Wake County Public School System

International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme

Admissions Policy

All Wake County Public Schools are open to students who reside within Wake County. Students may enroll, apply or request a transfer into our schools throughout the school year. Nearly all of our magnet schools (elementary, middle and high school) have a base attendance area. The only exceptions are the early colleges and application schools of which there are a total of seven: two which serve grades 6-12 and five that serve students in grades 9-12.

Additionally, within the Wake County Public School System (WCPSS), there are a total of forty-nine magnet schools. Each magnet school has an assigned draw area in addition to the base attendance area. The draw area provides schools with an additional population area from which to recruit students to the school. WCPSS Magnet schools offer a variety of magnet themes, one being the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme.

Every magnet theme is available to every student (age appropriate) within our school district. However, because of the size of the district and the number of schools that host the same program, families select the program of interest based on their address rather than a specific school.

Currently, WCPSS offers the IB PYP at four elementary schools (Farmington Woods Magnet Elementary, Fox Road Magnet Elementary, Joyner Magnet Elementary and Smith Magnet Elementary). When families apply to a PYP, they can choose from two of the four aforementioned elementary schools, based on their address. This means they may apply for the IB PYP school that is available for their address and Joyner Magnet Elementary. Joyner which is open to the entire district since they offer a dual magnet theme, IB PYP and the Center for Spanish Languages.

The purpose of the magnet schools program is to:

* reduce high concentrations of poverty in schools;
* promote diverse school populations;
* maximize use of school facilities; and
* provide innovative educational opportunities.

To that end, we consider two key factors in considering magnet applications:

* Socioeconomic status of the area where the applying student resides
* Projected overall socioeconomic status of school to which that student is assigned next year

WCPSS students applying for the Magnet program are assigned a random number through a computer-generated algorithm. Priority points are then added to this random number to create an applied random number. For students who meet the same selection priority, the random number becomes the tie breaker.

For additional information regarding WCPSS priorities, please visit <https://www.wcpss.net/Page/33792>.