



GREENVILLE COUNTY SCHOOLS

MAGNET
ACADEMIES

**J. L. Mann Academy of Mathematics,
Science and Technology**

What is a Magnet Academy?

- A magnet academy offers a theme, strand or focus that is designed to give students an opportunity to explore a special interest, gift, talent, or skill.

- A magnet school may offer more than one magnet strand.

J.L. Mann offers 3.



What Is a Magnet Academy Designed to Do?

Magnet academies are designed to create an educational environment which

- responds to student interests
- celebrates cultural and ethnic diversity
- fosters student achievement
- prepares students for the next level of learning and career preparation

What Are the Advantages of Attending a Magnet Academy?

- Students participate in the magnet program and meet students from different areas of the district who also share an interest in the school's magnet theme.

ADVANTAGES cont.

- While some similar courses may be offered in traditional schools, magnet schools attract students by offering **unique and expanded opportunities** for in-depth experiences and study in **specific areas of interest.**

ADVANTAGES cont.

- Homebase students may also elect to participate in the magnet theme and earn the Magnet Distinction award.

What Are the Common Features of GCS Magnet High Schools?

- Students have a choice of specific academic pathways in the magnet focus areas (10 choices in 4 high schools)
- Magnet students are required to choose and follow a pathway toward Magnet Distinction

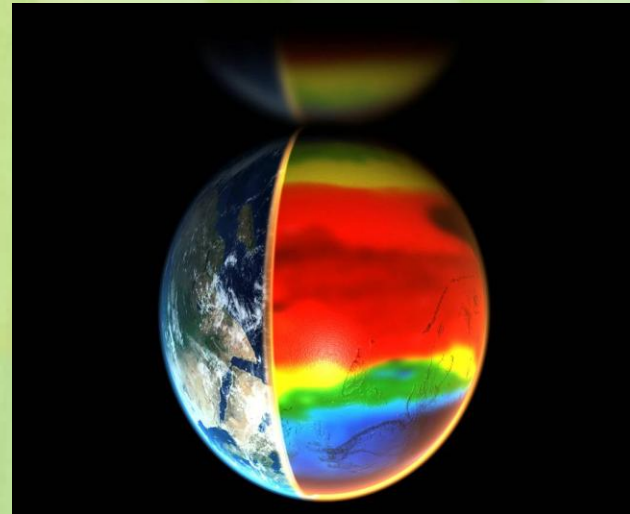
COMMON FEATURES cont.

- All pathways have specific and elective course requirements in addition to those required for South Carolina graduation (ex. 3 Foreign Language credits)
- All magnet students complete an independent Senior Project or arrange an approved internship in their focus area.

What is J.L. Mann Academy's Magnet Focus?

Students who choose our school will have an interest in pursuing extended studies in

- Science
- Technology
- Mathematics



Academy Requirement

All students who **apply** as magnet students and are offered slots at Mann **are required to choose and follow one** of these three disciplines as their academic focus. If entering as a sophomore or junior, a student must be able to complete the selected pathway and earn Magnet Distinction as a condition of enrollment.

What Experiences Will My Child Have at J.L. Mann?

- An array of CP, Honors and Advanced Placement courses taught by highly qualified instructors



- Opportunity to immerse him/herself in the study of math, science or technology **beyond** the requirements for a high school diploma
- Opportunity to follow a magnet academic pathway of his/her choice that will culminate with a Magnet Distinction Award

Highlights of JL Mann

- Enriched curriculums in Math, Science, and Technology to challenge our magnet students
- “Cutting Edge” instructional technology and practices in all classrooms
- “High Schools That Work” site
- Junior Army ROTC
- “Project Lead the Way” engineering program as part of the technology pathway
- Freshman Academy
- Home of National Merit Finalists and Semi-finalists

continued...

- World Class Partners student exchange with France
- Award-winning student publications program- *Mannuscript & Talismann*
- Junior Army ROTC
- TI-NSpire Navigator Systems in Algebra 1
- *Newsweek* magazine “Top All School”!!!!



Will I Be Able to Play Sports?

- Your eligibility for high school sports is established in the ninth grade. If you enter as a freshman next year, you may participate .
- You will have 15 sports and 39 teams from which to choose.
- Over 50% of J.L. Mann students participate in one or more sports each year



Extra-Curricular Opportunities

- Yearbook and Newspaper
- Science Clubs
- Student Government
- Leadership and Renaissance Mann
- Academic Team
- Forensics Team
- Youth in Government
- Film and Art Clubs
- Community Service
- And many more! Check our website!



Why Should I Apply in the First Round?

- Students who apply and qualify during the first round have a greater chance of being offered a slot than those students who apply and qualify in later rounds.
- Mann has historically filled all slots with first round applicants.
- All qualified students from the first round are offered slots before any students from second round can be taken.

**It is very important to apply
during the first round!**

Where Do I Find Magnet Academy Applications?

Beginning November 3, 2010 you may:

- ✓ Download an application and the *Frequently Asked Questions* document at www.gcsmagnetacademies.org
- ✓ Obtain an application at any magnet academy
- ✓ Obtain an application at the Service Center at the GCS Central Office on Camperdown Way

Do I Need to Read the FAQ Document?

Absolutely!!

At the top of page 1 of the application, a parent or child representative will sign to verify that he/she has read the FAQ. Information related to the application and scoring process as well as the wait list, lottery system and rounds is addressed in a clear, easy to understand format.

How Are Applications Scored?

Applications are scored based on 4 criteria:

1. Attendance- **4** points
2. Discipline- **5** Points
3. GPA (Student Interview in Grades K-5, 1, 2)-
12 points (GPA x 3)
4. Student Statement- **4** points

Eligibility criteria are printed in the *Frequently Asked Questions* document and can be found at

www.gcsmagnetacademies.org

Note: Test scores are not considered in qualifying.

How Are Students Selected?

- **Qualifying siblings who apply first round are given priority in awarding of slots**
- Highest scores are accepted next until all slots are filled (25-20)
- A **lottery system** is used when there are more qualifying applicants than available slots
 - Applicants with the highest score(25) are chosen first
 - Applicants with the same score are arranged by a computer lottery
 - Applicants are chosen in rank order by score until all slots are filled

For more information on the selection process visit www.gcsmagnetacademies.org

How Do I Apply if My Child Currently Attends a District School?

- Submit a completed application to the school's magnet coordinator **by 12:00 noon** before the close of the application window (December 2)
- The magnet academy will access your child's attendance, discipline, and grade report from the district's database. If your child was not enrolled in a district school LAST year, you will need to provide a copy of the final grade report for **last year (2009-2010) with the application.**
- The *Parent Checklist*, page 1 of the application packet, outlines what specific documentation must be submitted.

How Do I Apply if My Child is Not Enrolled in a District School?

- Submit a completed application to the school's magnet coordinator **by 12:00 noon** before the close of the application window (December 2).
- Submit attendance, discipline, and grade reports (2009-10 final report card) to the school's magnet coordinator.
- The *Parent Checklist*, page 1 of the application packet, outlines what specific documentation must be submitted.

How Do I Request Transportation?

- Indicate your child's transportation needs when completing the application.
- At the time of acceptance of a slot, you will complete a paper transportation form and submit it to the school magnet coordinator. It will then be forwarded to the Transportation Coordinator by late April 2011.
- District Transportation determines routes and makes contact with the home during the summer. Coordinators will not have the routing information. This arrangement is between the parent and the Transportation Office.

How Will I Be Contacted?

Beginning early December (TBA), students and parents will be contacted through:

- Parents' email (please enter clearly on the application)
- Phone calls
or
- Regular Mail



How do I submit the application?

- Bring it to the Main Office at Mann. Ms. Richardson will check for required information and documents.
- Middle school “mass” delivery- check w/counselor
- Regular Mail: **Mail early**. Any applications received after the noon deadline on Dec. 2 will be moved to second round. We are not responsible for mailed applications.
- We **do not accept** faxed applications. We do accept faxed documents requested from schools.

What if I Have More Questions?

- ✓ Visit www.gcsmagnetacademies.org
- ✓ Check the FAQ document
- ✓ Contact the magnet school coordinator for information related to JL Mann. Email dhoward@greenville.k12.sc.us or call 355-6326. You may also contact Mrs. Richardson at 355-6300 if you need immediate assistance.
- ✓ Contact the coordinators at other magnet schools in which you are interested in applying.

Thank You for Visiting J.L.
Mann Academy!!

We are committed to making a
difference every day!!