plan. Many families take the "wait and see" approach as they seek to learn the specific details of how a new plan operates.
- Families have more choices closer to home in the new plan.

Proximity Round Update as of January 24, 2012 9:00 A.M.

10125: Total students with at least one choice

4832: Total Kindergarten students with at least one choice