Takoma Park and Eastern Middle School Magnets

SELECTION COMMITTEE 2018

Goal of Choice

To effectively and efficiently meet the instructional needs of all highly able learners by identifying a myriad of ways to ensure that they are receiving instruction to meet their needs.

Purpose of Program

Although many students would benefit from a selective magnet program experience, the intent of the program is to serve students who lack an academic cohort in their home school.

Humanities & Communication Magnet Program at Eastern Middle School

The Humanities and Communication magnet program provides a rigorous and challenging interdisciplinary program with an emphasis on the study of human interaction and experience over time, which includes many elements of understanding world cultures including literature, language, and the arts as human expression. Students selected for the program have a high interest and involvement in reading, writing, speaking, listening, and viewing literature from around the world.

Math, Science, & Computer Science Magnet Program at Takoma Park Middle School

The math, science, and computer science magnet program is designed for creative students who want to be challenged academically and who are ready to be actively involved in their own learning with a group of their intellectual peers. Students selected for the program have high interest and involvement in math, science, and computers.

Ground Rules

- Respect the experiences, expertise and perspective that each member of the committee brings to the table.

- Respect other's opinions, even when they differ.

- Each committee member has the right to be heard.

- The group will arrive at the recommendations after everyone has been heard.

- The group agrees that it is okay to disagree.

- When there is disagreement, each committee member has the right to express his/her thoughts openly without judgment.

- Sometimes we will not reach consensus.

- Side bars will be limited to Round 2 paired discussions only.

- The group's decisions will focus on the best interests of the child.

Factors for Consideration

- The process for selection is race-neutral, name and school blind. Profiles will denote gender.

- Committees will see if a student receives services in:
  - Special Education
  - Section 504 Plan
  - ESOL
  - FARMS

The committee is charged with ensuring that "otherwise qualified" students are not discriminated against on the basis of disability.

Review Process

Process Step	Action	Decision
Round 1 A: Individual Review	Review academic performance and student voice	Limited Substantial Definitive
Round 1B: Individual Review	Review CogAT score and reevaluate rating	Limited Substantial Definitive Exceptional
Round 2: Paired Review	Compare, discuss, and determine if you can come to consensus	
Round 3: Group Review for Consensus	Only if needed	
Round 4: Program Recommendation Decision	Led by OSA	Recommended Wait Pool Not Recommended

Academic Performance

- Report Card Grades
- Instructional Reading Level
  - *How are they performing in relation to the grade level target for the marking period?*
- Enrichment/Acceleration
  - *Is the student receiving enrichment/acceleration?*
  - *Was the opportunity provided for the student to access math enrichment or accelerated programming*

Weighing Conflicting Data

The review is a holistic review of the needs of the student.
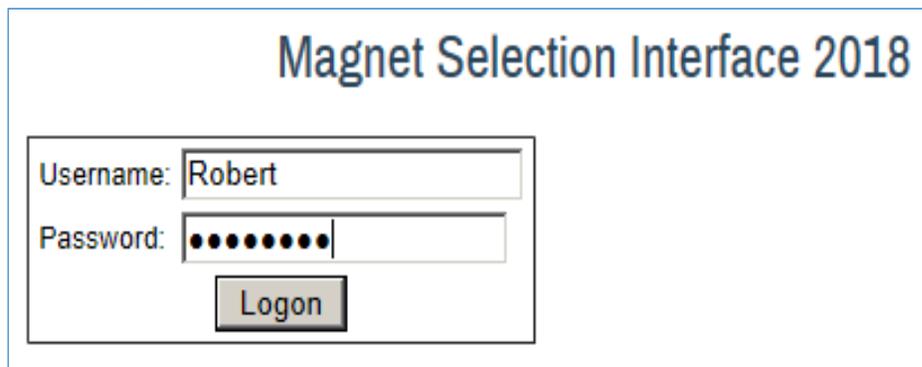
Multiple criteria is used to select a student.
- Don't allow a single data point prevent you from recommending a student.

Sometimes there is conflicting data.
- High reading level/lower grades
- Lower scores/strong grades
- Spikey profiles
- Performance over time

Selection Interface Tool

Enter in your Username and Password:

Username and password may be your first name as your user name and your last name followed by 123 as your password.