



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Date: January 16, 2025

Contact Person: Margaret Feldman

Contact Information: Principal, Dillard Drive Magnet Middle School [mfeldman@wcpss.net](mailto:mfeldman@wcpss.net)

## **Dillard Drive Center for Global Studies and Spanish Immersion Magnet Middle School Named National Merit School of Excellence by Magnet Schools of America**

**January 16, 2025**

**Dillard Drive Magnet Middle School Center for Global Studies and Spanish Immersion** has been named a National Merit School of Excellence by Magnet Schools of America, the national association for magnet and theme-based schools.

***Dillard Drive Magnet Middle School students make global connections, learn about world cultures, study world languages, and become productive global citizens. Learning is centered around global content integration through the four domains of global competency: investigate the world, recognize perspectives, communicate ideas, and take action. Using these four domains allows students to explore the interconnections of global issues to the state's standard course of study. DDMMS's daily world language program engages students in an exploratory program about French and Spanish cultures, a French or Spanish language program where they can earn up to two high school credits, and for DDMMS's native Spanish speakers, a heritage program. In 2027, DDMMS will welcome a cohort of Spanish Dual Language Immersion students from pathway elementary schools.***

### Presentation of Excellence Award:

**Margaret Feldman, Principal of DDMMS** will be recognized and receive a National Merit School of Excellence Award on behalf of the school during an awards ceremony held at Magnet Schools of America's National Conference April 7-10, 2025, in Nashville.

Merit School of Excellence Awards are only given to a select group of magnet schools. Schools of Excellence are eligible to receive monetary awards and are eligible to be named the nation's top Elementary, Secondary, or New & Emerging Magnet School. One of the Schools of

Excellence will also be selected to win \$5,000 and the Dr. Ronald P. Simpson Distinguished Merit Award, which is considered the most prestigious magnet school award in the nation.

To receive a national merit award, members of Magnet Schools of America must submit a detailed application that is scored by a panel of educators. These schools are judged and scored on their demonstrated ability to raise student academic achievement, promote racial and socioeconomic diversity, provide integrated curricula and instruction, and create strong family and community partnerships that enhance the school's magnet theme.

To learn more about the national merit awards program, please visit [www.magnet.edu](http://www.magnet.edu).

**#MeritSchoolofExcellence, #MagnetSchoolofMerit, #SchoolsStudentsWant, and #SchoolsStudentsNeed**