



news

OFFICE OF PUBLIC RELATIONS & MEDIA CONTENT

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For Immediate Release

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Pittsburgh Public Schools to Host Magnet Fair 2026 as Magnet Applications Open

PITTSBURGH, January 14, 2026 — Pittsburgh Public Schools (PPS) will host its Magnet Fair 2026 on Saturday, January 17, 2026, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at Pittsburgh Obama Academy, the same day magnet applications officially open for the 2026–2027 school year.

The Magnet Fair provides families with an opportunity to learn more about the District's magnet programs and speak directly with school staff about available academic options aligned with students' interests, talents, and future goals. Representatives from magnet schools and programs will be on site to share information and answer questions about offerings across Pittsburgh Public Schools.

"Our magnet programs are designed to nurture students' interests, talents, and aspirations while providing rigorous, high-quality learning experiences," said Superintendent Dr. Wayne N. Walters. We encourage families to attend our Magnet Fair, ask questions, and partner with us as they consider the educational options that best support their child's growth and future success."

The application window for PPS magnet programs will be open from Saturday, January 17, 2026, through Friday, February 13, 2026, at 5:00 p.m. Families may apply online using their Home Access Center (HAC) username and password. Families new to Pittsburgh Public Schools who wish to apply to a magnet program must first enroll their student in their designated neighborhood school. After enrollment, families will receive instructions to activate their HAC account, which is required to submit a magnet application.

Beginning Monday, April 6, post-lottery applications will be accepted for magnet programs with available seats or for students who wish to be added to existing waiting lists.

As part of a Future-Ready Plan update, PPS notes that no changes are planned for magnet programs during the 2026–2027 school year. However, magnet offerings may change in future years as part of long-term planning. Current magnet offerings are not guaranteed indefinitely, and some students enrolled in magnet programs may need to transition in the future. Families are encouraged to attend the Magnet Fair to learn more about current opportunities and ask questions directly of school staff.

For more information about the Magnet Fair or PPS magnet programs, visit <https://www.pghschools.org/about/enrollment/magnet-schools-homepage>.

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