RICHLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT TWO

magnets























Purpose Driven, Future Ready

Leading the Future of Learning

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Nationally Certified Magnet Schools & Demonstration Magnet Schools

Richland Two is home to 36 nationally certified magnets, of which 28 are Demonstration Magnet programs. These schools serve as innovation laboratories for others to learn best practices in theme-based education. The schools have met rigorous Magnet School Standards of Excellence set by the National Institute for Magnet School Leadership. Additional schools in Richland Two apply for and receive this designation annually.

1. Center for Achievement
2. Center for Inquiry*
3. Center for Knowledge* / Center for Knowledge North*
4. Conder Elementary Arts Integrated Magnet School*
5. The Academy for Civic Engagement (ACE) at Lonnie B. Nelson Elementary School*
6. The Montessori Magnet at Pontiac Elementary
7. Elementary Learning Collaborative (eLc) at Forest Lake*
8. Forest Lake Elementary NASA Explorer School*
9. STEMS (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) at North Springs Elementary School*
10. Sandlapper Computer Science Immersion Elementary
11. Fine Arts and Media Enrichment (FAME), The Learning Collaborative (TLC); TWO Academies Single Gender magnets at Dent Middle School
12. Kelly Mill, INC. and Med Pro at Kelly Mill Middle School*
13. Longleaf Engineering and Arts Program (LEAP) and The School of Zoological and Botanical Studies (ZooBot) at Longleaf Middle School*
14. Leadership Academy (LAM) at Muller Road Middle School*
15. The Leadership Academy at Wright (LAW) at E.L. Wright Middle School
16. CavPlex Convergence Media, Horizon; and Palmetto Center for the Arts at Richland Northeast High School*
17. Institute for Health Sciences, Med Pro, and Scholars Academy Magnet for Business and Law at Ridge View High School*
18. Discovery and Explorations at Spring Valley High School*
19. Institute of Research, Engagement & Design (iRED) at Westwood High School Studio, D
20. Medical, Engineering and Discovery through the Arts (MED) at Bridge Creek Elementary*
21. School of Academics, Innovation, and Leadership (SAiL) at Rice Creek Elementary*
22. Academy for Exercise Physiology and Sports Medicine (Get Fit), STEM Institute for Design and Innovation (SIDI) at Summit Parkway Middle

* Demonstration Magnet School

NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED

COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY & EXCELLENCE

MAGNET CENTERS

- Center for Achievement (CFA)
- Center for Inquiry (CFI)
- Center for Knowledge (CFK)
- Center for Knowledge North (CFKN)



ELEMENTARY

- Bridge Creek Medical, Engineering, and Discovery (MED) through Arts Magnet
- L. W. Conder Elementary Arts Integrated Magnet School
- Forest Lake Elementary: NASA Explorer School; Elementary Learning Collaborative (eLc)
- Lonnie B. Nelson Elementary: Academy of Civic Engagement (ACE)
- North Springs Elementary: STEMS
- Polo Road Elementary: Dual Language Immersion (DLI)
- Pontiac Elementary: Montessori (Pre K-5)
- Rice Creek Elementary School of Academics, Innovation and Leadership (SAiL)
- Sandlapper Elementary Computer Science Immersion School (CSiS)









MIDDLE

- Dent Middle: Fine Arts and Media Enrichment (FAME); The Learning Collaborative (TLC); TWO Academies
- E. L. Wright Middle: Leadership Academy at Wright (LAW); Language Immersion at Wright (LIW)
- Kelly Mill Med Pro Middle Magnet School; Kelly Mill, INC.
- Longleaf Middle: Longleaf Engineering and Arts Program (LEAP); School of Zoological and Botanical Studies (ZooBot)
- Muller Road Middle: Leadership Academy at Muller (LAM)
- Summit Parkway Middle: The Academy of Exercise Physiology and Sports Medicine (Get Fit); The STEM Institute of Design and Innovation (SIDI)

HIGH

- Richland Northeast High: CavPlex Convergence Media; Horizon; Palmetto Center for the Arts (PCA)
- Ridge View Med Pro High School: Allied Health Sciences; BioHealth Sciences; Scholars Academy Magnet for Business and Law
- Spring Valley High: Discovery; Explorations
- Westwood High: Institute of Research, Engagement, & Design (iRED); Studio D

STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

SCHOOL WITHIN A SCHOOL - 2025-2026	*WHOLE SCHOOL - 2025-2026*	*MAGNET CENTERS - 2025-2026*
TOTAL NUMBER: 3,156	TOTAL NUMBER: 7,763	TOTAL NUMBER: 840
% FEMALE - 55.8% | % MALE - 44.2%	% FEMALE - 48.8% | % MALE - 51.2%	

RECOGNITIONS

- MSA National Elementary Merit Award of Excellence, Forest Lake NASA Explorer School (2026)
- MSA National Presidents' Merit Award of Excellence, Conder Arts Integrated Magnet School (2026)
- Magnet Mania Round 3 Superintendent of the Year $500 award winner (2025)
- Donna Grady-Creer District Award for Magnet Sustainability (2023)
- MSA National Magnet Principal of the Year 2019
- MSA Region IV Magnet Principal of the Year 2010, 2011, 2013, 2020, 2023
- MSA National Magnet Teacher of the Year 2023
- MSA Region IV Magnet Teacher of the Year 2010, 2011, 2012, 2014, 2023
- MSA New and Emerging School of Excellence, Sandlapper Computer Science Immersion (2022)
- National Scholastic Press Association: First Place Broadcast News Story, Pacemaker Scholastic Journalism Award, and Two Emmy Awards for Best Newscast & Serious News Report - CavPlex Convergence Media magnet, Richland Northeast High School (2022)
- S.C. School of Excellence in Arts Education Award, Conder Elementary Arts Integrated Magnet School (2021)
- MSA "Top 20" National Magnet School of Excellence, Spring Valley High School (2020, 2024, 2025); Ridge View Med Pro High School (2024, 2025); Forest Lake Elementary NASA Explorer School (2025)



APPLY!

Online Only - November-December & April

www.richland2.org



RICHLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT TWO
magnets

MAGNETS EXPLAINED

Richland Two's Magnet Programs offer learning opportunities related to various themes for interested students. Students in Richland School District Two may apply to a Magnet Program regardless of where they are zoned. The purpose of Magnet Programs are to meet students' diverse needs and interests by maximizing potential for learning and growth; encouraging creativity; maintaining high standards; and creating an awareness of career opportunities relative to the fields of study in which students may be interested. Richland Two offers several different types of Magnets.

Schoolwide – In a Schoolwide Magnet all students participate in the specialized focus of the school. Students zoned to the school do not have to apply; students outside the zoned area must apply for admission. Selection of non-zoned students is determined through lottery. The following schools are Schoolwide Magnets:

Elementary Schoolwide Magnets

Bridge Creek Elementary MED
Forest Lake Elementary NASA Explorer School
Conder Elementary Arts Integrated Magnet
SAiL at Rice Creek Elementary
Sandlapper Computer Science Immersion Magnet

Middle Schoolwide Magnets

Kelly Mill Med Pro
FAME at Dent Middle
Longleaf Middle LEAP

High Schoolwide Magnets

Ridge View Med Pro High School
Westwood High School iRED

Schools-Within-A-School – These are smaller learning communities within a larger school environment. School-within-a- school programs have an instructional focus that varies from the full school focus. For Elementary programs, selection is via random lottery. For most Middle School and High School programs there are selective criteria for admission. The exception, CavPlex Convergence Media, has selection by random lottery. The following Magnets are school-within-a-school programs:

Elementary School-Within-A-School Magnets

Forest Lake Elementary Learning Collaborative (eLc)
North Springs STEMS
Pontiac Elementary Montessori pre-K -5
Lonnie B. Nelson Academy of Civic Engagement
Polo Road Dual Language Immersion (DLI)

Middle School-Within-A-School Magnets

Dent The Learning Collaborative (TLC)
E.L. Wright Leadership Academy at Wright (LAW)
Longleaf ZooBot
E.L. Wright Language Immersion at Wright (LIW)
Dent Two Academies
Kelly Mill, INC
Muller Road Leadership Academy
Summit Parkway Academy of Exercise Physiology and Sports Medicine (Get Fit)
Summit Parkway STEM Institute of Design and Innovation (SIDI)

High School-Within-A-School Magnets

Richland Northeast CavPlex
Richland Northeast Horizon
Ridge View Allied Health
Ridge View Scholars Academy for Business and Law
Spring Valley Explorations
Richland Northeast Palmetto Center for the Arts (PCA)
Ridge View BioHealth
Spring Valley Discovery
Westwood Studio D

Centers – Centers are small separate elementary schools located in a building adjacent to a middle school campus. A Center is not considered a separate full school because they share facilities with the larger school where they are housed. Admission to Centers is determined through random lottery. Our Centers are:

The Center for Achievement (Kelly Mill)
The Center for Inquiry (Summit Parkway)
The Center for Knowledge (E.L. Wright)
The Center for Knowledge North (Muller Road)

TYPE	STRUCTURE	ENROLLMENT	ZONING
MAGNET CENTER	Separate small school located on a larger school campus	Limited number per grade level	Students cannot be zoned to a Center
SCHOOL-WITHIN-A-SCHOOL MAGNET	Specialized learning community within a larger school setting	Limited number per grade level	Students zoned to the host school may apply for acceptance to the magnet housed at the zoned school
SCHOOLWIDE MAGNET	All students attending the school are considered magnet students	Based on school capacity (net gain of 20)	Student in the school attendance zone are automatically a part of the magnet
EXPANDED CHOICE	Students become a part of the regular school population	Based on school capacity (net gain of 20)	Students in the school attendance zone are automatically enrolled. Students outside of the zoned area must apply.

**parents/guardians must provide transportation for all choice options*

***Some schools may be closed to Choice this year.*
Please check the Richland Two website (www.richlandtwo.org/Choice) for the most updated information.

MAP TO MAGNETS



Your guide to navigating the Richland Two Magnet application process

Steps for Success:

- Attend Choice Fair to gather program and application information.
- Attend school information meetings.
- Decide on First, Second and Third Magnet options. If you apply to more than one program, make sure your applications are in priority order, with 1 being your first choice, 2 your second choice, and 3 your third choice.
- Submit an application for your program(s) during Choice I or Choice II application window.
- Check back during parent notification period to view your selection outcome.
- Accept or Decline any offered seat.

Elementary School Magnet Selection Process:

- Selection is determined by random lottery.
- All offered seats must be accepted by the deadline or the seat will be offered to the next student on the lottery list.

Middle School Magnet Selection Process:

- Acceptance determined by random lottery-no interview required for LEAP at Longleaf Middle and Med Pro at Kelly Mill Middle.
- Acceptance determined by selective criteria: TLC, TWO Academies,LAW, SIDI, Get Fit, INC., ZooBot, LIW, and Leadership Academy at Muller Road Middle.

Selective Criteria Includes:

- Select an artifact representing a personal interest or activity to prepare for interview
- Individual interview times will be sent when the application window closes
- Writing sample and activity (completed during interview)
- Teacher recommendations (coordinated by magnet office)
- First semester grades from current school year
- Most current MAP and SC Standardized Test scores

High School Magnet Selection Process:

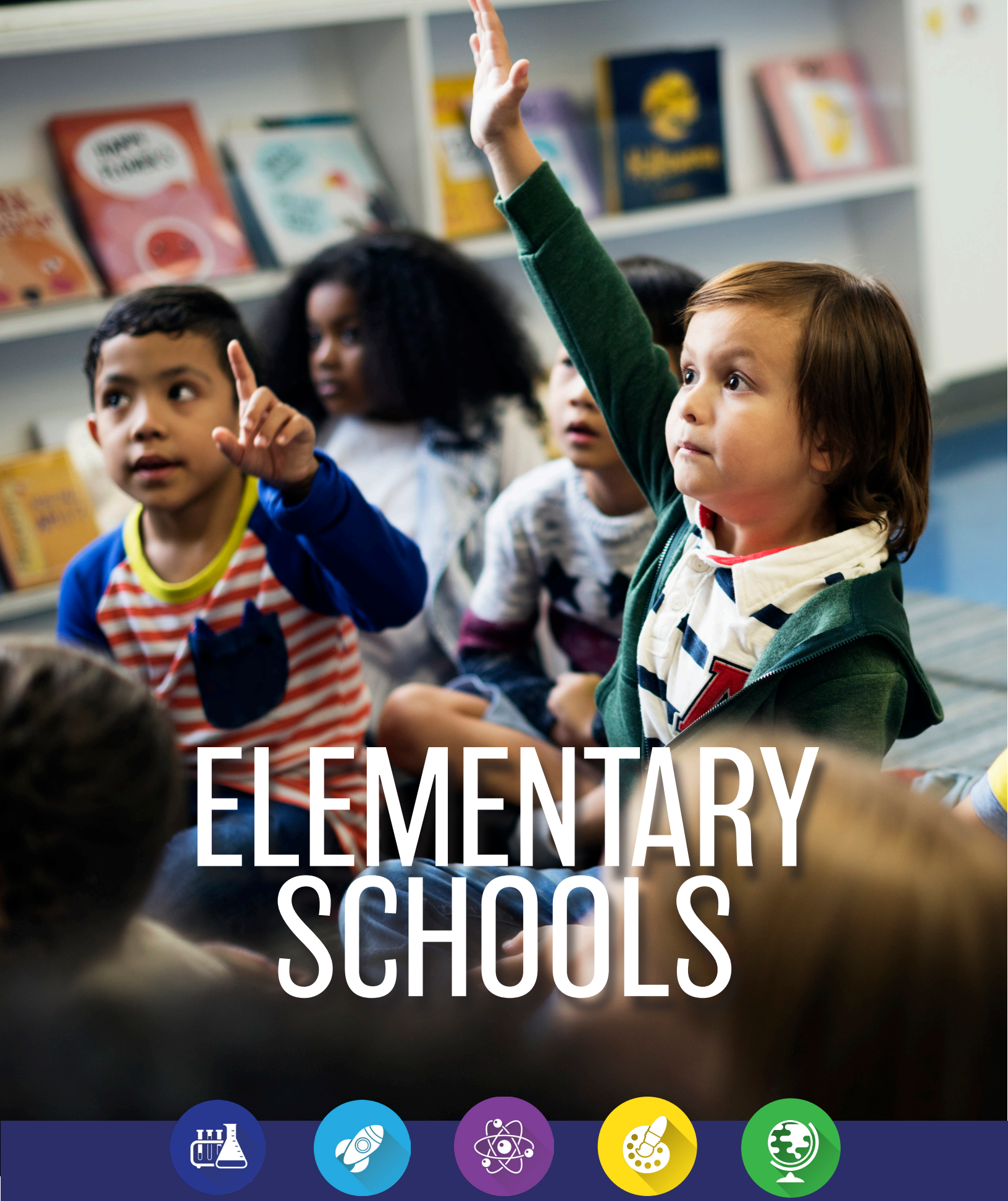
- Acceptance determined by random lottery-no interview required for Convergence Media at Richland Northeast High, Med Pro at Ridge View High, and iRed at Westwood High.
- Acceptance determined by selective criteria: Horizon, PCA, Bio Health, Allied Health, The Scholars Academy Magnet for Business and Law, Discovery, Explorations, and Studio D.

Selective Criteria Includes:

- Interviews scheduled by individual program
- Writing Sample (completed during interview)
- Activity for some programs completed during interview time
- Teacher recommendations (coordinated by magnet office)
- First semester grades from current school year

For More Information:

www.richland2.org/choice



ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

CENTER FOR **ACHIEVEMENT**





The Center for Achievement (CFA) provides a personalized learning experience for every child. Each student receives a personalized learning pathway based on their levels of learning and learning styles. CFA utilizes the 6 C's of Global Competencies: character, citizenship, collaboration, communication, creativity, and critical thinking, to enrich thinking and meet the individual and collective needs of our students, for life-long success.

The Center for Achievement (CFA) provides a personalized learning experience for every child. Each student receives a personalized learning pathway based on their levels of learning and learning styles. CFA utilizes the 6 C's of Global Competencies: character, citizenship, collaboration, communication, creativity, and critical thinking, to enrich thinking and meet the individual and collective needs of our students, for life-long success. CFA, an AVID certified magnet, is now serving grades 1-5 only. If your child is an independent learner and could benefit from a personalized model tailored for learning acceleration, the offerings at CFA may be the right choice for your child's development, interests and happiness. Choosing CFA can provide a fresh start and be transformative for your child's well-being and personal growth.

What Makes CFA Unique?
CFA offers smaller class sizes (1:18 ratio) to support learning through personalization. CFA also has a strong school-based community partnership with Kelly Mill Med Pro Middle School and Westwood High School. Through these collaborations, students benefit from engaging activities such as AVID tutoring, school clubs, and Passion Project support and mentoring. Having a strong AVID foundation, CFA has been validated as an AVID National Demonstration School, being the only one in the Southeast region. This distinction reflects CFA's commitment to high-quality AVID implementation and the creation of rigorous, engaging, and impactful learning environments for all students.

What type of student would benefit from CFA?
If your child thrives as an independent learner and could benefit from a personalized learning model tailored for acceleration, CFA may be the right choice. Students who are self-motivated, curious, and eager to take ownership of their learning often excel in CFA's environment. CFA is an excellent fit for students who enjoy setting goals, exploring their interests through inquiry and Passion Projects, collaborating with peers, and engaging in meaningful problem-solving. Students who are ready to challenge themselves academically while developing strong communication, leadership, and organizational skills will find opportunities to grow and succeed at CFA.

1000 Lake Carolina Drive, Columbia, SC 29229 | 803-691-7216 | www.cfa.richland2.org





CENTER FOR **INQUIRY**

Inquiry-based instruction emphasizes hands-on learning experiences, high-interest studies, and an integrated curriculum. The Center for Inquiry is a Richland Two magnet school for kindergartners through fifth graders. As a small school partnership, it unites our district with the University of South Carolina to create a unique learning environment in a small school setting.

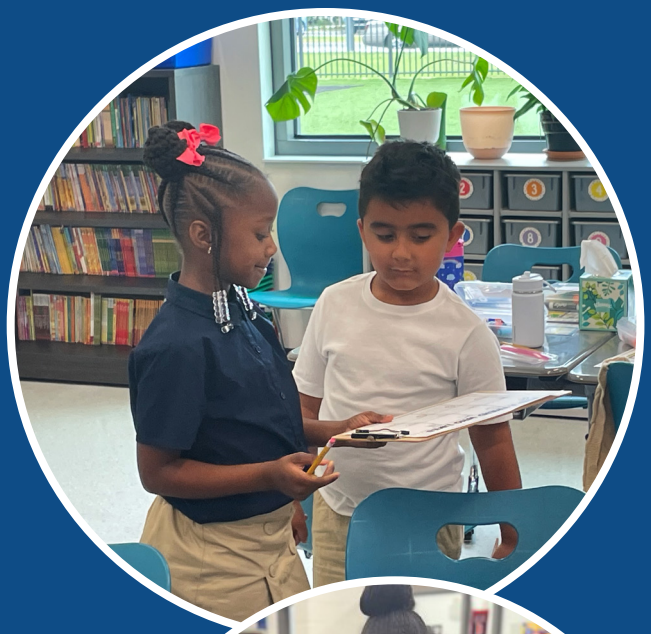
The Center for Inquiry's teachers remain with the same group of students for two years, to minimize time lost in transitions between grades and to build strong learning communities. A key feature is the school's focus on "inquiry based" instruction. The classes emphasize hands-on learning experiences, high-interest studies, and integrated curriculum. The approach is innovative and students are held to high standards.

Mission
The students, parents and staff of the Center for Inquiry, a genuine collaboration between the University of South Carolina and Richland School District Two, are responsible for developing ourselves as more thoughtful, caring and intelligent people who delight in learning and are committed to creating a more compassionate, equitable, knowledgeable and democratic world!

What Makes CFI Unique?
Students engage in inquiry when they are invited to pose and investigate questions or issues they find compelling. Students are encouraged to explore, think, ask questions, and solve problems through the perspectives of mathematicians, scientists, historians, artists, musicians, readers, and writers. Teachers align this process with the skills, standards, and goals appropriate for the age level of the student.

What type of student would benefit from CFI?
Students who are self-motivated, work well independently and cooperatively in groups, and are invested in sustained inquiry.

CENTER FOR **KNOWLEDGE** AND CENTER FOR **KNOWLEDGE NORTH**





The Center For Knowledge (CFK) and (CFKN) are designed to be accelerated and challenging. The program offers a dual curriculum teaching students the National Core Knowledge Standards and South Carolina Standards. This requires students to work at twice the pace as traditional schools.

Mission
Center for Knowledge strives to provide academic excellence through the delivery of the National Core Knowledge Curriculum which provides a coherent, cumulative, and content specific core curriculum.

What Makes CFK(N) Unique?
CFK(N) has built its curriculum around Core Knowledge, a comprehensive, sequential and spiraling curriculum. The Core Knowledge Curriculum specifies what is to be taught at each grade level for each subject throughout the school. With the curriculum set, teachers are free to choose the best method for presentation; thus instructional strategies are taught with a wide range of methods in Core Knowledge Schools. Students at CFK(N) are also expected to master SC State Standards. The curriculum sequence provides a common foundation for learning, prepares students for the future, ensures equity and access for all students, and builds overall knowledge. It includes topics and subtopics in language arts, world history, American history, geography, visual arts, music, mathematics, and science which spiral each year.

What type of student would benefit from CFK(N)?
Since two curricula are taught each year, students should be highly motivated and able to move at a fast pace. Parents sign a contract committing themselves to being active participants in their children's education. CFK(N) is supported by parent volunteers who work individually and on committees. Parents have a responsibility to send children to school who are respectful, self- disciplined, and prepared to work hard and learn.

Students leaving the Center for Knowledge will have gained an intensive global education. Students will be used to a rigorous curriculum. Experiences gained from high quality learning experiences, field studies, and character education will support students as they move on to the next level of study.

CFK | 3006 Appleby Lane, Columbia, SC 29223 | 803.699.2966 | www.cfk.richland2.org
CFKN | 1043 Muller Road, Blythewood, SC 29016 | 803.691.4895 | www.cfkn.richland2.org

MED BRIDGE CREEK ELEMENTARY
Medical | Engineering | Arts





MEDICAL, ENGINEERING, AND DISCOVERY THROUGH THE ARTS **(MED) AT BRIDGE CREEK ELEMENTARY**

Bridge Creek Medical, Engineering and Discovery (MED) through Arts is a school-wide magnet. The program uses Project Based Learning to integrate STEAM-M as we teach key academic content and practice 21st Century Skills through investigations of real-world questions, problems, or challenges. AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) prepares our students for college and career readiness. Through AVID, our students use Writing, Inquiry, Collaboration, Organization, and Reading to support student learning and develop the necessary skills to thrive in school and beyond.

Mission
Every Child, Every Chance, Every Day—Partnering with our community to invest in every child by providing diverse opportunities to succeed through Medical, Engineering, and Arts immersion.

What type of student would most benefit from participating in MED?
We believe all students will benefit from participating in our magnet school. We offer a rigorous, unique program that is designed using the Profile of the South Carolina Graduate.

What makes MED unique?
M: Only at MED at BCE will you find a fully-functioning Medical Lab where students learn through hands-on exploration, augmented reality, case-studies, and even a pediatric medical simulator. As an extension of the content learned in the Medical Lab, students incorporate Physical Education in the PhysMed Lab.

E: The program has a fully operating Engineering Lab. Our students experience the Engineering Design Process using the Engineering is Elementary curriculum from the Boston Museum of Science in the Engineering Lab. We also offer Lego robotics and a fully stocked Makerspace where students have an opportunity to explore their own interests; learn to use tools and materials, both physical and virtual; and develop creative projects.

D: There is a strong link between academic achievement and the Arts. Research has shown that what students learn in the arts may help them to master other subjects, such as reading, math or social studies. We have expanded our Arts program to include ukuleles, bucket drumming, steel pans, African drumming, and print-making.





L.W. CONDER ELEMENTARY ARTS INTEGRATED **MAGNET SCHOOL**

L.W. Conder Elementary Arts Integrated Magnet School partners with parents and the broader community to provide students with meaningful, engaging educational experiences rooted in the arts. By thoughtfully integrating the arts across all subject areas—rather than teaching concepts in isolation—we offer students a richer, more dynamic learning experience. This approach empowers our scholars to think critically, communicate effectively, collaborate with peers, and create with confidence.

Mission
At L.W. Conder Elementary Arts Integrated Magnet School, our mission is to cultivate bright S.T.A.R.S. — students who demonstrate Self-Control, value Teamwork, accept Accountability, show Respect and Responsibility, and strive for Success. Through meaningful partnerships with parents, local artists, and community organizations, we create learning experiences that extend beyond the classroom and into the world around us.

What makes the Arts Integrated Magnet unique?
L.W. Conder embraces the belief that creativity lies at the heart of learning. Rather than teaching subjects in isolation, we intentionally blend the arts across all content areas to deepen understanding and ignite student engagement. Students rotate daily through a rich selection of arts experiences such as Dance, World Drumming, Strings/Orchestra, Visual Art, General Music, and Physical Education, and are consistently provided safe, supportive spaces to create, perform, and grow.

What type of student would benefit from the Arts Integrated Magnet program?
Students do not have to be artists to benefit from arts integration at Conder. Students come to Conder to become creative thinkers, confident communicators, collaborative problem-solvers, and lifelong learners through the arts. By weaving the arts into daily instruction, we make academics more accessible, memorable, and enjoyable, helping all students understand not just what they're learning, but why.

ABC CERTIFIED SCHOOL

8040 Hunt Club Road, Columbia, SC 29223 | 803.736.8720 | www.ce.richland2.org

ELEMENTARY LEARNING COLLABORATIVE **(ELC) AT FOREST LAKE**





The Elementary Learning Collaborative at Forest Lake built its foundation upon VanTassel-Baska's Integrated Curriculum Model as developed by the College of William and Mary's Center for Gifted Education. The advanced and rigorous curriculum is delivered at an accelerated pace. In addition to all of the benefits of the NASA Explorer School program already offered at Forest Lake Elementary, students in the Elementary Learning Collaborative will be immersed in units of study that provide an interdisciplinary approach to instruction.

Students will participate in multiple opportunities for the application and development of 21st century learning skills: communication, collaboration, critical thinking, and creativity. In-depth instruction, in all curricular areas, is supported through inquiry, research, authentic problem and project- based learning activities. Forest Lake Elementary NASA Explorer School and the Elementary Learning Collaborative ... just around the corner, but worlds apart!

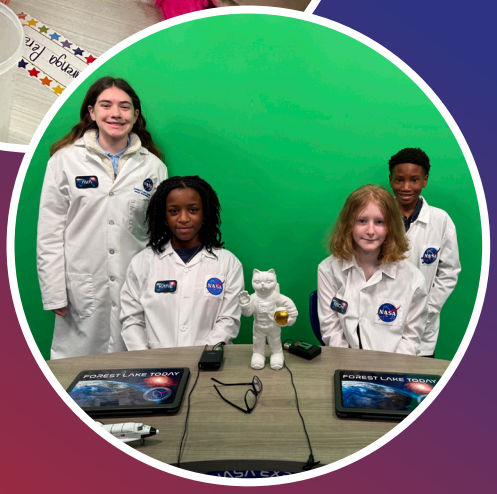
Mission
The Elementary Learning Collaborative, in partnership with families and the community, develops through the integration of advanced content, overarching concepts, and in-depth learning experiences the potential and talents of all students while promoting a growth mindset.

What makes eLc unique?
The curriculum and teaching models, which have their foundation firmly set in VanTassel- Baska's Integrated Curriculum Model as developed by the College of William and Mary's Center for Gifted Education, supported by gifted/talented endorsed teachers trained at William & Mary make this program unique.

What type of student would benefit from eLc?
This unique magnet program is designed to meet the needs of and challenge students that demonstrate the potential for high achievement. Students that show a strong sense of curiosity about the world around them and are highly motivated to search for answers to their questions will benefit from what the eLc program has to offer. Students will be well-prepared to excel in any middle or high school program to which they are accepted. The goal is that students will enter into second grade working above grade level and leave elementary school performing well beyond grade level expectations. Experiences gained from high quality learning experiences, field studies, and character education will support students as they move on to the next level of study.

FOREST LAKE ELEMENTARY **NASA EXPLORER SCHOOL**





Forest Lake is proud to be a designated NASA Explorer School where the resources and research of NASA are utilized and have the latest technology at its fingertips. These resources help ignite a lifelong love of learning in students and foster an interest in science, technology, engineering, and math. But it doesn't end there.

The lessons learned through this unique program are integrated throughout the curriculum and provide the basis for school-wide programs and activities. The foundation developed in the early years will provide them with the tools necessary for success in the middle and high school years. Educators at Forest Lake believe being a NASA Explorer School provides a unique opportunity to help launch students for success today and tomorrow.

Mission
Our NASA Explorer School goals provide multiple opportunities for students to explore STEM topics in a variety of engaging and interactive NASA contexts. Activities are designed to increase student interest and participation in STEM curricula areas.

What Makes Forest Lake Unique?
Forest Lake Elementary, a NASA Explorer School, offers innovative, space-themed STEAM learning for kindergarten through fifth grade. Students engage in hands-on projects that connect lessons to real-world challenges, supported by a NASA Lab, STARLAB indoor planetarium, robotics, a student-run broadcast studio, and technology-rich classrooms. Recognized nationally as the "Top Elementary School of Excellence," Forest Lake fosters community through events like NASA Family Nights, STEM career days, and the Eagle Bots Robotics Club, creating a launchpad for curiosity, creativity, and future-ready skills.

What type of student would benefit from the NASA Explorer program?
The NASA Explorer School program is ideal for naturally curious students who enjoy hands-on learning and are excited about exploring science, technology, engineering, art, and math (STEAM). It's a great fit for learners who thrive when building, experimenting, designing, and solving real-world problems, especially those fascinated by space exploration and innovation. Students who work well in teams, take initiative, and like connecting classroom lessons to real-world challenges will find the program especially engaging, as it encourages creativity, critical thinking, and a love for discovery.

6801 Brookfield Road, Columbia, SC 29206 | 803.782.0470 | www.fle.richland2.org

LONNIE B. NELSON **ACADEMY FOR CIVIC ENGAGEMENT**





The Academy for Civic Engagement (ACE) prepares students to become active, responsible citizens of our community and world. Students interact with local government, businesses and non-profit organizations. The Academy for Civic Engagement curriculum challenges students to translate civic education into community engagement.

Mission
Empowering students to become engaged citizens through government, economics, and service learning.

What makes ACE (The Academy for Civic Engagement) unique?
The Academy for Civic Engagement, a national award-winning program, blends experiential learning with project-based learning to give students meaningful, real-world experiences that prepare them for success beyond the classroom. In ACE, students don't just learn concepts, they live them. They engage in authentic opportunities such as participating in government through classroom elections, exploring economics by applying and interviewing for classroom jobs while managing their "earnings" to build financial responsibility, and leading service learning projects that positively impact their community. These experiences help students develop critical knowledge, practical skills and the confidence they need to thrive in the future as engaged citizens and leaders.

What type of student would most benefit from participating in ACE?
ACE students enjoy active, hands-on learning and are eager to engage in real-world experiences that extend beyond traditional classroom lessons. ACE is a great fit for students with an innate curiosity who are excited to explore new ideas and ask meaningful questions. It also provides a strong environment for students who thrive in collaborative settings, working with their peers to solve problems and complete projects. In addition, ACE nurtures students who are natural leaders and enjoy the challenge of taking on leadership roles, whether through classroom responsibilities, service learning projects, or civic engagement opportunities. This unique program helps these students grow academically, socially, and as future leaders in their communities.



STEMS AT NORTH SPRINGS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

North Springs Elementary STEMS Magnet is a nationally award-winning program in which students participate in scientific investigation and comprehensive coursework focused on the interrelationship of science, engineering and mathematics. They develop skills in technology use and cross-curricular strategies in a safe, enriching, and collaborative learning environment. Students have ongoing access to 21st century learning through infused, interactive technology allowing the development of students' cognitive and collaborative abilities.

Mission
The mission of STEMS, in partnership with families, the community, and the school is to prepare students for active citizenship and for careers of the future, particularly STEM careers. We work to accomplish this goal by supporting students in doing the following: completing rigorous academic work, applying the engineering design process, and actively engaging in STEM projects.

What makes STEMS unique?
The 4C's in Action: Communication, Collaboration, Critical Thinking, and Creativity aren't buzzwords—they're woven into every lesson, project, and challenge.

Real-World Problem Solving: Students don't memorize facts in isolation. They tackle authentic challenges using the engineering design process, turning ideas into tangible solutions.

Integrated Learning: STEM subjects connect with arts, language, and humanities—helping students see how everything in the world is interconnected.

Learning Beyond the Classroom: Field experiences and community partnerships extend learning into the real world, making STEM relevant and exciting.

Student-Centered Approach: Students ask questions, experiment, collaborate with peers, and develop a growth mindset that carries into every area of life.

The student that would most benefit from STEMS
- Is curious and loves asking "why?" and "what if?"
- Enjoys working with others and learning from different perspectives
- Isn't afraid to fail, iterate, and try again (the engineering mindset!)
- Wants to make a real difference in their school or community
- Is creative and enjoys solving problems in unique ways
- Thrives when learning is hands-on, purposeful, and connected to the real world
- Is ready to take on challenges that stretch their thinking

1300 Clemson Road, Columbia, SC 29229 | 803.735.3183 | www.nse.richland2.org

DUAL LANGUAGE IMMERSION (DLI) **AT POLO ROAD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**





Dual Language Immersion (DLI) at Polo Road provides instruction in both Spanish and English. Students spend part of the day immersed in Spanish for math, science, and Spanish literacy, and the remainder of the day learning in English for language arts and social studies. Classes include a balanced mix of English- and Spanish-speaking students, fostering cross-cultural respect and authentic opportunities to communicate in Spanish. This format continues through fifth grade.

Mission
We provide an engaging and challenging academic program that develops bilingualism and biliteracy, high academic achievement, and cross-cultural competence, empowering students to thrive as productive global citizens.

What makes DLI unique?
Dual Language Immersion (DLI) gives students the opportunity to learn in two languages every day. At Polo Road, students learn math, science, and Spanish literacy in Spanish while receiving English language arts and social studies instruction in English. Our unique 50/50 model brings together native English speakers and native Spanish speakers, creating authentic opportunities for students to learn from one another, build cross-cultural understanding, and develop bilingualism naturally through daily interactions.

What type of student would most benefit from participating in DLI?
DLI is designed for all learners. Students are selected through the district's lottery process, and no prior knowledge of Spanish is required. The program intentionally balances English-speaking and Spanish-speaking students to support language development for everyone. Whether a child is learning Spanish for the first time or already speaks Spanish at home, all students can benefit from the academic, linguistic, and cultural advantages of immersion.

Montessori
Magnet at Pontiac

MONTESSORI MAGNET AT **PONTIAC ELEMENTARY SCHOOOL**





Montessori Magnet at Pontiac Elementary is a program based on the Montessori method. In the Montessori classroom, students are exposed to the Montessori Method in addition to state standards. The two balance one another, focusing on constructing meaning and creating a deeper understanding of a concept using concrete objects as opposed to simply memorizing information.

Mission
We are committed to creating a collaborative environment built on the principles of peace, trust, and respect that fosters joyful discovery based on individual student needs and interests. Our program utilizes hands-on Montessori materials to motivate student learning and understanding of concepts defined by state standards and driven by the Montessori Method.

What type of student would most benefit from participating in Montessori?
Eligibility Requirements: Three year olds through fifth grade students are eligible to apply. Students who are self-directed in their learning and are innately curious about learning new concepts benefit from participating in the Montessori magnet program. These students are interested in learning how and why instead of just finding the answer in a more traditional approach. A tenet of the Montessori philosophy is to create a peaceful learning environment where all students are respected.

What makes Montessori unique?
Montessori is a multi-aged program. Students remain with the same teacher for a three-year cycle. 3PK, 4PK, and 5K students are in the same classroom. 1st, 2nd, and 3rd graders are in the same classroom, and 4th and 5th graders are in the same classroom. Teachers focus on developing concepts using hands-on Montessori materials instead of traditional methods, such as textbooks, workbooks and worksheets. Students work independently for a three hour work cycle each day where the teacher will work individually or in small groups with students. The teacher focuses on meeting individual student needs and shapes the curriculum around these needs. State standards are covered at all appropriate age levels; however, students move beyond these standards based on the needs of the child.

500 Spears Creek Church Road, Columbia, SC 29229 | 803.699.2700 | www.pe.richland2.org

RICE CREEK ELEMENTARY SAiL
SCHOOL OF ACADEMICS, INNOVATION & LEADERSHIP

RICE CREEK ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL OF ACADEMICS, INNOVATION AND LEADERSHIP (SAIL)





Rice Creek Elementary School of Academics, Innovation and Leadership (SAiL) is a school-wide magnet. The program uses the Engineering Design Process to teach key academic content, practice 21st Century Skills (including collaboration, creativity, communication and critical thinking), and to create high-quality, authentic products and presentations. The school uses AVID's (Advancement Via Individual Determination) four key domains of operation: instruction, systems, leadership, and culture to achieve the goal of closing the achievement gap by preparing all students for college and career success.

Mission - Learn Today, Lead Today
In partnership with your community, Rice Creek will develop the global citizens of tomorrow - citizens who are prepared to lead and excel in their chosen pathway.

Vision
Rice Creek strives to be a learning and working environment where all partners are committed to creating, sustaining, and investing in a culture of excellence and where all are afforded the opportunity to maximize their gifts and talents as they pursue their pathway to purpose.

What type of student would benefit from participating in SAiL?
All students will benefit from participating in SAiL. Students have access to all elements of science, technology, engineering, the Arts, math and medicine. SAiL also offers a rigorous and very unique program that is designed using the Profile of the South Carolina Graduate.

What makes SAiL unique?
Rice Creek has an ECHO (Educating Children on Health and Occupations) Lab where students learn about the medical field through the lenses of sports medicine, concentrating on orthopedics, physical therapy and wellness. Students will explore the bones, muscles and overall health of people. We have a Maker Lab where students are engaged in student-centered inquiry where they are able to explore their own interests as well as authentic projects. They also learn how to use a variety of tools and materials effectively. The students are also engaged in technology, coding and robotics. Rice Creek is a Leader In Me school. Leader In Me is a character education program that focuses on 21st Century leadership and life skills to empower students to become leaders.



COMPUTER SCIENCE **IMMERSION SCHOOL (CSIS) AT SANDLAPPER ELEMENTARY**

Computer Science Immersion at Sandlapper Elementary School integrates computer science skills throughout the school experience, including all core subject areas. The program prepares students for the future by combining programming with game design to provide a well-rounded understanding of technology and its creative applications. This is achieved through two StarCon events each year, where students explore and develop showcase projects using innovative platforms like Tynker, a block-based programming platform, Lego Robotics, and MinecraftEDU.

Mission
At Sandlapper, we empower students to become creative thinkers, effective collaborators, and global problem-solvers through immersive computer science education.

What Makes CSiS Unique?
Every student, from Kindergarten through 5th grade, experiences computer science every day in meaningful ways. Rather than being limited to a single class, computer science is woven into all subjects; including math, ELA, science, social studies, art, and music. At the heart of this experience is LEGO Robotics, where students design, build, and code robots that bring their learning to life. Whether programming a robot to model a science concept, retelling a story through movement, or solving real-world challenges, students see firsthand how computer science connects to everything they do. By showcasing their creations at schoolwide events, our students celebrate their creativity while building collaboration, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills that prepare them for the future.

What type of student would benefit from CSiS?
Students who love to build and create thrive as they bring ideas to life with LEGO Robotics. Problem-solvers and critical thinkers are challenged to design solutions through coding and collaboration. Even students who are naturally drawn to art, music, or storytelling find new ways to express themselves by integrating computer science into their passions. Because the program is hands-on, interactive, and connected to real-world learning, all students, whether they are dreamers, builders, creators, or explorers, discover skills that prepare them for success in school and beyond.

1001 Longtown Road, East, Columbia, SC 29229 | 803-691-4045 | www.se.richland2.org



MIDDLE SCHOOLS

TWO ACADEMIES AT DENT MIDDLE SCHOOL











TWO Academies is a magnet program that focuses on the needs of the whole child and reduces typical middle school adolescent pressures through a single-gender environment. In separate core classes for the day, boys and girls experience a rich, rigorous education in which maximizing the potential of each child is the goal. Parents, teachers, and community members work in partnership to deliver the best middle school experience. Research-based gender strategies are implemented in our delivery of instruction, activity choices, and classroom management to engage a student's brain for learning.

What type of student would thrive at TWO Academies?
Students who thrive at TWO Academies are motivated to learn, eager to grow, and willing to challenge themselves academically, socially, and as leaders. They understand the importance of accountability, take ownership of their learning, and are committed to meeting high expectations. These students are open to feedback, actively participate in class, and are willing to step outside of their comfort zones to develop confidence and leadership skills.

What makes TWO Academies unique?
- Single-gender learning environments tailored to boys and girls
- Research-based teaching strategies that increase engagement
- Rigorous academics with hands-on, collaborative learning experiences
- Personalized support to ensure student success
- A focus on confidence, character, and self-advocacy
- Meaningful opportunities for student leadership
- Reduced social pressures that support learning and growth
- Development of the whole child, academically, socially, and emotionally
- Strong school-home partnerships through consistent communication
- A culture that celebrates each student's unique strengths

Benefits of Single Gender Education
- Fewer classroom distractions
- Custom-tailored learning and instruction
- Confidence levels increase for students
- Students feel more comfortable sharing and participating in class.
- Students tend to be more willing to ask questions and take academic risks.
- Students get opportunities to choose activities/topics that validate their interests and learning styles.

Student Empowerment
- Service-learning experiences
- Community partnerships
- Day and overnight field studies for hands-on learning
- Honor Code and academic policies that promote integrity
- Community-building activities
- Support for balancing academics and activities
- Coordinated major assignments, projects, and assessments
- Student Leadership Ambassadors program for student leadership, service, and school representation

2721 Decker Boulevard, Columbia, SC 29206 | 803.699.2750 | www.dms.richland2.org

FINE ARTS AND MEDIA ENRICHMENT

FINE ARTS AND MEDIA ENRICHMENT (FAME) **AT DENT MIDDLE SCHOOL**





FAME at Dent Middle School is a unique program in that it offers visual and performing arts, infused with technology. FAME students build upon skills learned in the visual and performing arts through each grade level. Beginning/9 week classes are offered to the 6th graders, allowing them the opportunity to explore what the program is about. During their 7th and 8th grade years, students are exposed to the arts in more depth with semester long classes, as well as year-long advanced classes. Students leave with a firm foundation in their arts area and can easily continue on through high school and beyond.

Mission
FAME provides active learning, individualized instruction, and an appreciation for the arts — cultivating students who think critically, create boldly, and carry the discipline of artistic mastery into every area of their lives. FAME has grown into a proven, nationally recognized model for how arts integration transforms middle school learning.

What makes FAME unique?
FAME is the only middle school arts and media program of its kind in Richland School District Two. What sets FAME apart isn't just access to the arts, it's how deeply the arts are woven into everything students do. True cross-curricular learning happens in classrooms. The arts aren't a separate period-they're a lens for every subject. Students work directly with professionals through partnerships with the Columbia College Dance Department, district honor ensembles, and community arts organizations, gaining mentorship and exposure most middle schoolers don't get. FAME graduates leave prepared to enter Richland Northeast High School's Convergence Media program or audition for the Palmetto Center for the Arts, giving families a clear six-year arc from exploration to specialization.

What type of student would most benefit from participating in FAME?
FAME is open to any student with the desire to learn, grow, and flourish in the visual and performing arts, regardless of prior experience, academic record, or ability. Because admission is by lottery rather than audition or test scores, FAME welcomes students at every skill level.

FAME is an especially strong fit for:
- Curious students who want to explore multiple art forms before committing to one
- Students who learn best through hands-on, project-based experiences rather than traditional instruction alone
- Creative thinkers who thrive when art is connected to real academic content — science, social studies, language, and literature

THE LEARNING COLLABORATIVE (TLC) **AT DENT MIDDLE SCHOOL**





TLC at Dent Middle School is a nationally certified magnet program that serves high-achieving and highly motivated students by immersing them in a rigorous, intellectually stimulating academic environment. The foundation of TLC is the emphasis on higher order thinking skills through the integration of the academic disciplines.

Mission
The mission is to provide students with **community**, **collaboration**, and **core mastery**. Students thrive when provided with a community of learning where achievements are celebrated and relationships are nurtured. Collaboration, between students and academic disciplines, is a top priority in order to allow for creativity, problem solving, and the development of interpersonal skills. The program's unique experiences allow for students to go above and beyond in the mastery of content and skills for a successful transition to their future endeavors.

What makes TLC unique?
TLC encourages students to embrace the academic experience as a consistent and engaging journey that requires them to view learning as a process versus a performance. Most importantly, students are expected to be accountable for their learning. The goal is to assist students in developing skills to acquire and use information, to ask thoughtful and engaging questions, and grow. TLC students participate in a core program of literature, science, and social studies. Students pursue rigorous studies, engage in collaborative assignments, and work on interdisciplinary projects. This collaborative environment:

- demonstrates to students the interrelationships among subjects
- allows in-depth study and investigations of real-life problems
- allows for authentic performance-based assessments
- fosters better retention and transfer of knowledge
- provides for a variety of student groupings

What type of student would most benefit from participating in TLC?
TLC is a program best suited for motivated students who seek an academic challenge. The rigor of the classroom, coupled with a focus on collaborative and interdisciplinary skills, leads students to achieve at a high level both socially and academically.

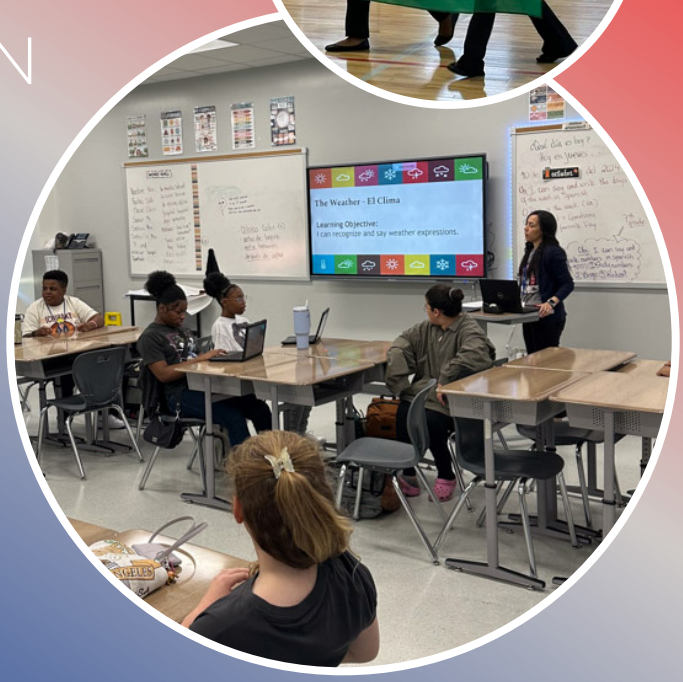
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LANGUAGE IMMERSION

E.L. Wright

LANGUAGE IMMERSION ACADEMY (LIA) **AT E.L. WRIGHT**





Our Mission

In collaboration with all community stakeholders the Language Immersion program at E.L. Wright Middle school seeks to develop bilingual, bi-literate, academically proficient, and culturally competent 21st century learners through engaging and challenging academic opportunities.

What makes this program unique?

The Language Immersion program at E.L. Wright is a continuation of our elementary dual language immersion program at Polo Road Elementary. Students enter our program with natural fluency, a native-like accent, intermediate to advanced proficiency levels, and vast content knowledge in Spanish. In middle school, the content shifts away from math and science in Spanish to social studies. In addition, students will engage in a language and literacy course designed to provide a balance that pairs exploration of countries and cultures with focused instruction in spelling, grammar, and other language skills needed to demonstrate advanced language proficiency, including strong reading, writing, and conversational skills in Spanish.

What type of student would benefit from this program?

Students who exit our elementary Dual Language Immersion program at Polo Road Elementary are guaranteed placement in our program at E.L. Wright. Students who are coming from a school with a Spanish immersion program, have attended school in a Spanish-speaking country, or are from a Spanish-speaking country are welcome to apply to the program. Students who did not exit our elementary program at Polo Road, will take an assessment to determine the child's ability to read, speak, and listen in Spanish. If the student's proficiency is at a level determined to be equivalent to his/her grade level peers, the student will be cleared to apply for the program within the district's choice system.

Participation in the Language Immersion magnet, will prepare students for the next stage of their language development, whether this is pursuing Advanced Placement (AP) entering a dual-enrollment program at the college level, or using their language skills in the workplace. Students will also be eligible to apply for the South Carolina Seal of Biliteracy, an award that advances the state's commitment to preparing every learner for college- and career-readiness in an increasingly international community by recognizing learners who attain levels of proficiency in English and at least one other world language required in the global workforce.

Leadership ACADEMY AT WRIGHT

LEADERSHIP ACADEMY**AT E.L. WRIGHT MIDDLE SCHOOL**



MISSION: The Leadership Academy at Wright cultivates well-rounded students who thrive academically, emotionally, and personally, empowering them to develop strong leadership skills that foster a deep sense of citizenship in our dynamic 21st-century.

What makes LAW unique?
Transition from regular citizen to effective leader takes time and effort. LAW students explore six stages of leadership skill development: awareness, change, commitment, action, renewal, and facilitation. The Seven Habits of Highly Effective Teens, by Sean Covey, is an integral part of the leadership development. Middle school is the best time for young people to start discovering their leadership potential. The Leadership Academy at Wright offers a variety of leadership paths for students to follow. All LAW students are expected to take part in service-learning opportunities.

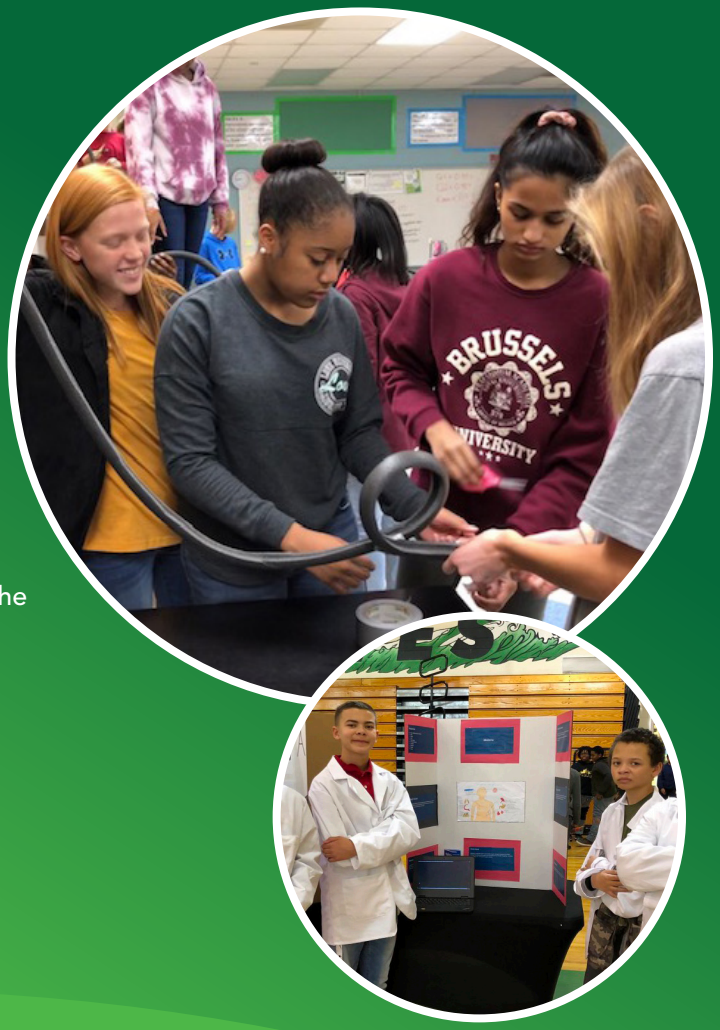
We believe it is important for students to have many opportunities in their learning and growth, both intellectually and socially. As such, twice a month, we have an extended day from 3:15 p.m. to 5:45 pm. for seminars, field studies, and symposiums. Students, teachers, parents, and community members have an active part in these extension components in this small learning community.

What type of student would most benefit from participating in LAW?
LAW offers an honors curriculum for all students. The rigorous honors curriculum is embedded with additional Core Knowledge curriculum standards, presenting students with an immersive dive into their core content studies. Students should be able to accept the academic challenge while balancing the extracurricular opportunities that LAW afforded its students. Additionally, the leadership component of the magnet program is a perfect chance for students that look forward to developing within the pillars of leadership.

What are the pillars of leadership?
- Citizenship
- Worthiness
- Respect
- Responsibility
- Fairness
- Trustworthiness

2740 Alpine Road, Columbia, SC 29223 | 803.736.8740 | www.elw.richland2.org

KELLY MILL
MED PRO
MIDDLE SCHOOL



Kelly Mill Med Pro Middle School is the only middle school in the district offering a school-wide STEAM magnet with a medical focus curriculum (STEAMM). In this new magnet, students will learn through inquiry-based activities in science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and medical collaborative projects.

Mission
Kelly Mill Med Pro Middle School Magnet will prepare learners for 21st century demands through an innovative interdisciplinary STEAMM environment that immerses learners in real world project-based experiences dedicated to science, technology, engineering, artistic endeavors, math and medicine.

What makes Med Pro unique?
Kelly Mill is the only middle school with a school-wide STEAMM focus, that is not selective. Any student that is zoned or choices to Kelly Mill is a Med Pro Magnet student. By the end of implementation of the Magnet School Assistance Program (MSAP) grant, all students will have access to a campus medical lab to learn about personal health vitals and be exposed to medical and health science careers. Additionally, Med Pro Magnet students receive training on college and career readiness through AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) and continue character development with the 7 Mindsets initiatives.

What type of student would most benefit from participating in Med Pro?
A well rounded student who takes responsibility for his or her learning and academic success would benefit from the Med Pro Magnet. By participating in this magnet, students will be actively engaged in a collaborative environment where all classes integrate a science, technology, engineering, arts, mathematics and or medical component. Students who complete their middle school years at Kelly Mill will be academically prepared for high school.

KELLY MILL, INC.
Magnet Program

KELLY MILL, INC. **MAGNET PROGRAM**



Kelly Mill, INC. is a school-within a-school magnet program offering a unique middle school experience that engages students in broader and deeper depth of content with an embedded global and economics strand. INC. students pursue an education designed to equip them with the skills necessary for leadership and success in their chosen career field.

Mission
At Kelly Mill, INC., our mission is to develop and educate a diverse and inclusive population of students on 21st century skills, financial literacy, and entrepreneurship, enabling them to become innovative and ethical business leaders who will lead, create, and meet the challenges of a competitive global society.

What makes INC. unique?
The INC. Magnet Program integrates the theme of business and entrepreneurship into all courses through the Business Process Design Model, which teaches students to think like innovators—analyzing, improving, and sustaining ideas and systems. Taught across all grade levels, this model anchors interdisciplinary units focused on entrepreneurship, collaboration, inventive thinking, global awareness, and critical issues in society. Designed for honors and advanced students, the rigorous yet developmentally appropriate INC. curriculum challenges learners to explore complex concepts while growing as young entrepreneurs and scholars. Through project-based learning and cross-curricular connections, students strengthen their abilities to think creatively, solve problems, research, communicate effectively, and produce professional-quality work. With a strong emphasis on financial literacy, economics, and ethical business practices, the program equips students with essential academic and professional skills. By blending academic rigor with real-world application, INC. prepares students to face challenges with innovation, integrity, and an entrepreneurial mindset.

What type of student would benefit from participating in INC.?
The INC. Magnet Program offers a rigorous honors curriculum enriched with a variety of extracurricular activities that extend learning beyond the classroom. The program's complexity requires students to be highly motivated, intellectually curious, and committed to academic excellence. To be successful, students must take ownership of their learning by setting personal goals, managing their progress, and striving for continuous improvement.

Through this balance of challenge and opportunity, the INC. program cultivates independent, goal-oriented learners prepared to excel in both academic and real-world settings.

1141 Kelly Mill Road, Blythewood, SC 29016 | 803.691.7210 | www.kmm.richland2.org

LONGLEAF ENGINEERING & ARTS PROGRAM

LONGLEAF ENGINEERING AND ARTS PROGRAM **(LEAP)**



Longleaf Engineering and Arts Program (LEAP) is a framework for teaching and learning which emphasizes concepts and skills in science, technology, engineering, arts, and math to equip students with tangible, marketable skills. STEAM delivers high quality education to ALL students, preparing them for a growing variety of careers in a global society.

What makes LEAP unique?
At Longleaf Middle School, we believe that every student can think like an engineer! We developed our engineering mindset to use as a model for solving problems, innovating new and creative solutions, and analyzing how others have transformed our world. The students develop skills as 21st century learners, emphasizing collaboration as they prepare to engage the future!

What type of student would benefit from participating in LEAP?
Students who have a love for:
- designing
- building
- creating
- performing
- presenting
- the arts

We use a hands-on approach to learning that is project-based and production-based.

SCHOOL OF ZOOLOGICAL & BOTANICAL STUDIES
LONGLEAF MIDDLE SCHOOL • COLUMBIA, SC



SCHOOL OF ZOOLOGICAL AND BOTANICAL STUDIES **(ZOOBOT) AT LONGLEAF MIDDLE SCHOOL**

The School of Zoological and Botanical Studies (ZooBot) is a middle school magnet program that provides a place for students to advocate for the environment through hands-on, real-world, project-based learning experiences in the natural world. This is achieved through a conservation-focused curriculum, a total of six off-campus field experiences each year, project-based learning in the classroom, community service, etc. To enhance the curriculum, students collaborate and learn from professional conservationists and environmental scientists (ie., Riverbanks Zoo and Garden, PAALS, Camp Discovery, SC Department of Natural Resources, SC State Parks, and more)

Mission
The ZooBot magnet program promotes the care and conservation of living things and the environment through inquiry based learning. We train our students to be global citizens who learn through research, data collection, collaboration and presentation of their work as well as reflection to promote self-assessment and revision.

What makes ZooBot unique?
This program is unique as it is one of the only environmental education magnet programs in the state, and among the few in the nation. It is also the only magnet program that includes monthly off campus learning experiences as part of the curriculum to allow students to experience the natural world. ZooBot provides students with a sense of belonging because they are with like-minded peers who also enjoy exploring the outdoors. The three years the students spend together create a community and a strong bond with their teachers and peers that follows them to high school.

What type of student would most benefit from participating in ZooBot?
This magnet program is for students who are passionate about the care and conservation of living things and the environment. These students enjoy being outdoors regardless of weather and experiencing nature whether thru hiking, observations etc. Students must be self-motivated to excel in this program as independent research and project based learning are prevalent.

Leadership ACADEMY AT MULLER

LEADERSHIP ACADEMY AT MULLER ROAD MIDDLE SCHOOL







The Leadership Academy at Muller Road (L@M) is an innovative academic program with a strong integration and emphasis on developing and cultivating leaders. As a district magnet program, it provides a rigorous honor-level curriculum based on E.D. Hirsch's Core Knowledge with an emphasis on school, community, and global leadership skills called Core Competencies.

Mission
The Leadership Academy at Muller couples the rigor of the Core Knowledge Curriculum with an emphasis on leadership skills to create an innovative academic program meeting the needs of average and above average students. The program provides a challenging and intellectual climate where students are encouraged to take responsibility for their learning and behavior, including etiquette and manners. Instructional approaches encourage curiosity and interest in learning and fostering students' development of critical thinking skills. Our mission is to combine traditional curriculum content with a learning environment where students are taught in the areas of problem-solving, critical thinking, creativity, research, experimentation, and application.

What makes L@M unique?
The Leadership Academy provides the knowledge necessary for higher levels of learning and helps build confidence; offers opportunities for community members to play an integral role in the instructional process; and promotes a community of learners to include both adults and children.

In order to meet the needs of the rigorous dual-curriculum requirements that come from combining Core Knowledge with the South Carolina State standards, students will participate in Extended Learning Days once a month. On these days, students will stay after school until 5:15 p.m. During this time, students can expect to participate in activities either on or off campus. These activities are designed to complement the learning taking place in classrooms.

What type of student would most benefit from participating in L@M?
The Leadership Academy at Muller Road is an excellent fit for students who are self-motivated, eager to learn, and willing to challenge themselves academically and personally. Students who thrive in this program are curious, responsible, and prepared to work hard both independently and as part of a team. They should have a genuine interest in developing leadership skills, exploring new ideas, and taking an active role in their learning. The academy is designed for students who are ready to embrace opportunities, demonstrate initiative, and contribute positively to their school and community.

What are the Pillars of Leadership?

- Citizenship
- Worthiness
- Respect
- Responsibility
- Fairness
- Trustworthiness

GET FIT

SP

Magnet Program

ACADEMY OF EXERCISE PHYSIOLOGY & SPORTS MEDICINE **(GET FIT) AT SUMMIT PARKWAY SCHOOL**





The goal of The Academy of Exercise Physiology and Sports Medicine (Get Fit) is to prepare our students to pursue careers related to the support of healthy lifestyles and to guide students in becoming role models for exemplary health and wellness.

Mission
The mission of The Academy of Exercise Physiology and Sports Medicine is to provide a curriculum that offers collaborative instruction between the specialized Get Fit class, ELA, Math, Science, and Social Studies core classes. Through course work, field studies, and family nights, our students will develop qualities that promote leadership, responsibility, and good decision making while maintaining a healthy lifestyle.

What makes Get Fit unique?
This program is unique in that it is the only Health and Fitness magnet. Students study human anatomy, physiology, and mechanics of movement. They learn about health issues related to personal safety, good nutrition, and the proper treatment of athletic injuries. Students will receive training to achieve their First aid, CPR/AED certification as well as swim safety certification.

What type of student would most benefit from participating in Get Fit?
This magnet program is designed for students who are interested in learning more about their physical, mental and social health. Get Fit students are passionate about striving to live a healthy lifestyle, setting goals, and exploring health science careers. Students must be motivated to enjoy a variety of physical activity opportunities, develop leadership skills, and become citizen responders within their communities.

200 Summit Parkway, Columbia, SC 29229 | 803.699.3580, ext. 3418 | www.spm.richland2.org







STEM INSTITUTE OF DESIGN AND INNOVATION **(SIDI) AT SUMMIT PARKWAY**

The STEM Institute of Design and Innovation is a grade level through honors level interest-based school-within-a-school middle school magnet program. The program focuses on using problem-based learning to integrate design thinking, science, technology, engineering, and math that challenges students to create solutions to problems as young researchers, designers, and innovators. Students are exposed to varied experiences in and out of the classroom, including opportunities to interact with experts in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

Mission
The STEM Institute of Design and Innovation magnet program fosters innovation through design thinking & authentic experiences to provide students with the knowledge, skills & competencies to competitively pursue careers in any science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) field.

What makes the STEM Institute unique?
The STEM Institute is one of the few magnet programs in the region built around the Design Thinking process and a three-year STEM pathway that grows with students from 6th through 8th grade. Students move from hands-on STEM exploration and design challenges, to robotics and design engineering, and ultimately to an 8th-grade capstone focused on creating solutions that make an impact.

Students participate in hands-on design challenges, robotics, STEM field experiences, workshops, competitions, and partnerships with organizations such as Camp Discovery, USC Aiken, Discovery Place, Midlands Technical College, Clemson University, and Boeing. STEM Institute students have also earned recognition as state winners in the 15th Annual Samsung Solve for Tomorrow competition and through cyber robotics competitions. As students progress, they can also work toward micro-credentials and certifications that recognize growth in areas such as robotics, coding, CAD/3D design, mentoring, and other STEM pathways.

What type of student would most benefit from participating in STEM Institute?
This magnet program is for students who are passionate about science, technology, engineering, and/or mathematics topics. These students enjoy computer programming, asking lots of questions, and observing their environment. They enjoy collaborating with their peers to solve problems. Students must be self motivated as independent research and project based learning are major components of the program.



HIGH SCHOOLS

CAVPLEX

CAVPLEX CONVERGENCE MEDIA AT RICHLAND NORTHEAST HIGH





CavPlex Convergence Media is an academic elective magnet at Richland Northeast High School. CavPlex students receive instruction in scholastic journalism and participate in the award-winning student media at Northeast. The program offers students a way to learn about communication and technology together, while producing real world products for a genuine audience.

Mission
CavPlex Convergence Media at Richland Northeast High School will produce ethical multi-platform journalists and creative writers to inform and enlighten communities.

What makes CavPlex unique?
Students cover student life, news, sports, the arts, and additional happenings at Richland Northeast and in the greater community. They have access to Canon cameras and Adobe Creative Suite to complete assignments. Their experiences are customized around their interests in CavPlex while also learning professional skills such as photography, videography, newswriting, and collaboration. Students are able to lead teams through publishing the school yearbook, literary magazine, online newspaper, and airing the morning news show. CavPlex is the only program in Richland Two where students can take four years of journalism instruction. Through CavPlex, students can participate in state, regional and national scholastic journalism conferences to learn more about the field and to compete against other schools' publications and broadcasts. Journalism 3 and 4 students receive honors credit.

What type of student would most benefit from participating in CavPlex?
A number of students in CavPlex are interested in future careers in media or related fields. The vast majority go into other professions. Whatever their higher education and career goals, students report being well served by the experience of participating in student media. They learn to be better communicators, to work on deadline and to serve as both members and leaders of teams. Students who take initiative, enjoy hands-on activities, and want to write for a real-world audience will benefit from this program. Additionally, students with a growth mindset often do well.

HORIZON
Richland Northeast High School

HORIZON AT RICHLAND NORTHEAST HIGH



Driven by our commitment to Global Awareness and the belief that every individual has the power to make a difference through informed voice and purposeful action, Horizon Magnet scholars embrace opportunities, both in and out of the classroom, to broaden their understanding of the world while showcasing the skills and talents that reflect their interests, passions, and values. Through authentic learning experiences, meaningful service, and opportunities for leadership, students strive to create positive change for the greater good. Engaging classroom instruction, coupled with adventurous field study experiences, helps ensure memorable learning opportunities that leave a lasting impact.

The program admits up to 44 rising ninth graders each year, keeping Horizon classes to approximately a 22:1 student-teacher ratio. Recommended prerequisite coursework for ninth graders is one credit of Geometry with Statistics, one credit of English 1, and one credit in a foreign language. All applicants complete an interview and writing sample. Teacher recommendations, grades, and test scores are reviewed as well.

Mission
Richland Northeast High School's Horizon magnet program, in partnership with our local community, will cultivate learners who are culturally competent, have a knowledge of local and global issues, embrace opportunities to engage and take action, and graduate college and career equipped with the critical thinking and problem solving skills that will help make the world around them a better place.

What makes Horizon unique?
AP coursework in 9th grade gives Horizon scholars an early academic advantage- the opportunity to strengthen their weighted GPA, experience college-level coursework, and potentially earn college credit through AP exam success. Our goal is to build a strong foundation for future AP and college-level coursework, preparing Horizon scholars for success in the AP Capstone Diploma pathway.

What type of student would most benefit from participating in Horizon?
Students who would most benefit from the Horizon magnet program will:

- be highly motivated and academically talented
- be encouraged to think independently and drive their own learning
- See high school as preparation for college and career, and wants a head start through internships, mentorship, and college credit.
- welcome opportunities to engage and reflect on an increasingly globalized, rapidly changing world

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PCA
PALMETTO CENTER FOR THE ARTS

PALMETTO CENTER FOR THE ARTS **AT RICHLAND NORTHEAST HIGH**





The Palmetto Center for the Arts is the Visual and Performing Arts Magnet for Richland School District Two. The program, which includes dance, music, theatre and visual arts, is nationally recognized as a National School of Distinction in Arts Education by the John F. Kennedy Center and is the recipient of the John F. Kennedy Creative Ticket Award for outstanding achievement in arts education. PCA offers students an innovative, yet challenging environment with a comprehensive conservatory-style curriculum in both the arts and academics, along with the competitive edge to enter top-level colleges, universities or conservatories.

PCA is designed to challenge the student academically, as well as artistically. The program of studies accommodates those students who wish to take honors-level and Advanced Placement courses, as well as those who prefer a regular college prep curriculum. The PCA Arts Magnet Program is designed to meet the needs of a broad spectrum of high school students who are gifted and talented in the arts. Courses feature challenging standards-based Arts curriculum.

What is required of students accepted into PCA?
Students accepted into the arts magnet must earn a minimum of six arts credits in their major arts area. They must also complete a senior project and an extended-hours requirement to be determined by instructors in each arts discipline. PCA students who complete all requirements of the arts magnet will receive a fine arts certification with their diploma upon graduation.

For what art areas may students audition?
Students may audition for dance, music (vocal, band, and strings), theatre and visual arts.

What does the audition process involve?
Audition requirements are based on state guidelines for Gifted and Talented Education for each arts discipline, and require completion of an application and an audition that includes a performance or portfolio demonstration of the student's potential, as well as recommendations from a teacher and a guidance counselor. Auditions will be adjudicated by a panel of professionals. The decision of the judges is final. Natural talent, prior training, level of interest in and commitment to the arts are evaluated. Previous training or experience is not required to be accepted.

Students may audition for as many as three arts areas, but can be accepted into only one. Students auditioning for multiple art areas must indicate their preference on the application by ranking their choice of art areas as 1st, 2nd or 3rd.

ALLIED HEALTH SCIENCES MAGNET **AT RIDGE VIEW HIGH SCHOOL**





Are you interested in a career in healthcare? If so, Allied Health Sciences is the program for you. Through Project Lead The Way (PLTW) Biomedical Sciences courses, students investigate real-world medical cases, analyze evidence, and explore a wide range of healthcare careers through hands-on activities and projects. Students develop collaboration, critical thinking, innovation, and communication skills while studying human health, disease, and medical interventions. The Allied Health Sciences pathway combines rigorous biomedical science coursework with clinical and workforce preparation experiences, preparing students for success in college, healthcare training programs, and careers in the rapidly growing healthcare industry.

Mission
Allied Health Sciences engages students in a challenging and competitive educational environment through a comprehensive course of study in science, mathematics, technology, literacy and other areas as they apply to the needs of our global society. Allied Health Sciences offers college preparatory/honors students a dynamic, rigorous curriculum. Magnet seminar courses, based on the nationally recognized Project Lead The Way (PLTW) Biomedical Sciences program, uses real-world and hands-on learning experiences.

What makes Allied Health unique?
The Allied Health Sciences pathway combines engaging biomedical science experiences with career-focused healthcare training. Through the Project Lead The Way curriculum, students analyze crime scenes, determine the identity of a missing person, investigate infectious disease outbreaks, and develop innovative solutions to real-world healthcare challenges. In addition to these hands-on learning experiences, students enroll in Health Science courses that provide opportunities to earn industry-recognized certifications, including Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA), and Basic Life Support (BLS). These experiences provide students with valuable clinical skills and direct preparation for careers in healthcare and patient care.

What type of student would benefit from Allied Health?
The Allied Health Sciences Magnet program is for motivated college preparatory / honors students that want to focus on science, math and technology. The innovative curriculum focuses on building 21st century skills related to the health care industry including collaboration, critical thinking and innovation. Students graduating from the Allied Health Sciences magnet program have goals to be nutritionists, veterinarians, nurses, physical therapists and athletic trainers.

Applicants must take Geometry 1 and English 1 CP as freshmen. Students will be selected based on their application, test scores, teacher recommendations, historic grades, a math and ELA assessment, and interviews by current faculty members.

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BIOHEALTH SCIENCES MAGNET **AT RIDGE VIEW HIGH SCHOOL**



Are you ready to solve a murder? Do you think you can stop a deadly disease? If so, BioHealth Sciences is for you! From the moment students walk into the classroom, they begin investigating a mysterious death, documenting and analyzing evidence to solve real-world problems. Through Project Lead The Way (PLTW) Biomedical Sciences courses, students explore careers in medicine, biomedical sciences, biotechnology, and related STEM fields while participating in hands-on activities, projects, and case-based investigations. The program promotes collaboration, critical thinking, innovation, and communication while engaging students in a rigorous curriculum that integrates science, mathematics, technology, and laboratory investigation. Students develop a strong foundation in the biomedical sciences and gain experience with in-demand laboratory skills that are highly valued in research, healthcare, and biotechnology settings. Through these experiences, students are prepared for success in college and future careers in the rapidly evolving life sciences field

Mission
The Institute for Health Sciences mission is to engage students in a challenging and competitive environment to develop critical thinking and problem solving skills through a comprehensive course of study related to the health sciences. The vision is to support students in becoming self-directed learners that ask questions necessary to develop solutions or additional questions for 21st century problems.

What makes BioHealth unique?
The BioHealth Sciences program combines hands-on, project-based learning with advanced laboratory experiences that prepare students for careers in medicine, biotechnology, and biomedical research. Through the Project Lead The Way curriculum, students investigate forensic cases, explore human body systems, study antibiotic resistance, and solve real-world healthcare challenges. Students gain experience with laboratory techniques used in research institutions and hospitals, including polymerase chain reaction (PCR), DNA sequencing, genetic engineering, and molecular analysis. This training provides students with a strong foundation in modern biotechnology and prepares them for future study and work in high-level research laboratories, universities, and biomedical institutions. In addition, students have the opportunity to earn an industry-recognized biotechnology certification that demonstrates proficiency in valuable laboratory and biotechnology skills.

What type of student would benefit from BioHealth?
The BioHealth Sciences Magnet program is for highly achieving honors students that want to focus on science, math and technology. Students must be motivated and possess critical thinking skills in order to solve real world healthcare issues. BioHealth graduates pursue careers as doctors, nurses, physical therapists, genetic counselors, biochemists, biomedical engineers, and computer science engineering.

Applicants must have completed Geometry 1 in middle school. Students will be selected based on their application, test scores, teacher recommendations, historic grades, a math and ELA assessment, and interviews by current faculty members.

RIDGE VIEW HIGH SCHOOL
A MED PRO MAGNET



A MEDPRO MAGNET AT RIDGE VIEW HIGH SCHOOL

Med Pro Magnet at Ridge View High School focuses on engaging students in creating healthy communities through developing their medical knowledge and skills to advocate for their current and future needs. As we frame this within the Profile of the South Carolina Graduate, which guides South Carolina's educational philosophy, we mold 21st-century citizens who will be able to facilitate the enhancement of the world around them. The magnet theme is centered around Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Math, Medical (STEAMM), and AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination). AVID's WICOR strategies (writing, inquiry, collaboration, organization, and reading) anchor our STEAMM curriculum integration while providing the tools to create a culture of experiential learning.
All students attending Ridge View participate in AVID and STEAMM integrated curriculum activities.

Mission
Ridge View High School: A Med Pro Magnet uses Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts, Math, and Medical (STEAMM) integration and Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) best teaching strategies as access points to fostering a challenging, engaging, healthy, safe, and supportive approach to learning.

What makes AiMS unique?
STEAMM integration and AVID best teaching strategies is used as access points to foster a challenging, engaging, healthy, safe, and supportive approach to learning. The Med Pro student can tailor their high school experience by being a part of one of the eight smaller learning communities. The motto, It's all AT THE VIEW, and the tradition, We expect success in the 4 As: Academics, Activities, Arts, and Athletics translates to our vision, We prepare today for success tomorrow.

What type of student would benefit from this program?
Ridge View High School: A Med Pro Magnet is designed for students who are curious, motivated, and eager to explore their interests while preparing for college, careers, and life. Students who thrive in this program enjoy hands-on, real-world learning experiences and value opportunities to collaborate, lead, and grow.

The ideal Med Pro student is interested in exploring connections across Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts, Math, and Medical fields while developing the skills needed for future success. Whether a student is passionate about the arts, business, engineering, healthcare, leadership, or athletics, Ridge View provides pathways that allow students to customize their educational experience through one of our smaller learning communities.

Students who are ready to challenge themselves academically, engage in extracurricular opportunities, serve their community, and contribute to a positive school culture will benefit from Ridge View's commitment to success in the 4 A's: Academics, Activities, Arts, and Athletics. Through STEAMM integration and AVID strategies, students gain the knowledge, skills, and confidence needed to prepare today for success tomorrow.

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SCHOLARS ACADEMY MAGNET FOR BUSINESS AND LAW **AT RIDGE VIEW HIGH SCHOOL**

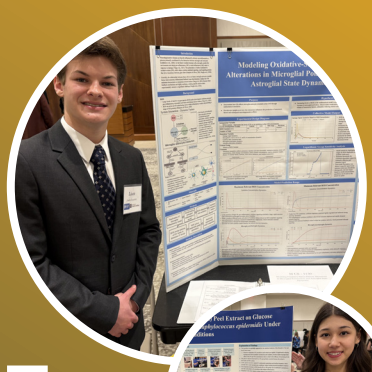
Scholars Academy Magnet for Business and Law at Ridge View High School offers broad exposure to the student's chosen magnet strand through an in-depth study of various topics and engagement problem-based learning that extend students' understanding of legal, finance and business issues and concepts in the 21st century. Through an enriched personalized program of interdisciplinary study, students develop a better understanding of their field of study and are better prepared to serve the community.

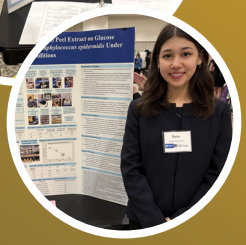
Mission
The Scholars Academy Magnet for Business and Law is designed to provide students with a comprehensive and immersive educational experience in the fields of business management, entrepreneurship, and legal studies. Our mission is to equip students with the knowledge, skills, and critical thinking abilities needed to succeed in college and beyond, fostering future leaders who are well-prepared for careers in business and law.

What makes Scholars Academy unique?
The Scholars Academy has been a part of the school community for over 20 years and was developed with input from every academic department with the notion of educating the whole child. Thus the emphasis is on critical thinking, experiential learning and skill building in every curricular pursuit in order to develop multiple modalities within a child. The Scholars Academy Magnet for Business and Law was the first program in Richland Two to be accepted as a certified College Board AP Capstone diploma program and focuses on real-world problem-based learning that makes the community the classroom, challenging students to put their skills to work in front of authentic audiences to create change for the better.

What type of student would benefit from Scholars Academy?
Highly motivated students seeking a challenging liberal arts academic curriculum would most benefit from this program.

The Scholars pathway provides a rigorous and engaging educational experience that prepares students for success in college, career, and beyond. Through a unique blend of academic excellence, leadership development, and real-world learning opportunities, students gain the knowledge, skills, and confidence needed to thrive in an increasingly competitive global environment. Focused on developing future business leaders and legal professionals, the program challenges students to excel both inside and outside the classroom. The Academy's success is reflected in its outstanding student outcomes. Graduates complete an average of eight Advanced Placement (AP) courses, and 76% of recent senior Scholars earned recognition as AP Scholars or AP Scholars with Honor. These achievements demonstrate the program's commitment to academic excellence while enabling students to earn valuable college credit and build a strong foundation for future success.







DISCOVERY **AT SPRING VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL**

Discovery at Spring Valley is a rigorous, honors/AP four-year program designed for students with special motivation, interest, aptitude, and commitment to the study of science and math. Students focus on problem-based learning with an emphasis on both the theory and application of science and mathematics. While maintaining the normally intensive honors level courses of the traditional high school curriculum, Discovery students engage in individualized laboratory-based research during their sophomore and junior years under the guidance of a school or community mentor. Students are expected to earn a minimum of six Advanced Placement credits (AP Seminar, AP Research, one in the area of science, one in the area of mathematics, and the other two coming from the wide range of AP classes offered by Spring Valley.)



Mission
Spring Valley's honors/AP Discovery magnet program provides students with an innovative, academically challenging experience centered on rigorous mathematics and science education through unique, student-centered research opportunities. Our educators strive to establish meaningful relationships with each student and family, set consistently high expectations for all learners, and challenge students to embrace diversity and become culturally responsible, caring citizens in the global community.

What makes Discovery unique?
The hallmark of the Discovery program is students completing two independent research projects of their choosing, each culminating in the opportunity to present results at regional, national, and/or international competitions. Students are encouraged to pursue scientific or mathematical research on topics that genuinely matter to them, turning their unique interests into meaningful projects. The research journey begins with freshmen learning essential research methodologies in AP Seminar, the foundation of the AP Capstone program. Sophomores build on these skills in Research 1, and fully demonstrate their mastery in AP Research as juniors.

For five straight years, Discovery magnet freshmen have achieved a 100% pass rate in AP Seminar, a remarkable achievement! Furthermore, Discovery sophomores and juniors regularly earn awards in competitions and complete their research projects in time to showcase these achievements on college applications.

What type of student would benefit from Discovery?
Highly motivated students with a particular interest and aptitude for the study of science and math will benefit the most from the Discovery rigor and research components. Although the program is challenging, our Discovery students are remarkably well-rounded and engage in multiple extracurricular activities, such as sports, fine arts, and Student Council.





EXPLORATIONS **AT SPRING VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL**

Explorations is a four-year, college preparatory program designed with threads of forensic science and integrated career exploration throughout all magnet courses. Additionally, science, mathematics, and the communication skills needed to compete in the technological career areas of the future are emphasized. Explorations students participate in problem-based learning, both in the classroom and in their senior apprenticeship positions. Students in the program are required to complete a 200-hour internship after their junior year with a business in the community that allows them to explore their chosen career path.

Mission
Spring Valley's college-prep Explorations magnet program integrates career exploration across all grade levels. Designed to spark a genuine excitement for math and science, the curriculum allows students to apply what they learn to specialized fields, beginning with forensics. This groundwork prepares students to explore their future career paths by making informed choices for their capstone 200-hour internship experience. Our educators strive to establish meaningful relationships with each student and family, set consistently high expectations for all learners, and challenge students to embrace diversity and become culturally responsible, caring citizens in the global community.

What makes Explorations unique?
The hallmark of the Explorations program is the 200-hour internship students complete after their junior year. The experience allows students to pursue a career field that genuinely interests them, often helping them solidify their intended college major or strategically pivot toward a better fit. By providing real-world workplace experience and developing essential soft skills, the internship ensures that Explorations students stand out to both college admissions officers and future employers.

What type of student would benefit from Explorations?
Academically well-rounded students who enjoy math and science courses thrive in the Explorations program. Ideal candidates have inquisitive minds, enjoy hands-on learning, and are eager to explore future career paths. Outside of the classroom, Explorations students are highly involved in our school community, frequently participating in sports, Student Council, the fine arts, and various clubs.



INSTITUTE OF RESEARCH, ENGAGEMENT, & DESIGN **(IRED) AT WESTWOOD HIGH SCHOOL**

The Institute of Research, Engagement, & Design (iRED) is a Nationally Certified Demonstration schoolwide magnet at Westwood High School. Students engage in design-based learning and research focused on science, technology, engineering, the arts, and mathematics, otherwise known as STEAM. Project and design based curricula provide students with work that advances learning through real-world projects. Students engage collaboratively in their classes, as they master not only the content but also the skills necessary to be successful in the 21st century, like communication, critical thinking, and creativity. Additionally, as an Arts in Basic Curriculum Integrated Arts High School, Westwood offers an emphasis on the arts and opportunities to participate in visual and performing arts. The result is incredible original student work, innovative solutions, and new insights that have real impact on the community.

Mission
iRED prepares students to be globally-minded, responsible citizens through an interdisciplinary, collaborative curriculum in the sciences, technology, engineering, the arts, and mathematics.

What makes iRED unique?
iRED is a unique school-wide magnet that strives to give all students opportunities to learn in collaborative, design-based environments. While the iRED magnet encompasses the entire school, we also have a variety of programs to suit any student's interests and future goals. The iRED magnet curriculum is not prescriptive; students can customize their high school experience to suit their passions and needs. Students can explore a number of different courses, programs, and interests throughout their experience, and identify new talents and interests along the way. The programs include fire management, EMS, engineering, certified medical assistant and cybersecurity, computer science, business marketing, health science, digital art, teacher cadet, journalism and media arts, and more.

What type of student would benefit from iRED?
iRED benefits students looking for a challenging curriculum in the sciences and arts, students who wish to explore career opportunities through varied coursework in areas that interest them, like engineering, firefighting, medicine and nursing, performing arts, computer programming, and broadcast journalism, and students who want to grow their 21st century skills like creativity and collaboration. Students looking for real-world work will find it in iRED.

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STUDIO D **AT WESTWOOD HIGH SCHOOL**





Learning in Studio D at Westwood High School begins with an authentic problem or "design challenge" that sparks student interest and engagement. Students then collaborate to research and embark on this challenge, using an innovative 5-stage design thinking process. Throughout this undertaking, students achieve academic standards while also developing empathy, creativity, independence, teamwork, and leadership. The work is "hands on" and human-centered. Students interview and investigate, collaborate with experts in the field, make discoveries, synthesize data, brainstorm solutions, seek feedback, and reflect on their process.

Mission
Studio D empowers students to think critically and creatively, to take risks, to innovate, and to collaborate on relevant design challenges. Rigorous interdisciplinary learning experiences allow students to learn key academic content, exceeding state standards and bringing that content to life through project-based learning and design thinking strategies. Human centered challenges allow students to develop empathy and engage in the world as they learn.

What makes Studio D unique?
Studio D is truly a one-of-a-kind magnet. Based on the methods and mindsets of the d.school at Stanford University, we emphasize open-ended inquiry and problem-solving, collaboration, process over product, continuous critique and revision, and reflection. We prepare students to be effective communicators, critical thinkers, problem solvers, and creative leaders in order to compete in the emerging global economy, while keeping empathy at the center of it all. Three major beliefs drive our learning experiences: 1. Learning occurs best by doing. Our students deserve to learn in an environment that treats them as producers, not just consumers. 2. Students are leaders, innovators, and designers. Our students have dynamic and diverse talents, and we provide students with a platform to explore those talents. 3. Our students deserve rigorous and meaningful learning experiences that foster powerful collaboration with professionals, business leaders, and community stakeholders.

What type of student would benefit from Studio D?
Students who thrive in Studio D are those who demand more from their education, those who enjoy finding diverse ways to approach a problem, and those who dream of working on real-world projects. Studio D students need to collaborate with others and experience their learning, not just hear about it. We are looking for students willing to revise work again and again until it is the best it can be to make a real difference in the world. We are looking for students who are, or who want to be, proactive, confident, imaginative, and reflective.

Frequently Asked Questions About Magnet Programs

What are magnet programs?
Richland Two's Magnet Programs offer learning opportunities related to various themes for interested students. Students from across the district may apply to a Magnet Program regardless of where they are zoned. The purposes of Magnet Programs are to meet students' diverse needs and interests by maximizing potential for learning and growth; encouraging creativity; maintaining high standards; and creating an awareness of career opportunities relative to the fields of study in which students may be interested.

My child appears to be interested in several Magnet Programs. How do we make the choice?
Parents are encouraged to acquire as much information about each program as possible. They are encouraged to attend the Choice Fair and school informational meetings, review the brochures and magnet program videos, visit the schools, talk to the Magnet Lead Teachers, and visit the website for more information.

May my child apply for more than one magnet or choice program?
Each student can apply for up to three programs.

Can a student with an Individualized Education Program (IEP) apply for Magnet Programs?
Students receiving special education may apply for choice to a magnet school, magnet program, virtual school, or another school within the district through the Choice program. During application periods, parents/guardians apply online and follow the district's school choice process. The decision to grant the choice request is based on the student's programming needs and program capacity at the school of choice. Richland Two adheres to state special education program capacity guidelines. Once a student is granted choice, all district transportation rules apply and the student is no longer eligible to receive district transportation, including Special Needs Transportation to and from school. Parents/guardians are responsible for transportation to their school of choice.

After my child is accepted into the magnet program, do I need to fill out an application every year to allow my child to continue in the magnet program?
Magnet program students in grades (K–5), (6–8), (9–12), do not need to apply every year in order to remain in their magnet program. However, magnet program students in the fifth and eighth grades must apply to continue with a magnet program in middle and high school.

Once a student is granted attendance through Choice to a magnet school or program, can they lose the option to attend that school or program?
Choice is a program for students who reside in Richland School District Two. If a student moves outside of the district, the student can no longer attend any Richland School District Two school. Additionally, any student attending a school or program through Choice must maintain the following:

- Exemplary punctuality and attendance at school
- Cooperation with the school and/or program in regards to academic and disciplinary expectations
- Transportation to and from school.

How can I apply for my child to attend a Magnet school?
Parents may submit an electronic application during the application period in November-December and April. The selection is for the following school year.

How are elementary school students selected for Magnet schools?
Students submitting an application are selected through a random computerized process using the following criteria:

- Application submitted during the online application period
- School capacity

How are middle school or high school students selected for Magnet programs?
Students submitting an application for a selective program are selected through a process using the following criteria*: grades, test scores, writing samples, teacher recommendations, interviews, and application. Palmetto Center for the Arts requires an audition.

*Exception: FAME (Fine Arts and Media Enrichment

Frequently Asked Questions About Magnet Programs

Program) at Dent, Longleaf LEAP, MedPro at Kelly Mill, CavPlex, and Westwood iRED have selection by lottery and no interviews, grade review, recommendations or writing samples are required.

Are siblings automatically accepted into the same Magnet program?
For elementary school students, priority is given to siblings applying to a Magnet program where another sibling has been accepted. Siblings entering the same school that another sibling attends must be listed on the Magnet application form to be considered for priority placement. Placement is based on space availability.

For middle and high school selective Magnet programs, each student must be selected on his/her own merit. There is no sibling policy for middle and high school selective programs. However, a sibling may request a sibling transfer to attend the school (not the magnet) where the sibling's magnet is housed. (Download and fill out the Sibling Transfer Request Form.) For middle and high school programs with lottery selection, siblings can request a sibling transfer. (Download and fill out the Sibling Transfer Request Form.) Placement is based on space availability.

Is any priority given to an elementary Magnet student when applying to a middle school Magnet?
No. The only exception is for Center For Knowledge (CFK) students applying to Leadership Academy at Wright (LAW) and CFKN students applying to Leadership at Muller. Students at these schools meeting the entrance requirements for their respective Leadership magnets will be given priority placement.

Is it too late to submit an application to the Magnet programs?
Late applications are not accepted. Applications are submitted electronically and are only accepted during the two advertised application periods which usually occur:

Choice 1 — open and closes prior to Winter Break
Choice 2 — opens mid-April and closes mid-May

Specific dates can be found on the Choice Calendar online. All applications are time stamped.

Is there a waiting list for Magnet schools?
Schools and programs with lottery selection maintain a wait list by assigned lottery number. There is no waiting list for magnets with selective criteria. There is however an applicant pool and as vacancies occur, the Lead Teachers of the individual magnet programs will seat the most highly qualified students prior to the start of school. You will be contacted by the Lead Teacher if your student is selected.

Who provides transportation?
Parents of students participating in any of the district's Magnet programs must provide transportation for their children to and from school unless the child is zoned to the school where the magnet is housed. The inability of a student to meet the attendance expectations of the magnet school will lead to Choice being revoked and the student returning to their zoned school.

May students apply to both a Magnet program and Expanded Choice?
Students may apply to a magnet program and Expanded Choice.

How will families find out about their selection status?
Parents/students must log onto www.richland2.org/Choice to see if students were selected to attend a Choice School or Magnet Program. If selected for a Choice School or Magnet Program, students/parents must accept the seat by date indicated on the choice calendar. If not accepted by date listed, the seat will be given to another qualified student. If your child is not accepted to a Choice School or Magnet Program this year, you may reapply next year.

If a student did not accept a program during Choice 1, can they apply again during Choice 2?
Student who applied during Choice 1 and did not accept a seat in a magnet program may apply again in Choice 2. Please note, submitting an application for Choice 2 invalidates any applications submitted during Choice 1. Students accepting a seat in a magnet program during Choice I are ineligible to apply to other schools or programs during Choice 2.

Frequently Asked Questions About Magnet Programs

Can students who receive special services participate in Choice?
Students receiving special education may apply for choice to a magnet school, magnet program, virtual school, or another school within the district through the Choice program. During application periods, parents/guardians apply online and follow the district's school choice process. The decision to grant the choice request is based on the student's programming needs and program capacity at the school of choice. Richland Two adheres to state special education program capacity guidelines. Once a student is granted choice, all district transportation rules apply and the student is no longer eligible to receive district transportation, including Special Needs Transportation to and from school. Parents/guardians are responsible for transportation to their school of choice.

If approved for Choice, does the student need to apply each year?
If approved for a Richland School District Two School Choice program, a student does not need to apply yearly for the same program. Choice approvals are valid for the duration of a student's stay at the approved school until they change schools or move out of Richland School District Two. There are circumstances that will cause a student to have their Choice revoked pertaining to poor attendance, lack of cooperation with the school and academic performance in programs (magnets, AVID) that require maintenance of academic standards.

How does Magnet Choice affect participation in interscholastic athletics?
The rules of the South Carolina High School League determine eligibility for interscholastic athletics and activities for middle and high school students. It is the parents' and students' responsibility to be aware of these athletic procedures before applying for a Choice option. Any student who accepts a Magnet program and participates in an athletic activity at the Choice school during the spring or summer (cheerleading tryouts, spring football practice, summer team camps) may have their eligibility affected. If you have questions regarding Choice and participation in interscholastic athletics, please contact your school's athletic director prior to applying for a Magnet program or a transfer to a school other than your zoned school. Additionally, many eligibility concerns are addressed in the athletics frequently asked questions.

If I accept a seat for my child in a magnet tprogram during Choice 1, can he/she apply and be accepted to another Magnet during Choice 2?
No. Any student who applies and accepts a seat in a Magnet program during Choice 1 is ineligible to apply for another program during Choice 2. Any student who was not offered a seat during Choice 1 may apply to different programs during Choice 2. However, applying for Choice options during Choice 2 will remove them from any Choice 1 waitlists.

Will my child will have a better chance of being selected for a particular program if he/she shadows another student in that program for a day?
No. Whether a student shadows a current magnet student or participates in a tour has no impact on selection. Shadowing and touring opportunities are available to help students make decisions about which applications to submit. It is a completely optional activity and students will need a parental note to explain the absence.

Will my child may be accepted to more than one Choice option and I get to choose which one he/she will attend?
No. We use a single best offer model where your child's applications are rank ordered by your preference, with #1 being your first choice preference and #3 being your last choice preference. Your child will be offered an available seat in the highest ranked school or program on their application for which they qualify.

If I apply to three programs, am I guaranteed to be accepted to one?
No. All Choice programs run independent selection processes. Applying to multiple programs will not increase your chances of getting into a single program.

Purpose Driven, Future Ready

Leading the Future of Learning

MAGNETS CONTACTS

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RICHLAND
SCHOOL DISTRICT
TWO

MISSION STATEMENT

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH OUR COMMUNITY, WE EMPOWER STUDENTS TO DISCOVER THEIR POTENTIAL AND PREPARE FOR A SUCCESSFUL FUTURE

WWW.RICHLAND2.ORG/CHOICE

763 FASHION DRIVE, COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA 29229

803-787-1910

Richland School District Two is committed to providing equal access to educational and employment opportunities regardless of race, color, religion, national origin, disability, pregnancy, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity status, spousal affiliation, or any other protected characteristic, as may be required by law. Therefore, as required by Title IX and its implementing regulations, 106.8(b)(2)(i), Richland School District Two does not discriminate on the basis of sex in its educational programs and activities.

Visit the Richland Two website, www.richland2.org, for more information on the Richland Two Title IX Compliance Program.

Our District Title IX Coordinator can be reached at klarkins@richland2.org or (803) 738-3338.