

November 21, 2023

SLCSD Community,

The Magnet Gifted & Talented program (previously Magnet Extended Learning Program) is a long-standing program that provides more rigorous experiences to SLCSD's exceptionally talented students.

Part of any robust program are regular reviews of impact, student outcomes, and overall evaluation. The ELP Department reviewed the data and academic impact of a kindergarten entry point to the Magnet G/T program. The focus of the review and evaluation was to determine if starting the program in kindergarten had significant impacts on both short- and long-term outcomes for the students in the program. Overall, the evaluation determined that there are no differences between the outcomes of students who join Magnet G/T in kindergarten and those who join in 1st grade.

A first-grade entry point to Magnet G/T will give all our high ability students the benefit of a strong foundation in social emotional learning and allow your student to have the best opportunity to adjust to a gifted classroom. It will also provide a more accurate profile of student strengths through the growth students have during their time in a kindergarten classroom.

As a result of this program evaluation of Magnet G/T kindergarten, we are no longer continuing with our Magnet G/T kindergarten classrooms. The Magnet G/T program will start in 1st grade. SLCSD will not assess Pre-K students for Magnet G/T assignment.

SLCSD will continue with automatic district-wide assessment of kindergarten students enrolled in an SLCSD kindergarten classroom for Magnet G/T assignment in 1st grade. We also offer opt-in kindergarten testing sessions for families not enrolled in SLCSD but who are interested in our Magnet G/T program.

If you have questions, please visit the ELP website or call the ELP office.

Respectfully,



Dr. Alex Parsons,
Supervisor
Extended Learning Programs