

MAGNETIZE your  
**POTENTIAL**



**magnet**  
SCHOOLS & PROGRAMS

**2024-2025**



Orange County  
Public Schools

*A Message from the*

# **SUPERINTENDENT!**



Dear Parents:

Choosing a school for your child can be among the most momentous decisions a parent makes. In Orange County Public Schools, our vision is to ensure every student has a promising and successful future. To help make that happen, we offer a wide range of excellent academic choices that match your child's interests, talents and career goals.

Our 41 magnet programs located all around the county provide enriching, diverse pathways at the elementary, middle and high school levels. Does your student want to take a deep dive into a second language? Or would they prefer to be immersed in the visual and performing arts? Is law, finance, or the health professions their passion? Are you looking to expose your child to a rigorous curriculum like Cambridge or International Baccalaureate? Start your search here.

OCPS magnet programs have been repeatedly recognized for excellence. During the 2022-23 school year, Magnet Schools of America honored 11 OCPS magnet programs with prestigious Merit Awards for demonstrating a commitment to high academic standards; curriculum innovation; diversity efforts; specialized teaching faculty; and parent and community involvement.

Rest assured that magnet students study all required subjects aligned with state standards as they also stretch their learning in new ways. We are proud to offer OCPS students such a diverse palette of award-winning programs.

Thank you for trusting your children to Orange County Public Schools.

In your service,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Maria F. Vazquez".

Maria F. Vazquez, Ed.D.  
Superintendent  
Orange County Public Schools

# QUESTIONS and ANSWERS

## **How do parents or guardians apply?**

Submit an electronic application at [www.schoolchoice.ocps.net](http://www.schoolchoice.ocps.net) between November 1, 2023, and February 15, 2024, or the closest business day after these dates if the date falls on a weekend or school holiday.

## **How many magnets can I choose in my application?**

Only one application may be submitted per student. You may choose one, two, or three magnet choices. Be sure to select your choices in the order of your preference. If you are only interested in one magnet, only apply for that one magnet.

## **What happens if I am offered a seat and it is not my first choice?**

Be sure to select your choices in the order of preference. If you are offered a seat from the lottery, this seat offer will be the only seat offer you will receive. You may apply again once the summer waitlist application is available in May.

## **How are students assigned to magnet programs?**

All eligible applicants who meet the application deadline of February 15, 2024, will be considered for available seats. If there are more eligible applicants requesting admission to a specific magnet program than the number of seats available, a computer-generated lottery will be utilized. For high school students, if there are more eligible applicants than there are seats available, sixty percent of the available seats will be computer-assigned using a grade-point-average (GPA) academic ranking system. Forty percent of the available seats will be assigned by a random lottery process.

## **How does my student qualify for sibling preference?**

Only elementary school students who apply for an elementary magnet are eligible for sibling preference. The older sibling must be returning to the magnet in the coming school year. The younger sibling must meet any qualifying program criteria. Please visit our website at [www.schoolchoice.ocps.net](http://www.schoolchoice.ocps.net) for more information.

## **How will I be notified if my student is selected?**

Parents and guardians will be notified of the student's status via email. Parents and guardians must provide an email address in the electronic application.

## **What if my student is not selected in the lottery?**

Eligible students not selected in the lottery will be randomly assigned a number on a waitlist for their first choice program. Using the parent email provided in the application and the program's waitlist, parents will be notified of any openings as they become available.

## **If the Feb. 15, 2024, application deadline is missed, may the parent or guardian still apply?**

In May, the summer waitlist application period will open at [www.schoolchoice.ocps.net](http://www.schoolchoice.ocps.net). Summer waitlist applications will be placed at the bottom of any existing waitlist resulting from the lottery.

## **Do you have additional questions or need assistance with the application?**

Email the School Choice Magnet Team at [magnetoffice@ocps.net](mailto:magnetoffice@ocps.net) or phone 407-317-3484.





# ELEMENTARY SCHOOL MAGNETS

(Grades K–5)



Information on Elementary  
Tour Dates is available at:  
[www.schoolchoice.ocps.net](http://www.schoolchoice.ocps.net)

## Advanced Curriculum Academy

### • Hungerford

Providing opportunities for students to incorporate local and global issues through hands-on experiments and activities focused on real-world challenges and solutions, this program prepares students to engage actively in learning. The combined student service opportunities, academic rigor and STEM-centered activities, all cultivate and develop students for higher education and 21st Century careers.

## Aviation and Aerospace

### • Sally Ride

Focused on science with connections to the worlds of aviation and aerospace, this enhanced curriculum creates a science-based, hands-on learning environment. A dedicated science learning lab along with classroom science labs provide opportunities for exploration into scientific concepts and processes as students explore their world and beyond.

## Foreign Language Academy

### • Hillcrest

By coupling a rigorous academic program with a relevant foreign language curriculum, this magnet school offers Spanish or French as a second language and provides students with unique, theme-based educational experiences in a challenging environment. Students engage in multicultural activities, gaining greater flexibility in language acquisition and sensitivity to world cultures.

## Orlando Gifted Academy

This district-wide zoneless magnet school provides opportunities for identified gifted students, entering 2nd through 8th grades next school year. Students will explore a challenging, project-based, and extended curriculum. The school will promote student academic growth and provide access to a full-time gifted educational opportunity.

## STEAM Career Academy

### • Bay Meadows

Using career theme-based resources, this program focuses on student-generated, project-based learning. By creating and developing engaging, hands-on experiences through real-world projects and activities, the program will highlight different careers in the STEAM fields based on the area of study for each grade level while increasing problem solving, critical thinking, and collaboration.

## STEM Magnet

### • Orange Center

Hands-on experiments and activities provide a strong foundation for students who are interested in enhancing their knowledge and skills in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math. Focusing on real-world applications and creating a lab-based environment, critical thinking skills are cultivated, preparing students for higher education. This program prepares students to be competitive in a global society.

## Two-Way Dual Language

### • Hunter's Creek, Tildenville, and Union Park

These programs are designed to develop oral fluency and literacy in both English and Spanish with the goal of achieving academic excellence and bilingual proficiency in both languages. English and Spanish are used to teach students not only a second language but how to be biliterate and bicultural citizens of the world.

## Visual and Performing Arts

### • Maxey

Focusing on experiences in the arts across all content areas, this program enhances students' educational experiences while promoting the arts and arts integration. Students have opportunities to refine their skills, techniques, and processes in music, to incorporate two and three-dimensional concepts and ideas through the visual arts, and to acquire general knowledge of the elements, principles, and concepts surrounding dance education.



# MIDDLE SCHOOL MAGNETS

## (Grades 6–8)

### **Academy of Arts**

#### • Howard

Grounded in a belief that the fine arts are a universal language, students develop a creative understanding of the visual and performing arts. A rigorous, arts-integrated curriculum with a range of fine and performing arts electives help students make authentic connections between the standards of both the arts and the core academic curriculum.

### **Arbor Ridge 6-8 Option**

#### • Arbor Ridge

Challenging students to reach their intellectual and behavioral potentials in a nurturing learning environment, this program allows students to gain academic success in a smaller learning environment. Emphasis is on self-organization, responsibility, leadership, and academic growth. The program focuses on preparing students to live as productive and successful citizens.

### **Cambridge Middle School Academy**

#### • Liberty

Developing an informed curiosity and a lasting passion for learning, the Cambridge curriculum prepares students for life. This program provides an opportunity for students to explore rigorous high school level coursework, requiring knowledge, understanding, application, and skills developed through research projects, investigation, and written response, as well as practical oral labs relying on student-supported perspectives. Cambridge middle school students who have completed the program have preference to open seats in the Colonial High School Cambridge magnet program.

### **Center for the Advancement of Science and Engineering**

#### • Lockhart

Delivering a rigorous, integrated curriculum that focuses on science, engineering, and math, students participate in inquiry-based thinking and project-based learning. Computer science, environmental solutions, aerospace, medical technologies, and architecture are among the many educational opportunities where students can earn high school course credit and industry certifications while learning career readiness skills in drafting, electronics, and project management.

### **Middle Years International Baccalaureate**

#### • Roberto Clemente

Empowering students to question ideas of global significance, this program is designed to help students develop the knowledge and understanding necessary to participate actively and responsibly in a changing world. The Middle Years Programme encourages students to embrace and understand the connections between traditional subjects and the real world while becoming critical and reflective thinkers.

### **Two-Way Dual Language**

#### • Hunter's Creek

This program is designed to develop oral fluency and literacy in both English and Spanish with the goal of achieving academic excellence and bilingual proficiency in both languages. English and Spanish are used to teach students not only a second language but how to be biliterate and bicultural citizens of the world. Spanish is integrated into a content area class in order to ensure students reach a high level of proficiency in the target language.

### **World Language Academy**

#### • Lakeview

Providing an instructional model for English-speaking students to learn a second language and become biliterate, students are immersed into Spanish or French. Additionally, Spanish-speaking students can hone their language skills. This program enables students to acquire another language and become proficient in reading and writing skills, while cultivating an understanding and appreciation of different cultures. Two-way dual language is also offered with a limited number of seats available.

Information on Middle School  
Open House Dates is available at:  
[www.schoolchoice.ocps.net](http://www.schoolchoice.ocps.net)



# HIGH SCHOOL MAGNETS

## (Grades 9–12)

### **3DE by Junior Achievement**

#### • Oak Ridge

3DE delivers rigorous interdisciplinary courses through authentic business experiences to accelerate students' knowledge as well as build the skills, perspectives and portfolio to differentiate themselves in the highly competitive post-secondary and career environments. The fully immersive experience provides deep exposure to a variety of companies and industries through Case Challenges in addition to interaction with career professionals through classroom advisors, coaches, and career exposure.

### **Academy of Culinary Arts**

#### • Wekiva

This magnet provides a unique opportunity for students to work in a real-world culinary educational setting where students master industry skills alongside opportunities to learn STEM components of food preparation, operation of commercial equipment and supplies, as well as interpersonal skills for career success. Instilling high academic achievement, the Academy of Culinary Arts creates vast opportunities from catering to leadership while preparing students for specific roles from restaurant manager to sous chef to charcuterie chef to baker.

### **Advanced Engineering Applications**

#### • Apopka

This program is an introduction and thorough exploration of the broad spectrum of traditional engineering fields as well as the emerging disciplines in the physical, social, and biological sciences. Strongly grounded in mathematics and the physical sciences, leading students to earn industry certifications and college credit for AP studies, this program provides students an opportunity to explore the many aspects of engineering.

### **Agriscience Academy**

#### • Wekiva

With an emphasis on aquaponics, biotechnology, animal science, agribusiness, and horticulture, the curriculum focuses on two pathways: (1) plant life and biotechnology with the opportunity for dual enrollment and (2) animal husbandry with the incorporation of technology leading to a career in animal care or veterinary science. Industry certifications are available.

### **Aviation and Aerospace Engineering**

#### • Oak Ridge

Using skills learned on high-end, military-grade simulators in a customized, professional classroom environment and coupled with relevant career-related electives and enrichment activities, students experience, first-hand, the fields of aviation and aerospace engineering. Integrated learning, honors and Advanced Placement coursework, as well as field trips, site visits, apprenticeships, and internships provide the foundation for college and career success.

### **Cambridge Program**

#### • Colonial

Developed by the University of Cambridge, this curriculum is not centered on a single text; instead, it is designed for students to explore and to learn through multiple sources and hands-on experiences such as labs, inquiry, and research. The Cambridge Program helps students develop an active curiosity and a lasting passion for learning.

### **Center for Future Educators**

#### • Edgewater

Offering students an opportunity to explore career paths within the field of education, this program exposes students to a variety of teaching and learning experiences in different classroom environments. Students participate in real-world internships in OCPS schools. Partnering with Valencia College and UCF, students prepare for their post-secondary education and professions.

### **Center for International Studies**

#### • Dr. Phillips

With a strong Advanced Placement curriculum, this program utilizes a cross-cultural, international focus with an emphasis on major concepts and issues in international affairs, politics, history, world religions, and humanities. Students become proficient in a foreign language with the opportunity to develop skills in a second foreign language.

### **Criminal Justice, Law and Finance**

#### • Boone

Students select one of three distinct career paths and are given exposure to real-world applications in the fields of criminal justice, law, and finance with teachers who have career-related experiences. Hands-on opportunities to run a credit union branch, conduct crime scene investigations, and compete in mock trials create a rich learning environment.

### **Digital Media and Gaming**

#### • Oak Ridge

Offering a unique approach to programming and utilizing gaming, simulation, robotics, and web design as a final product, students become well-versed in multimedia skills that translate into short films and digital presentations. This program is designed to develop advanced skills in the areas of gaming and simulation coding, website design, digital multimedia production, innovative technology solutions, and digital art.

### **Engineering, Science and Technology**

#### • Edgewater

Students work in teams on the EST STEAM project, which simulates the research, development, and marketing aspects of modern engineering and technology. Technology majors delve into the world of 3D animation, graphic design, or gaming and simulation programming. Students participate in internships, workshops, and industry forums. College credit and industry certifications are available.



## Entertainment Production and Management Academy

### • Evans

Developing proficiency in the back-of-house areas of theatre production, this program focuses on the technical, organizational, and managerial knowledge and skills necessary to bring arts, media, and entertainment to the public. Students will learn all facets of the entertainment industry, building skills in the preparation and performance of theatrical and entertainment events. A partnership with Valencia College provides the opportunity for students to take college credit courses and earn potential early admission.

## First Responders Academy

### • East River

Providing a sound foundation to careers in first responder fields, students will focus on either Criminal Justice (Law Enforcement) or Fire Science Technology (Firefighter). Students will utilize first responder skills with school events and athletic events. Simulations such as crime-scene investigations, mock crash scene investigations, conducting traffic searches, practicing proper gear and tool usage as well as physical fitness training will be central to this program. Industry certifications and possible college credit from Valencia College are available.

## Hospitality Management

### • Oak Ridge

Career-focused curriculum and collaborated projects help students to gain critical career knowledge through a

series of work-based learning experiences both inside and outside the classroom. These activities include: job shadowing, interviews, resume writing workshops, and field trips, all culminating in an internship. Industry partners provide career-specific mentoring.

## International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme

### • Cypress Creek, Evans, Jones, and University

In this internationally recognized rigorous liberal arts course of study, students can increase their understanding of language and culture and become more globally engaged. This magnet program offers an extensive study in English language arts, history, liberal arts, mathematics, science, and foreign language while stressing the development of communication and analytical skills.

## Medical

### • Jones

This program provides students with a college-prep curriculum, hands-on laboratory experiences, and participation in off-campus learning environments. The coursework provides students with the most up-to-date curriculum and strategic methods used in medical professions nationwide. After successful completion of the Medical Magnet curriculum, students will be eligible to sit for industry certification exams. A partnership with Valencia College provides the opportunity for students to take college credit courses and earn potential early admission.

## Medical Careers

### • Apopka

Combining intensive study with real-world applications of medical procedures, this program prepares motivated students for a future in the dramatically expanding fields of medicine and healthcare. Students may spend an entire semester participating in career shadowing and clinical experiences in all healthcare fields, including dentistry, radiology, physical therapy, pharmacology, nursing, cardiology, and pediatrics. College credit is available.

## NAF Information Technology

### • Colonial

Designed for the study, development, implementation, support, and management of computer-based information systems, students can select IT Support or IT Communications as specialty areas and may be eligible for internships after their junior year. Through industry certifications, students will gain the personal, analytical, technical, and communication skills needed to compete in our technological multimedia society.

## Performing Fine Arts

### • University

This program cultivates students' artistic, academic, and personal development through a rigorous, performance-based curriculum in instrumental, dance, vocal, and theatrical arts. Holding students to high, academic and artistic standards while fostering an atmosphere of mutual respect, collaboration, support, and acceptance, this performing arts program encourages individual creative pursuits as well as collaboration for the good of the ensemble. Auditions are required.

## Veterinary Animal Science and Services

### • Colonial

With a focus on broad transferable skills and key elements of the animal-science industry, this program prepares students for employment or advanced training in veterinary, animal sciences, and services. Students work with large and small animals, including reptiles, canines, felines, horses, and cattle as well as marine animals. Industry certifications are available.

## Visual and Performing Arts

### • Dr. Phillips

This program prepares students for a creative and academic future with a strong emphasis on college preparation. Monthly performance opportunities throughout the community are offered in dance, music, television, theatre, and visual arts. Artists-in-Residence, who are regionally and nationally known, often volunteer to mentor and perform directly with students. Auditions are required.

Information on High School  
Open House Dates is available at:  
[www.schoolchoice.ocps.net](http://www.schoolchoice.ocps.net)



[www.schoolchoice.ocps.net](http://www.schoolchoice.ocps.net) • [magnetoffice@ocps.net](mailto:magnetoffice@ocps.net) • 407.317.3484

## SCHOOL BOARD

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District 4

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District 3

**Melissa Byrd**  
District 7

**Maria F. Vazquez, Ed.D.**  
Superintendent



# DISCOVER YOUR SUPERPOWER!

### OCPS EEO Non-Discrimination Statement

The School Board of Orange County, Florida, does not discriminate in admission or access to, or treatment or employment in its programs and activities, on the basis of race, color, religion, age, sex, national origin, marital status, disability, genetic information, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or any other reason prohibited by law. The School Board also provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. This holds true for all students who are interested in participating in educational programs and/or extracurricular school activities.

The following persons have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies, reports of alleged violations, concerns about compliance, and/or the grievance procedure(s), etc.

### Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Officer & Title IX:

**Keshara Cowans**  
Staff Attorney III  
Office of Legal Services  
(407) 317-3411

### ADACoordinator

**Jay Cardinali**  
ADA Compliance Officer  
Office of Legal Services  
(407) 250-6248

### Section 504:

**Tajuana Lee-Wenze**  
Senior Director  
ESE Procedures/Compliance  
(407) 317-3279