

Introduction

This application aims to identify strategic initiatives at the school level, including both requests for flexibility in adhering to district policy and local programming requests.

This form allows schools to:

Request flexibility: Outline a situation where adhering to a specific district policy or state law might hinder a school's ability to effectively serve its students.

Propose a new program: Request a program your school would like to implement from the district program inventory or that is not currently offered in FCS.

In either case, schools will be asked to clearly articulate:

- The specific challenge or opportunity they are addressing.
- Your proposed solution, including details of the requested flexibility or the new program.
- The expected outcomes and positive impacts of their proposal.

Report on an active program: Provide an update on a program that is currently being implemented at your school to ensure Board approval for the program offering.

Discontinue an existing program: Share rationale for sunsetting a program that has traditionally been active at the school.

Please complete this form thoroughly and in consultation with your principal and fellow council members.

Note, all programs offered at Fulton County Schools must be board approved and require board certification every three years.

Value Added Flexibility Form

Select one of the following:

Submit a Programming Request or Update

Grade Level:

High

School *

North Springs High

Programming Requests/Updates

Active Programs

Select the programs offered at your school from the following list:

- 3DE Magnet CTAE Magnet Visual & Performing Arts Magnet
- International Baccalaureate (DP) Magnet International Baccalaureate (MYP) Magnet
- International Baccalaureate (PYP) Magnet STEM Magnet STEAM Magnet

1) Describe the specific goals and objectives of the program(s). How do the program(s) align with the school's Strategic Action Plan?

The VPA program at North Springs has been a fixture at the school for several decades. The program has changed significantly over the last three years to incorporate new classes that are unique to North Springs and FCS in general. The program has been given a new focus with the changes in programming at our school, and will be rebranded as The Orthea (Creative Arts Conservatory) program, which will carry on the new programming focus. This program is already aligned with our strategic plan.

Sunsetting Programs

Select the programs being discontinued at your school from the following list:

- 3DE Magnet CTAE Magnet Visual & Performing Arts Magnet
- International Baccalaureate (DP) Magnet International Baccalaureate (MYP) Magnet
- International Baccalaureate (PYP) Magnet STEM Magnet STEAM Magnet

1) Describe the specific factors that led to the decision to discontinue the program(s). What is the anticipated impact of discontinuing the program(s) on current students?

New Programs

What new program are you requesting to implement at your school. The following programs are not eligible for individual school requests (AVID, College and Career Academy, Dual Language Immersion, In-School Academies, Safe Centers, School-Based Health Center, Pre-K, JROTC, Middle College).

- 3DE Magnet CTAE Magnet Visual & Performing Arts Magnet
- International Baccalaureate (DP) Magnet International Baccalaureate (MYP) Magnet

International Baccalaureate (PYP) Magnet STEM Magnet STEAM Magnet Other

1) What need or challenge would this program address at your school? Describe the problem and how you became aware that it needed to be addressed.

Changing the math and science magnet that currently exists at North Springs into STEAM will help us as a cluster become something that is alignment from elementary school, through middle and then onto high school. By all schools in the cluster working toward STEM certification in some manner, we will have programs for our students and families that will keep them from wanting to go to schools outside of the North Springs cluster.

2) Why do you think this program would be successful at your school? Include any research/evidence that leads you to believe that the program will accomplish the school's need.

This program will be successful, simply because it already exists in a smaller manner, and by adding STEAM (technology, engineering and the arts), we will build on what already exists in our school in separate parts into a full fledged, aligned program that helps build many more opportunities for our students. The actions taken to get the GaDOE STEAM certification, while onerous, will also help us look critically at our programs and strengthen what we have and bring us into alignment with our feeder schools.

3) How does this program align with your School Action Plan? Draw connections between the proposed solution and the needs of your school and/or community.

The math and science magnet that currently exists at North Springs will be rebranded as the STEAM magnet, and will incorporate the new focus of engineering, technology and the arts to the already strong math and science program. This will also be an enhancement to the JumpStart program that is currently being worked on, which will add a healthy dose of dual enrollment and CTAE courses to help give students an edge in the healthcare careers. The goal is to have a cluster pattern that is focused on STEAM which will keep our students in our North Springs cluster of schools, but also give them programming that is not available anywhere else. The mantra is to create strong programs with a unique focus that makes people see that if they are going anywhere else for STEAM courses outside of our cluster, they are missing out on something great.

4) What steps will you take to implement this program? Include any resources, required training/professional development and/or additional implications associated with the proposal.

With the math and science magnet already in place, coordinating with the other three pieces (technology, engineering and art), should be an easy lift to get to GaDOE STEAM certification. We will continue to work with the district and our feeder schools to build in STEAM alignment across the elementary and middle school feeders, which will enhance what they see when they get to high school. Leaning in to create this alignment means more time speaking with the feeder schools and getting teachers together so they can help with the vertical alignment and create this seamless pathway for STEAM.

Zone Superintendent Review

Zone Superintendent Decision

Approve

Comments

North Springs HS will be working through the Magnet Schools of America program authorization process to get both programs approved. Mr. Hanson has been working not only with district staff, but also his SGC to revise his programming options.