

## Zoomerang Survey Results

Magnet Programs Survey

Response Status: Completes

Filter: No filter applied

Jun 04, 2012 8:49 AM PST

Over the past three decades, magnet programs have served the following three objectives in the district. Please indicate whether you support or oppose these objectives.

### 1. Reduce high concentrations of poverty and support diversity

Top number is the count of respondents selecting the option. Bottom % is percent of the total respondents selecting the option.

Oppose No Opinion

1 2

195 219

8% 9%

### 2. Maximize use of school facilities by strategic placement of specialized programs

Top number is the count of respondents selecting the option. Bottom % is percent of the total respondents selecting the option.

Oppose No Opinion

1 2

115 170

5% 7%

### 3. Provide expanded educational opportunities

Top number is the count of respondents selecting the option. Bottom % is percent of the total respondents selecting the option.

Oppose No Opinion

1 2

96 51

4%

2%

#### 4. Are there any other objectives that you think magnet programs should serve in the district?

786 Responses

#### 5. Which of the following magnet themes/programs, including ones currently offered, do you think would be attractive to Wake County families? Check as many as you like.

International Baccalaureate	1668
Gifted and Talented (offers electives in arts and other subjects)	1946
Leadership	1429
Creative Arts and Sciences	1701
Museums	706
Science and Technology	2002
AG Basics (Academically Gifted)	1686
Montessori	910
Health and Athletics	786
Language Immersion (e.g Spanish, Chinese)	1601
Other, please specify	283

#### 6. Please indicate the city or town you reside in?

Apex	143
Cary	466
Fuquay Varina	35
Garner	83
Holly Springs	53
Knightdale	48
Morrisville	35
Raleigh	1339
Rolesville	10
Wake Forest	70
Wendell	17
Zebulon	19
Other	31

<b>Total</b>	<b>2349</b>
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**7. Please indicate the school(s) that your child(ren) attends.**

A.B. Combs Magnet Elementary 376	97
A.V. Baucom Elementary 328	7
Adams Elementary 304	16
Alston Ridge Elementary 307	6
Apex Elementary 308	6
Apex High 316	13
Apex Middle School 312	8
Athens Drive High School 318	19
Aversboro Elementary 320	3
Baileywick Road Elementary 326	4
Ballentine Elementary 327	5
Banks Road Elementary 325	4
Barwell Road Elementary 329	4
Brassfield Elementary 334	6
Brentwood Magnet Elementary 336	5
Briarcliff Elementary 340	6
Brier Creek Elementary 342	7
Brooks Magnet Elementary 344	61
Bugg Magnet Elementary 352	12
Carnage Magnet Middle 356	139
Carpenter Elementary 358	8
Carroll Middle 360	6
Carver Elementary 362	1
Cary Elementary 364	8
Cary High 368	22
Cedar Fork Elementary 369	6
Centennial Campus Magnet Middle 370	22
Conn Magnet Elementary 380	51
Creech Road Elementary 384	1
Daniels Middle 388	73
Davis Drive Elementary 390	8
Davis Drive Middle 391	10
Dillard Drive Elementary 393	7
Dillard Drive Middle 394	11
Douglas Magnet Elementary 396	45
Durant Road Elementary 398	4
Durant Road Middle 399	11

East Cary Middle 402	10
East Garner Elementary 403	3
East Garner Magnet Middle 404	21
East Millbrook Magnet Middle 408	40
East Wake Arts, Ed, Global Studies 702	1
East Wake Engineering Systems 703	2
East Wake Health Sciences 700	0
East Wake Integrated Technology 701	0
East Wake Middle 410	2
Farmington Woods Magnet Elementary 414	119
Forest Pines Elementary 417	3
Forestville Road Elementary 413	4
Fox Road Elementary 415	6
Fred A. Smith Magnet Elementary 560	16
Fuller Magnet Elementary 416	55
Fuquay Varina Middle 424	0
Fuquay-Varina Elementary 420	3
Fuquay-Varina High 428	2
Garner Magnet High 436	6
Green Elementary 440	4
Green Hope Elementary 439	10
Green Hope High 441	13
Harris Creek Elementary 451	10
Herbert Akins Elementary 306	1
Heritage Elementary 454	4
Heritage High 445	5
Heritage Middle 444	9
Highcroft Drive Elementary 443	4
Hilburn Drive Elementary 442	5
Hodge Road Elementary 446	2
Holly Grove Elementary 457	6
Holly Grove Middle 458	5
Holly Ridge Elementary 449	3
Holly Ridge Middle 450	4
Holly Springs Elementary 447	6
Holly Springs High 455	11
Hunter Magnet Elementary 448	78
J. Y. Joyner Magnet Elementary 456	105
Jeffreys Grove Elementary 452	7
Jones Dairy Elementary 453	3
Kingswood Elementary 460	6
Knightdale Elementary 464	1
Knightdale High 466	6
Lacy Elementary 468	39

Lake Myra Elementary 474	5
Laurel Park Elementary 467	10
Lead Mine Elementary 470	6
Leesville Road Elementary 469	5
Leesville Road High 473	19
Leesville Road Middle 471	7
Ligon Magnet Middle 472	171
Lincoln Heights Elementary 476	1
Lockhart Elementary 480	5
Longview School 324	0
Lufkin Road Middle 484	13
Lynn Road Elementary 488	8
Martin Magnet Middle 492	182
Middle Creek Elementary 494	6
Middle Creek High 495	6
Millbrook Magnet High 500	30
Millbrook Magnet Elementary 496	31
Mills Park Elementary 501	5
Mills Park Middle 502	9
Moore Square Middle 506	25
Morrisville Elementary 504	10
Mount Vernon School 508	0
Needham Broughton High 348	74
North Forest Pines Drive Elem 514	3
North Garner Middle 512	4
North Ridge Elementary 516	5
Northwoods Elementary 520	4
Oak Grove Elementary 522	6
Olds Elementary 524	24
Olive Chapel Elementary 523	5
Panther Creek High 526	14
Partnership Elementary 525	12
Penny Road Elementary 530	6
Phillips High 528	0
Pleasant Union Elementary 531	6
Poe Magnet Elementary 532	38
Powell Magnet Elementary 536	46
Rand Road Elementary 540	1
Reedy Creek Elementary 542	3
Reedy Creek Middle 400	5
River Bend Elementary 302	1
River Oaks Middle 438	0
Rolesville Elementary 544	5
Root Elementary 548	12

Salem Elementary 550	6
Salem Middle 551	8
Sanderson High 552	18
Sanford Creek Elementary 554	6
Southeast Raleigh Magnet High 562	32
Stough Elementary 564	17
Swift Creek Elementary 568	3
Sycamore Creek Elementary 569	22
Timber Drive Elementary 570	5
Turner Creek Elementary 571	5
Underwood Magnet Elementary 572	108
Vance Elementary 576	3
Vandora Springs Elementary 580	4
Wake Early College 583	5
Wake Forest Elementary 584	7
Wake Forest-Rolesville High 588	7
Wake Forest-Rolesville Middle 592	3
Wake NCSU STEM Early College 582	2
Wakefield Elementary 593	4
Wakefield High 595	13
Wakefield Middle 594	5
Wakelon Elementary 597	3
Walnut Creek Elementary 599	3
Washington Magnet Elementary 596	126
Weatherstone Elementary 598	7
Wendell Magnet Elementary 600	7
Wendell Middle 601	2
West Cary Middle 604	5
West Lake Elementary 606	7
West Lake Middle 607	10
West Millbrook Middle 608	11
Wilburn Elementary 616	5
Wildwood Forest Elementary 618	10
Wiley Magnet Elementary 620	110
William G Enloe Magnet High 412	200
Willow Springs Elementary 624	4
Yates Mill Elementary 626	1
York Elementary 628	9
Zebulon Magnet Elementary 632	16
Zebulon Magnet Middle 636	8

**8. Please feel free to share other comments about WCPSS magnet programs.**

1265 Responses

4. Are there any other objectives that you think magnet programs should serve in the district?

Respondent #	Response
	1 Please try to convert public school to Magnet
	2 Magnets should remain diverse in both their population and teachings. The magnet schools are pretty much the only good thing about the educational system in Raleigh and this is only true because of its diverse populace.
	3 To utilize progressive educational techniques and curriculums, like flipping the class room and online educational tools like Kahn Academy.
	4 It would be nice to have some magnet schools located in western Wake to make them more convenient to families who live and work in Western Wake.
	5 provide expanded educational opportunities but have locations in various locations close to other areas like Cary and apex
	6 I think the magnet schools need to focus on school-based health initiatives as an academic booster and to look seriously at establishing and supporting a school-based health center in the district.
	7 Offer curriculums with heavy enrichment and focus beyond that typically offered in the traditional curriculum in a specific area of concentration.
	8 Magnet program with strong emphasis on service-learning; more leadership magnets
	9 There seems to be a trend of less diversity in some of the magnet schools. Would love to see more diversity AND possibly college courses offered AT the magnet schools.

- 10 Create specialized programs for students who struggle academically but do not qualify for special education. They are the ones who are falling through the cracks. They develop low self esteem and often develop behavioral problems.
- 11 Increase achievement of low income students
- 12 eliminate the desire for forced busing
- 13 I am a bit perplexed by question #1 . . . what does that question really mean?
- 14 In addition to providing an opportunity for students that are not as academically gifted to mix with those that are and thus develop some synergy across those students, it also provides a challenging environment for those academically gifted students and allows them to maximize their education to the fullest. In many ways, it provides a win-win situation for all students in the magnet program. The added diversity of the student populations in the magnet programs also enhances the students cultural diversity and acceptance and understanding of different aspects of our community. The magnet students seem to be much more accepting of diversity and social differences and will probably be better citizens as a result.
- 15 To offer a more creative way of learning.
- 16 Provide different educational approaches for children classified with Learning Disability .
- 17 I think WCPSS does a great job for at risk and poverty level children and families. I think there should be as much focus on the GT and AG students.
- 18 Serve as educational opportunities for kids who /want/ to learn, in part by eliminating kids who won't work and/or disrupt the education of others.

- 19 Give children with academic needs a place to achieve them. For example, my son is advanced in math (taking Adv 6th grade math in 4th grade; Pre-Algebra in 5th grade). The only middle schools that offered Alg I, Geom, Alg II and Pre-Calc were Carnage and Ligon. There are so many programs for low performing students and so few for very high performing students. We were lucky our son got into Carnage or else he would have missed out and not been served well academically at our base middle school. Magnet school selection needs to make sure students like my son (very high performers/advanced students) get into schools with programs to allow them to progress. Please don't overlook the needs of the high achievers ... they have been overlooked for too long by WCPSS!!! (Would love it if base schools could support the needs of very high academic achievers, but WCPSS doesn't seem to want this to happen.)
- 20 Use not only to fill under enrolled schools, but also need to be placed closer to areas with over-enrolled/popular schools to give parents there a reason to leave, not placed all inside the beltline.
- 21 Offer diverse educational approaches and opportunities to reflect and support a diverse population. Promote cross-cultural understanding and cooperation. Enhance democracy facilitating dialogue and community across social and cultural boundaries.
- 22 To be centers of excellence to allow both the traditionally lowest and highest performing students to shine. To serve as standards of excellence to show the rest of the country the exceptional nature of WCPSS.
- 23 I wish that there was a way that all schools have a specialized program because magnet schools seem to have more money and months of employment. It seems with a system with year round, modified calendar and magnet schools the traditional schools often suffer. I think with our old way of assigning students the magnet schools were important for

- 24 Have more magnet schools with more diverse programs. There should be multiple magnet schools in different parts of the county offering popular program, like the international program at Wiley Elementary.
- 25 Not that I can think of.
- 26 I think magnet programs should serve to give teachers and other school staff more freedom in how they teach and foster the emotional growth of children.
- 27 Opportunities for Special Ed students
- 28 The programs should be available to all students at all schools, as opposed to being a means to coax individuals to certain schools in order to achieve an alternative objective of the school district
- 29 PLEASE! PLEASE! plan more spanish immersion schools. It is so important especially in the Cary area. The IB programs only provide a foreign language twice on a 7 day calendar. This is not enough! Kids need foreign lang. EVERYDAY from Kindergarten
- 30 They give a choice to children that are trapped in sections of the county where all the choices are low performing schools with few advanced course offerings.
- 31 My son is currently a magnet school student and he is struggling in math and reading. The school he is at has a tutoring program to help him, but it's not really individualize to fit him, they are focusing on getting him ready for the EOGs. After you grill something in their heads over and over they get up but they don't really have the concept behind it. I think the magnet programs especially should have year-round help not help just to prepare them for EOGs.
- 32 I think these three objectives are critical, although Objective 3 should be something from which all schools would benefit.
- 33 I think magnet programs do not work for the kids they are intended for.
- 34 All AG magnets should be 100% application only. Magnet schools should have year-round schedules to allow for more students in the Magnet schools.
- 35 Specialized skills or opportunities.
- 36 Creating unique school communities that motivate students and staff through common interests.

37 I really wish there were more magnet schools or schools with magnet curriculum in the non-poverty areas too. We are in Western Wake and all of the magnet schools are way too far away.

38 AG/GT schools should have an application process to insure students are qualified for the programs. Many AG kids languish in bas schools, with no opportunity for advanced teaching.

39 Yes. Magnet schools should also embrace the concept of community. Magnet schools are now more concentrated in the downtown Raleigh (or poverty) areas to balance poverty and wealth family background. We believe magnet programs could be evenly distributed throughout other wake county schools, at least a few in each town to balance the community concept. Current magnet students lose the sense of community because they are losing touch after school. Diversity should not just be a balance between poverty and wealth, but should include people of all background and support the community idea. Diversity is beyond poor or rich, but is a term of globalization. Even if magnet schools are placed in Apex, Hollyspring, or any other towns, students from black or poverty areas should be given priority to enroll if they apply. Then both the objectives of diversity, including community and balance of wealth, can be achieved.

40 I would like to see ALL Wake county students have access to excellent educational programming in EVERY building. Why do we need special or Magnet designation to accomplish that? Let's implement best practices in each school. We know what those are...we need to spend the money to make that happen. And yes, I am in favor of raising taxes to do so!

41 Higher scores. The scores at the school we are slated for have dropped and the rating fell. That concerns us as parents. Like the extra programs but want to make sure the basics are still covered very well too.

- 42 Ensure the academic performance of impoverished students is equal to that of magnet students. If a magnet school wins awards yet their impoverished students fail proficiency tests then that school should be dismantled and magnet moved elsewhere. A magnet school should serve all students to achieve academic success, not just the magnet students (i.e Enloe and Farmington Woods). Do not bus impoverished students to Farmington woods, let the school serve the impoverished students that reside in Cary. Yes, there are plenty of poor families here in "old" cary that reside in district 9 that were not allowed to go to Farmington Woods.
- 43 Magnet programs should provide all students who desire to pursue a specialized program that opportunity. There is no reliable data that proves placing ED kids in a high performing school increases the performance of the ED child. Using a magnet program to reduce high concentrations of poverty does not help the ED child. It may make the school district look better, or the school look better, but it just masks the real problem. Why not create a vocational-tech magnet and encourage kids who are ED that may not have the ways & means to attend so that when they graduate they will have a skill set that allows them to be employable. I think that entrance into AG magnet programs should be on an achievement basis and that criteria should be the #1 factor in determining "winners" in the lottery. It is absurd that a moderately identified child has a seat in an AG magnet while a very strong need child is turned away.
- 44 It would be nice to have an Achedmically gifted school to challenge those kids at a higher level.
- 45 Increase support for higher needs students.
- 46 1. Promote educational excellence and offer to students with different interests, talents, and aptitudes, distinct choices that may enhance their educational success; 2. Develop innovative instructional practices and promote systemic reform. 3. Promote diversity (includes racial, ethnic, economic, gender, and special needs populations) within schools.

- 47 performing arts
- 48 Helping high achieving students reach their full potential. We need to foster the future inventors in the US, not cater to the average.
- 49 They should be available to special needs children as well as mainstream children.
- 50 More choices for specific professional Trade Careers.
- 51 Opportunity to explore the electives will bring the best out of the student.
- 52 Differentiated programs that target the \*best\* students.
- 53 Open enrollment to ALL students desiring magnet program educational opportunities. Even if that requires raising taxes.
- 54 Access to highly talented AG students
- 55 go green!
- 56 Magnet programs should not be limited to reducing high concentrations of poverty. All wake county students should have equal opportunities to attend magnet schools but that doesn't seem to be the case. Base schools need to have interesting, gifted, science-themed programs,  
also
- 57 Prepare students for life after high school that are not suited for college. Place magnets at high performing schools that will attract low performing students.
- 58 The reason I chose to go the magnet path for our children, is because I have heard so many bad things about our base school. The choice options were not many, and magnet was the most appealing approach without having to pay tuition somewhere. Our household cannot afford tuition schools. I think the magnet we have is excellent and has taught very well. I do think that the option/choice of ALL schools should be where the family wants to attend. Not just a handful of choices. Choosing our children's' education is a very serious matter and to know that you are basically locked into a few select options, based on your place of residence, was very upsetting to me. I am very thankful for the magnet school options. I cannot think of anything to add objectively, but know that I am thankful that we had the option because we are very happy with where our children are currently schooled.

59 For our older son, who had ADHD, being able to attend a year-round Elementary & Middle school worked out great for him. About the time our son, his teachers, and us as parents reached the point of frustration and exhaustion...it was time for track-out. We had an opportunity to relax, re-energize and return after track-out with a positive can-do attitude. However, taking into consideration that some children would benefit from certain Magnet programs more than others does not seem to be one of the objectives or placement factors. That being said, our younger son, whose AG, is in the perfect Magnet Middle school (East Millbrook) to challenge him academically! The opportunities he has at EMMMS simply aren't offered at DRMS. But, the fact that he's at EMMMS is just a random stroke of good luck. He ended up at EMMMS because our application to DRMS was denied and EMMMS happened to be our traditional base middle school that year rather than us or WCPSS making the best, informed decision for our son's education based on his talents and/or needs.

60 Magnet schools should be used to ensure that there are NO "bad" schools in WCPSS. By adding programs and students to schools in low-income areas, our community is enhanced for all citizens.

61 provide magnet schools (pre-k thru HS) with a mission of 100% post-secondary participation for graduates

62 Smaller schools should have some extra programming to even the field with larger schools whether through the magnet program or some other partnership with a University or business.

63 Allow for specialized programming that enhances their education

64 Kids should get chance according to their academic qualifications instead of lottery.

65 The magnet schools should be offered to all students who want to attend.

66 I believe that magnets offer educational opportunities that match the interests and strengths of an individual child.

67 When I went through the Wake Co. School System we bussed children all over for the purpose of racial diversity. Now we do it under the guise of socio-economic diversity which unfortunately tends to amount to the same thing. Sending impoverished children to school 20-40 minutes from their neighborhood does NOT encourage parent involvement! Perhaps if every child's school was the one closest to their neighborhood families would actually take pride in it and mom or dad might even walk over to volunteer or attend a PTA meeting.

68 no

69 I think magnet schools should promote diversity within the classroom not just within the schools.

70 Expanded education opportunities through electives has provided tremendous exposure and growth for my kids. Each of the objectives above is critical. Diversity of population itself is a learning experience for kids and needs to be a top priority

71 Specialized programs and expanded educational opportunities should be available at every school not just magnet schools. Every magnet school does not meet the objective of supporting diversity. And in some cases schools are operating as two units (base school students and magnet students). There needs to be an objective in place that addresses this issue. Also an objective to support other schools with higher concentrations other than poverty in order to open up more magnet seats at other wake county schools. Or even create magnet schools that are not a mix of magnet and base; just a magnet school with all wake county students. Something you have to apply for and qualify to get in.

72 Student motivation due to special programs in areas of interest. Parent motivation to support a school due to shared philosophy.

73 No

74 NA

75 Reduce class sizes

76 I believe that you should leave the magnet program as is. WCPSS's magnet program is a hallmark. Please don't dismantle this program the way you do reassignments.

- 77 Always, ALWAYS keep the diversity of the school system. My secondary educational experience would not have been the same without it.
- 78 Meeting these goals is necessary for MSAP grants. Our funding sources would have us do the most with the least; adding MSAP grant money would be invaluable to the quality of our schools. NOT to support these objectives illustrates incomplete understanding of our education system and funding.
- 79 Calendar options, such as a year round high school - we would absolutely support a year round high school, even if we had to provide our own transportation. We love the year-round schedule.
- 80 I think the Magnet programs are excellent as is.
- 81 I think the magnet program should be dismantled and the money used to add special programs at each school. Enloe is a classic example of how one group gets all the perks and the group that is supposed to be helped gets nothing. Other schools should not be deprived of special classes because only the magnet schools can have them.
- 82 Providing increased variety in parental choices.
- 83 Create balanced schools (#1) Efficient utilization of buildings - reducing overcrowding/underutilization (#2)
- 84 Actually, I think magnet schools should go away.....aren't you trying to move to neighborhood schools???? Why should we let families select schools 10 or more miles away from their home, just so they can take some ridiculous elective like Bird Watching???? Big waste of money!!!!
- 85 Increased access for families who would not otherwise have it. ie...family maybe middle class but cannot logistically work it out to go after these programs.
- 86 Provide support to high risk kids whose lives are otherwise unstable in at-risk environments. In other words, serve to close the opportunity gap.

87 Be more available geographically to all students regardless of income level. Right now, to get my kids into a magnet AG school would entail a 30-45 min drive each way and prohibits us from being as involved in the day to day school events. We have not applied due to distance, we are located near West Lake schools.

88 No

89 they should try new approaches to learning.

90 High achieving gifted students need a place to excel in an extreme way with science and math opportunities...it is vital and there is no emphasis on this in wake county

91 I would like to see the education system incorporate some of the programs that use to be a option for students not planning to attend college. Such classes as plumbing, brick mason, electrical work, auto mechanic, secretary, clerks, etc. These students left high school and ready to work in blue collar jobs. Some of them own their own company now and provide services for me at a rate of \$75.00 hourly. I know now that other types of jobs should be also considered such as green jobs that has been promoted by President Obama. Thanks for your consideration.

92 Ability to offer "local " students the same options without long drives away from their neighborhood if wanted.

93 I believe that there is an opportunity to provide AIG magnet programming in a more cost-effective model, particularly in the late elementary and middle school years, than the use of a full-time AIG resource teachers in the schools (particularly in middle school, where I see very little value currently). The current middle school AIG program is NOT MEETING expectations - NOT IN ANY SENSE.

94 increased student achievement for all students at a magnet school -- the point of seeking diversity and reducing poverty concentrations is to encourage ALL students to be high achievers

95 Provide advanced education for gifted children.

96 offer innovative approaches that can be applied to other schools in the district.

- 97 I strongly support magnet schools providing expanded educational activities and opportunities, especially in the arts.
- 98 The magnet schools provide an opportunity for parents to match their children's learning styles and interests with a school that will challenge and successfully teach their child regardless of where they live. Children who may have been otherwise bored or overwhelmed by a school have opportunities to be the best that they can be. I think that should be the most important objective of all. There should be many more magnet schools.
- 99 To close the educational gap among ethnicities of students. To identify students by whom they are and not by their demographics.
- 100 Supporting diversity and a specialized educational program is key!!
- 101 Work to reduce stereotypes within the community.
- 102 No
- 103 I wish schools in Wake County provided comprehensive school-based health care. There aren't enough nurses to care for the children and we all know that kids can't learn if their basic health needs aren't met. Please consider getting a school-based health center in a school in Wake County!
- 104 Their most important function is to avoid the creation of high-poverty racially-isolated schools.
- 105 Magnet programs should serve the whole county, and should not all be concentrated in the eastern half of the county and inside the beltline. Since so many magnet programs create a "school-within-a-school" I think they are a failure at helping under-privileged kids. Under-privileged kids deserve specialized resources so they can succeed.
- 106 Raise student achievement for the non-magnet neighborhood students who attend these schools.
- 107 I think the programs should still be used as some of them are now, to provide greater learning opportunities to AIG kids.
- 108 I believe the gifted schools should be reserved for the kids that are gifted. This way, the classrooms are smaller and the kids can get the education they need.

- 109 make struggling schools more attractive to new parents - especially now with the new choice plan in place.
- 110 Please keep our magnet program strong. This latest version of school assignment has been yet another bad idea forced on families and makes it so it is a big risk to enter the magnet program at all.
- 111 Should be available in all areas of the county to allow for enrichment and a child to follow their interest without having to go too far away and spend all their time commuting. Should be close enough to allow family involvement.
- 112 Serve incoming students to the same level as students in the system. Getting into a magnet school should not be a long shot and an AG student should be able to apply for an AG seat whether they are currently in the WCPSS or not.
- 113 Expand the educational options and choices to families.
- 114 They should serve the gifted and talented! If parents don't like they should have the option to send there kids elsewhere!!
- 115 To strengthen communities and neighborhoods while offsetting high concentrations of poverty. To openly embrace the diversity of Wake County as a neighborhood-at-large. To experience diverse cultures and diverse people while learning and preparing to be a global citizen in the 21st century.
- 116 There need to be more magnets in cary- several our town is large and diverse, and we have some high poverty schools (Kingswood, Briarcliff) that should be converted.
- 117 While I understand and respect the philosophy behind magnet schools, I would also like to see more magnet schools created in more affluent areas so that parents of these children have nearby, geographically-desirable specialized programs to pick from in the public school system. I would send my son in a heartbeat if I knew there were options in my local area.
- 118 always academic excellence
- 119 Opportunities for smart children

- 120 There should be a magnet or two that deals with highly and profoundly gifted children. These children are completely left behind in Wake County schools. The Gifted and Talented Magnets do not address these children's needs, nor are there even enough spaces at them to accommodate such children. We have a child who has had repeatedly verified IQ and achievement scores in the 99.99th% and we had to leave Wake County for a Charter. We would like to come back in HS, but are extremely worried about the lack of flexibility and just plain old lack of resources for a child who is currently grade skipped one year and subject accelerated 4 additional years. It is simply extremely stressful trying to navigate schools with a child like this. My child's needs are just as important as the needs of any other child.
- 121 serve as an incubator for excellence in teaching and programs that can be implemented elsewhere in non magnet programs. Continually rolling out cost-effective, new ideas into non magnet schools while enhancing magnet programs raises the bar for everyone.
- 122 The magnet programs, for the most part do what they're intended to do, but I believe the elementary museums magnet program should be moved to a school with greater economic need.
- 123 Provides a positive model for schools outside of Wake Co. They also build up Wake co.'s reputation as a diverse and forward thinking school district.
- 124 Student achievement and closing the achievement gap
- 125 I think the successful magnet programs should share their strategies (like the leadership model) so other non-magnet schools can benefit .
- 126 stop them
- 127 Educate children of & let them experience the diversity of our city & world.

- 128 there should be better service of AG students.  
Currently, only some students get access to the AG Basic schools, while many other AG students don't. And getting access is much too random under the new assignment plan. Either this program should be expanded or the assignment plan for schools with AG Basic program should be changed.
- 129 "Incubators" for district-wide programs to improve student achievement across all sub-categories
- 130 Magnets do a better job of meeting the needs of the Academically Gifted students who are leaving in droves to private schools if their parents can afford it. Increasing the number of International Baccalaureate magnets also helps prepare students for the more realistic diverse workplace that they will be a part of in the future. We would have stayed with IB if there had been a feeder middle school & high school.
- 131 Allowing students a chance to learn in different ways, focusing on their talents and innate abilities.
- 132 Need one close by the area you live in.
- 133 no
- 134 Spanish immersion instruction for non-native Spanish speakers
- 135 Magnet schools have been and should continue to be centers for gifted learners, where they can be taught by AG-certified teachers in classes of only gifted students. In these circumstances, magic happens for these students, who find relatively little opportunity for growth in heterogeneous classrooms. The magnet program should serve this objective until such classrooms can exist in every school.
- 136 Diversify schools. Draw high-achieving kids to under-subscribed or higher poverty schools.
- 137 Magnet programs should be for distinct students....one's who are ahead of the rest and need that extra special push to enhance their future.
- 138 Why are the magnet schools not beta testing new ideas and curriculum that could later be moved into non magnet schools.

- 139 We need to make sure that all of the kids in every magnet school have access to the programs. In the AG magnets, all the qualified kids should have access to AG classes regardless of "behavior."
- 140 Challenging the higher achieving students while getting the lower achieving students up to grade level.
- 141 Provide opportunity for gifted children to reach their potential.
- 142 examine older neighborhoods in Raleigh full of empty-nesters, resulting in under enrolled schools. These schools may not be in a poor neighborhood, but have very high F & R populations along the rim, due, in part, to the high number of apartment complexes just outside the belt line. There are few 'neighborhood' kids to keep the school balanced and healthy from a financial/parents support/ position. The lack of programs, due to under enrollment, keeps families of means enrolling in nearby magnets, charters and private schools. Tata and the board have made huge strides in making some of these rim schools more competitive . I hope that will continue.
- 143 To provide additional arts programs and to provide special programs for academically gifted students
- 144 DIVERSITY!
- 145 help all schools
- 146 gives parents opportunities to tailor education to special abilities and interests of children.  
Invigorates teachers!

147 Magnet programs should offer UNIQUE and STABLE educational opportunities. When we applied for a magnet space 2007, we had two goals: 1) give our children a unique and challenging educational experience 2) ensure a clear path from Kindergarten to 12th grade in the IB program. While Farmington Woods has far surpassed our expectations for our first goal (unique and challenging), the second goal has been dismantled by the recent changes. The objectives of the magnet program should be to provide continuity for program participants (students) and stability. Right now, my student is assigned to attend a NON-magnet middle school. The Garner IB option is too far from our home to be realistic. It is frustrating to think that the AWARD WINNING IB Magnet Elementary school does not have an IB Middle School option.

148 Offer competition to traditional wcpss. I believe the magnet schools have been doing so much better than the standard public schools because parents have the option to pull students if the school is not achieving the needs of the student. Given that funding is based on enrollment the magnet schools have an vested interest in performing well

149 Provide gifted education for gifted children. Currently, it's a lottery whether AIG children are given spots in AG Basics programs such as Hunter, Ligon. Enloe.

150 Alternative learning environments,

151 I think these objectives have served the district very well.

152 No. These are good. Although I'm not sure the third one is measurable enough to be called an 'objective' like the other two.

153 Focus on all students, not just the academically gifted students. (And please note that not all magnet students are AG, and not all the base kids are forced to take lower-level courses; this is a common misconception)

154 No

- 155 Provide educational choices for families. Enable schools to build strong "choice" communities around schools that would otherwise struggle due to geographically diverse assigned enrollment to fill the schools. In other words, there is a difference between choosing to send your child to a school far from your home and being assigned to one.
- 156 Teach children at their level, whether they are academically gifted or not, and provide unique opportunities and experiences for children.
- 157 Should serve gifted students and give them more options in their education
- 158 Please PLEASE continue to provide transportation for us magnet families. It has been a GODsend and I honestly don't know what we would do without it!
- 159 More elective based education, outside of the box curriculum
- 160 I'd like to see greater expansion of magnet programs to more schools. Also, I'd like there to be another magnet ES with an International Studies theme, not just Wiley ES. There is clearly great demand for this theme in the WCPSS.
- 161 Models of future Education in our country.
- 162 More specialized education for truly gifted children, and those with learning disabilities who do not fall within the county guidelines for IEP's. For example, a child who learns better with hands-on opportunities as opposed to traditional teaching.
- 163 There need to be more magnet schools located on the eastern side of the county and they need to employ higher caliber teachers (yes, pay them more to work in a difficult teaching environment) to reduce high concentrations of poverty in the area and bring a higher level of teaching to an area that suffers from low standards.
- 164 to help fill schools in neighborhoods that are aging out and balance diversity.

- 165 I don't believe the magnet programs have served these objectives. This is what they intended to serve but implementation has been poor. Magnet schools are segregated at best. Suburban parents have used the programs to as alternatives to assignment to less desirable base schools. When given the opportunity to choose a school near home, they overwhelmingly did in this year's assignment. Magnet busing is out of hand with magnet schools typically having many more buses than non-magnet schools.
- 166 All schools should have expanded educational opportunities not just magnet schools. They are mostly located near downtown, other areas of Raleigh should have these resources, not just those inside the belt line.
- 167 Provide accelerated programs for gifted students. Current curriculum is too slow for advanced students. They are bored and prefer to be home-schooled.
- 168 A true gifted/talented academy where the students that have qualified are taught together for larger periods of the day. Not just a language or a math period.
- 169 Provide additional opportunities within the local community. All magnet schools should have an exchange with various museums, artists, government programs etc...to allow children the opportunity for hands on, enriched learning as well as community service based projects.
- 170 I think it should offer more advanced learning possibilities
- 171 Would love to have access to a magnet middle school a little closer to North Raleigh. Even if my AG child was given a spot at Ligon next year, I don't know that we can have her commute that far. I'm hurt that she may have to miss out on the advanced placement classes and the challenge that she needs
- 172 Magnets are not necessary for elementary level; all elementary students regardless of school should receive same fundamental education.
- 173 Please let children play, read and enjoy themselves.

- 174 I think you should shut down the program & return to neighborhood schools. You spend way too much money on offering too many choices.
- 175 More options in regards to different teaching methods (i.e. Montessori all the way to High School).
- 176 wide range of special programs at various schools that appeal to various individuals to enrich their education and lives.
- 177 No
- 178 Just because WCPSS has magnets shouldn't preclude non-magnet schools from offering electives. Magnet hold special privileges, in addition to special programs which isn't equitable as access/lottery is not readily available.
- 179 Magnets should be all over the county. #1 - once inside the school, the classes are all separated.....?...
- 180 It is wonderful to provide incentives for students from more affluent areas, who often may be relatively strong academically, to attend schools in more challenged areas -- this benefits BOTH sets of students in many different ways. Also, by allowing a freer flow of students among schools, hopefully there becomes more flexibility and potential for families to end up where they want.
- 181 To continue to diversify schools and expose children to a multitude of vigorous and enriching programs
- 182 I think all schools should be magnet schools in some form
- 183 No, I think magnet schools and "leadership" academies should be eliminated. Focus on bringing talented teachers and additional funds into neighborhood schools. Make our schools "neighborhood" schools once again, instead of outposts where children are bussed halfway across the county to get to school. Stop spending millions of dollars on busing and spend it on the teachers

- 184 The objectives are great however the approach is terrible. Survey approach like this is purely design to support the original agenda without examining the effectiveness of the current approach is just wasting of resource! I support the objectives but magnet program is a disappointment and not helping the objectives and these selection provide no opportunities to express that!
- 185 I'm not sure what 1-2-3 represent in the first three questions but I support all 3.
- 186 Give a global learning perspective to enable our NC school systems to promote opportunities to provide educational programs to students and families that are nationally recognized.
- 187 To provide specialized interest instruction to children as needed (gifted and talented, advanced placement, etc). Not to provide more electives than the other schools. They aren't private schools for the lucky few that get in.
- 188 Magnet schools should stay heavy on the percentage of magnet student and then be sure to put students from the base population into higher level classes so that more of those student benefit from the program. But, they do need to be picked carefully and provided with support.
- 189 Continue to give families a choice for innovative programming and calendars. The year round calendar once fell under the magnet program where it was considered an educational programming choice. Today it is once again a choice but not under the magnet umbrella.
- 190 no
- 191 Serve as district models for non-magnet schools
- 192 Help prepare children for technical jobs that do not require college degree. No matter what people think, not everyone make it at college. Prepare those children by continuing programs with the community college- plumbing, heating, mechanics, construction/brick laying, cooking. It should be required in all schools to have a course about finance-saving money, how to write checks, credit cards, etc.

- 193 Providing opportunities for children to explore their talents and abilities and to offer different types of learning environments (such as Montessori)
- 194 I think the magnet schools have gotten way off track. Huge achievement imbalances (Enloe - 2 schools under one roof). Maybe get rid of magnets. Use extra money to focus Strickly on support for ED children. Extra reading, tutoring, etc. Why spend the money offering Chinese, theater to white kids from the suburbs bussing those kids ITB when could try to improve ED education
- 195 Allow more flexibility in a large overcrowded school system.
- 196 Serve as a programatic model for progressive educational leadership in public education.
- 197 Bring some 'magnet' services to non-magnet schools to maximize exposure to the arts and technology
- 198 achievement
- 199 There should be a Drama or Theater arts programs in all schools because It can helps kids not be shy in front of other and it's their time to shine.
- 200 Technology and arts, math and science
- 201 Other schools should get some of the opportunities that magnet schools get.
- 202 The magnet program serve our kids who are the future leaders of our country to develop knowledge to their full potential.I strongly support our magnet programs in our school system.
- 203 accountability and goal orientation
- 204 Decrease racial achievement gap by piloting research based effective interventions AND TEACHER and ADMININISTRATOR trainings on proven methods to increase achievement of minority students esnerially males
- 205 Be available to all students, which includes transportation. Without transportation, we are excluded.
- 206 Help increase parent/community involvement in less motivated areas.
- 207 Continue to take the entire community youth to a hire level.

- 208 Magnet programs are good for giving kids a broad range of experiences that they may not experience in another setting. It is a way to serve students and give them the best opportunity to succeed.
- 209 Reduce high concentrations of low performing students.
- 210 The curriculum and diverse population to which my daughters have been exposed at Farmington Woods is unique in Cary. I am extremely happy that we had the opportunity to have them attend such an excellent IB school.
- 211 Offer varied education experiences to meet the needs of different learners, special needs students, families with different education philosophies or wants for students.
- 212 I don't think there should be any magnet schools, just neighborhood schools.
- 213 Performing Arts and fine arts: film, dance, drama, music, singing, painting, sculpture, drawing, illustrating, technology.
- 214 I don't they are really accomplishing No. 2. Neighborhood demographics have shifted and some of those schools are overcrowded.
- 215 Arts education and reading programs for dyslexia!
- 216 Foreign language
- 217 Serve neighborhood (walk zone) Kids first
- 218 Innovative teaching methods that result in addressing different learning styles
- 219 I believe strongly that Montessori should NOT be used as a magnet option.
- 220 We need more magnet schools, and perhaps more refinement of specialized programs at the high school level
- 221 AG identified kids should have the opportunity to attend schools with higher level course offerings. I shouldn't be forced into a tuition bill for "dual enrollment" when the magnet high school has these same courses but we can't get into the school.
- 222 Magnet schools should be distributed equally around all over the Wake county instead of keeping only near/inside belt-line.
- 223 educational environments that encourage discovery, innovation and excellence

- 224 I strongly think that FWES(IB magnet) should stay. It is a good program which is not very much pressurized program as other magnet schools in Raleigh and also at the same time FWES challenges the kids and teaches the importance of having bilingual opportunity at the young age.
- 225 I think having defined magnet feeders is difficult, because magnet interests/needs can evolve as a child ages.
- 226 I believe the IB/PYP program helps children learn better than the standard WCPSS programs.
- 227 There is no clear explanation of how to grade the questions above. Is 1 agree or disagree? magnet programs should offer more educational programs that greatly benefit the school dynamic. Increase diversity and understanding increase parent participation.
- 228 Magnet programs should maintain a large number of seats for magnet applicants to fill and should have fewer seats for "neighborhood" choice seats. The idea behind magnet schools is to draw in students from the whole school district and not mainly from the surrounding neighborhood.
- 229 Increasing student achievement
- 230 They are excellent; There needs to be a grandfather clause for families who put their children in magnets before the new policy came in to effect. We moved our child in 4th grade to Farmington Woods this year. Our daughters are at Martin and we wanted him to go there. Unfortunately, the county policy changed and there is no clause that protects him.
- 231 I don't think we should use them. Magnets benefit those who are already affluent, do nothing for our low socioeconomic students and steal resources from the vast majority of our students who can't get into magnets.
- 232 diversity
- 233 A wider availability for students who are performing far beyond their grade level yet are not 4th grade or higher (thus not eligible for AG programs)
- 234 Diversify student bodies

- 235 To provide a variety of educational approaches such that parents can find a good match for their students' learning styles.
- 236 Having the magnet programs gives the students more opportunities in expanding their learning capacity with the variety of classes that is offered.
- 237 should be merit based, not lottery
- 238 EVERY school, including magnet schools, must educate ALL children. EVERY school should have a range of educational opportunities.
- 239 Student Achievement - as in the goal for the non-magnet schools.
- 240 To help students most in need of particular programs/opportunities depending on their skills, knowledge, abilities and interests reach their full potential. I also believe as many children as possible should have access to the programs instead of providing unequal education by having the programs available to only a select few.
- 241 Magnet programs offer a choice - they should attract a variety of students and families
- 242 Magnet programs should be available to all schools. All students should have access to magnet programs. AG magnets should select AC students by merit, not by where they live.
- 243 help struggling schools
- 244 \* Reduce concentrations of poverty. \* Provide increased diversity in educational environment. \* Improve student achievement. \* Increase retention of top teaching staff (through opportunities to provide more specialized curricula, through opportunities to avoid teaching in high poverty schools, through positive feedback of higher student achievement, etc.) \* Optimize use of facilities that might otherwise be less attractive and less utilized. \* Provide specialized programs, services, and opportunities to meet diverse educational needs for student enrichment in academics, arts, etc. \* Enable WCPSS to meet criteria to qualify to receive maximum available federal funding for magnet programs. \* Meet commitments made to parents who chose to put their kids in magnet programs, and to kids who have been striving and excelling in them.

- 245 children should all have equal chance in getting accepted into a program, versus the old student assignment policy which used your base school to determine if you could get into a magnet, this of course never shared with the media
- 246 These three objectives are enough.
- 247 20 years ago, families who chose homeschool did so for religious reasons. Today, most homeschool families I know retreated to homeschool because they did not want their child taught to the test. I'd like to see Magnets be a home for families who do not want their children to be drilled on test taking skills, and thus they should have other measures besides standardized EOG/EOC scores to judge success. Just because something is easily measured, doesn't mean that it is the most important quality in a school.
- 248 Continue to attract families that are relocating to our area from out of state.
- 249 I think that magnets should especially serve the needs of academically gifted students who need rigor in order to increase their talents. Some priority should be given to these students in order to maximize their potential.
- 250 Information Technology magnet programs should become a priority with sponsorship from local information technology companies.
- 251 Provide a fun non-traditional means of learning key skills.
- 252 Help relieve over crowded schools.
- 253 Help students who are gifted, or who have an academic focus in which they would like more concentrated time and instruction.
- 254 yes
- 255 I think that there should be more magnet offerings in the middle class/higher SES areas. Bright kids with supportive families from affluent areas do not get the same opportunities as those in higher poverty areas.

- 256 Strategic placement in each area of Wake County to provide an opportunity for all children to have an opportunity to attend a magnet school with a "reasonable commute". Clearly inside the belt line children are given more opportunities for this.
- 257 More options to serve AG students.
- 258 n/a
- 259 I would like to see expanded educational opportunities for more students.
- 260 Provide attractive, niche educational opportunities for families who find those areas appealing--e.g., foreign languages (beyond just Spanish). Provide true academically gifted/accelerated educational environments (not the generalized "every child is gifted/talented in his/her own way").
- 261 Making not only academics exceptional, but expanding the arts to an even more superior level.
- 262 Maximizing opportunity for at-risk students.
- 263 na
- 264 parental choice
- 265 Enforce Learning at least 2 languages mandatory to all students. The reason being that early learning in languages starting from elementary schools helps Students do well through their school years
- 266 Giving more opportunities to give back to the community...
- 267 Offer accelerated instruction for state identified AG students that need more challenging programming.
- 268 I think that for all of the magnet programs that are available in the district, all bases seem to be covered for what we as parents would like to see offered to our children. The only problem is actually getting into those programs when you do not have a magnet school as a "base" assignment for your child in which one may reside. That's the tough part...
- 269 Start a VOUCHER system
- 270 No
- 271 education specifically on the value of diversity - ALL should offer language options (at a minimum Spanish)

- 272 In addition to the stated purpose of the programs, I think they should be a platform to improve all schools in the District. Try new things in these schools, evaluate them and share them with the rest of the district. A number of schools are doing unique, LOW or NO COST, approaches that improve learning. If something is working at a Magnet school, all schools in Wake County should be doing it. Even if the Magnet no longer become unique.
- 273 Basic education only. I am against magnets, elitist academies, etc.
- 274 As an objective - If a magnet school does well it should be rewarded financially and with more seats or things like HF Autism program resource classrooms. An example of NOT meeting this objective is: FWES won recognition as the 'top magnet school in the United States'. But then WCPSS reduced them from tier one to tier three. FWES lost seats and programs. Now they are in danger of losing their IB status - this make no sense.
- 275 Provide excellent academic programs - specifically targeted to the AIG students.
- 276 While I support all of the objectives, I think that all communities in Wake County should have access to a magnet school at each level in their community. There should be a middle and high school magnet option in Cary. If poverty is an issue and Cary does not qualify compared to Raleigh schools, use a more poverty-stricken area of Cary. I know poverty was not a factor when Farmington Woods Elementary was converted to magnet. Other factors should be considered.

277 a) Provide a direct, unencumbered (low red tape) channel for private+public partnership experiments (e.g. Technology company sponsored facilities to promote learning, biopharma sponsored facilities to promote science exploration, local university sponsored resources to promote Math, etc ...) b) Become an incubator, validator and influencer for teaching methods and skills that can then be more broadly applied for the benefit of the entire Wake County school system. c) Provide distance learning (e.g. Internet hosted courses) capability to broaden the impact of the Magnet Program's limited resources beyond just the attending student population. Top notch universities are experimenting with this method (MIT, Stanford, etc ...). Wake County can become a leader in this promising area. Through distance learning, Magnet courses could be reused within sibling Wake County schools and also offer non-Magnet students and adults alike, access to some Magnet curricula that would otherwise be inaccessible - benefiting the entire Wake County population. This would also offer Magnet students educational opportunities in Internet media development (video courses, etc ...). d) Become a

278 No but the first objective is THE most important and has kept traditionally poor schools some of the top rated in the county thereby benefitting all children not only at that school but also the surrounding neighborhoods even if they have to be bussed to other areas as it then helps those schools with diversity and everyone does better.

279 Wake County magnet programs should strive to produce confident, well-rounded students who can function in the 21st century. Our children need advanced computer and mathematics skills along with a deep cultural understanding of their global counterparts. Technology and growth have increased global interdependence and we must develop creative thinkers who can navigate through this new and complex world. Equally as important are athletics/physical education and arts as both have been scientifically-proven to increase test scores and even more significantly, enhance learning.

280 Provide a better education

- 281 More International/Global/21st Century focused schools!
- 282 Provide music/arts instruction/appreciation.
- 283 provide opportunities for students to specialize in certain areas of competence like math and science.
- 284 I feel schools within the same areas of town should offer the same electives/perks to students. Every child should have equal opportunity to have "special" educational perks, not just those in magnets.
- 285 Magnets should be focused on offering programs that only appeal to a limited number of students in the district and that, as a result, do to make sense to offer broadly in district schools. Programs which have broad appeal should be offered broadly.
- 286 To fill the gaps in our conventional education so that our children can compete in a global economy. For example, to teach them foreign languages.
- 287 Magnets should be used to make sure facilities are at maximum use since there is a capacity issue in Wake County and to bring in supportive parents into schools that do not have a strong parent base. They should not be given to schools that have an affluent neighborhood and can be filled by said neighborhood, e.g. Joyner.
- 288 To compete with private and charter schools.
- 289 We should return to the original objectives. They are good ones, and the system worked! Other "Innovative Schools" models (STEM, etc.) should be incorporated into the magnet system under the above objectives to strengthen (rather than dilute) the magnet system, and to reduce confusion about "choices" people have.
- 290 Create and maintain an economically diverse school population throughout the county.
- 291 Provide expanded and diverse programs to appeal to students
- 292 Magnet programs should also be in place at schools in low poverty areas where enrollment is low because parents have chosen to place their children in private or charter schools that they feel will better meet their child's needs.

293 A combination of Balance, filling downtown or under-enrolled schools, providing special programs to draw people to fill the prior two goals. I think magnets are a critical tool for helping to not only fill our downtown schools, but to keep them viable with a wide range of teacher and parent support. When schools are too heavily weighted with low income families, they lack the extra support in time, involvement, and money that more balanced schools have. Also, even good teachers get frustrated and leave to work at a school that doesn't have as many challenges, thus further weakening the school. It then becomes a vicious cycle... Magnets are not for everyone, but they serve multiple purposes.

294 I think that once magnet schools become successful the magnet status should not be taken away....as has happened in the past. Without the magnet program within the school, the school will go back to being an at risk school like it was prior to becoming a magnet school.

295 Additional classes for tutoring as needed for students.

296 Would like to see more middle school level magnet schools in Cary so we don't have to travel to Raleigh!

297 New techniques for learning and a respectful environment

298 I've toured Poe Montessori Elementary school with special interest in their Pre-K program. It is impressive to say the least. I wish this program could be expanded to other areas (and that the tuition cost for pre-K was slightly more affordable)

299 Why is question # 1 always the first thing WCPSS asks? Magnet schools are an important part to our system and if it increases diversity and limits high poverty schools then so be it.

300 Schools, magnet and otherwise, should exist to give a robust, well-rounded education to everyone. Diversity, while a possible positive outcome, should not be an objective, especially given the well-established lack of diversity within classrooms at higher grade levels.

301 Challenge students to explore new opportunities.

- 302 Equal access for all neighborhoods. Minimize empty busses by offering express stops.
- 303 Offer programs of rigorous study to the best and the brightest, who are often overlooked in our unrealistic zeal to have everyone pass.
- 304 We should have a true magnet program across the district. My older two children attended Daniels while still IB and my youngest is at Dillard now. The difference in the level of expectation is incredible between the two programs. I am very concerned that my younger child will not be as prepared for high school as my other two were.
- 305 Pilot innovative learning approaches.
- 306 Specialized Education for the advanced placement of gifted and talented students.
- 307 Longer school year for additional arts and language classes
- 308 Make the curriculum more rigorous and applicable to real world scenarios.
- 309 provide more intensive instruction in a certain subject for interested students only
- 310 an incubator for innovation in the district - here's a chance to start new programs that, later, could serve the entire district.
- 311 NO
- 312 There should be more Montessori and IB schools, and the curriculum should focus on offering more Language Immersion as well as Science and Technology programs to create many more global citizens from an early age.
- 313 I would like for the magnet programs to encourage and support diversity while striving for a rich and varied educational base. The addition of special classes to enhance educational opportunity including foreign languages, music, art, etc. are extremely important. I am also interested in enriched science and mathematics and real-world application. I am a strong proponent of global education and enhanced leadership opportunities.
- 314 Math and sciences are always good
- 315 Possibly use magnet schools to see that no other schools are over or under crowded.

316 The survey question above made no sense.. I don't know what scores 1,2, & 3 meant! Or was I ranking them? I used 1 as low and 3 as high on a 1-3 scale. I think magnets should serve to group students with a common interest so that the entire curriculum can be infused with that interest. My kids go to Wiley & we love the school, but ideally there would be a language immersion program. I don't care what language, whatever would attract students & faculty.

317 Balance student assignment v. Local growth patterns

318 Arts

319 As an alternative to private and charter schools and to offer special programs

320 I like that they also provide specialized educational opportunities, like foreign language, for example.

321 Allow students to prepare more thoroughly for and even complete future coursework, including college-level courses

322 offer more programs in Science and math since those are areas kids in this country lag behind in compared to other countries.

323 Identify students' aptitude and desire for potential career paths

324 provide accelerated education to A students

325 Offer AG basics so advanced students get enrichment in every day classes, not just in pull out for a few hours each week. More band, choral and language classes before high school

326 meeting the needs of extremely and profoundly gifted students be it in academics or arts. These highly gifted students should get priority placement into magnet programs that meet their exceptional needs.

327 more after school tutor programs

328 Provide alternative teaching styles to cater to students with different learning styles/abilities.

329 Perhaps within #2 but helping to identify students that excel and finding ways for them to not be bored.

330 no

331 Allow for differentiated services

- 332 BE CONSISTENT!!!!!!!!!!!!!! Very unreliable system with constant change. It almost isn't worth the trouble.
- 333 experiment station for innovative programs and ways of learning; training stations for other schools
- 334 Focus needs to always be on higher levels of learning.
- 335 Educating students about the diversity of businesses in there community.
- 336 NO
- 337 Provide intensive focus for children/families looking for IB (for example) curriculum.
- 338 Magnet programs have outlived their usefulness to achieve certain diversity objectives. More emphasis should be placed on providing specialized programs, single-sex academies, vocational training, AG programs, etc. in all areas of the county. One should not have to send their child on a lengthy bus ride to participate in a specialized program. The locations of such programs should be more equitably distributed.
- 339 I think the magnet schools prepare our children for the "real" world. Understanding other cultures is vital to sucess. Our area is full of families from all over the world as well as adoptees that feel they "fit" in when a school as more diversity. Not a school mostly white, black or hispanic. Magnet schools also offer better elective choices and languages. I think that the magnet school program has made wake county the desired school district for many. I hate to see it change.
- 340 Currently, seems only Carnage and Ligon has AG classes, I think all magnet schools should have AG classes, so AG students can have more chances to learn advanced knowledge.

- 341 They give opportunities to low income students that they might not otherwise experience at an early age. A couple of examples are playing an instrument or participating in some complex science activities (dissecting a frog). These opportunities help to engage all students and encourage low income students to love learning and become life long learners. The benefits and exciting possibilities of education are experienced at magnet schools.
- 342 Alternative calendar, where high school's fall block ends before Christmas break, as it does in college. Only 1 high school offers that calendar today.
- 343 Create strong schools and school communities
- 344 A model for rigorous programs that other schools can replicate. Magnets should be the "test bed"
- 345 Yes, eliminate the two schools within a school by working more strategically to improve the achievement of the base students.
- 346 I think magnet programs should provide opportunities for students that go above and beyond a traditional school. It is imperative to keep magnet schools diversified so students can learn and explore many things together. Not just students whose parents can afford transportation. The creative arts, museums, global, Spanish themes do wonders for making children lifelong learners and engaged in school.
- 347 challenge all kids, not the top and bottom
- 348 1. Support diversity. 2. Offer educational options.
- 349 Serve students with different interests.
- 350 They provide a different type of learning style while still providing NC standards of learning.
- 351 Support diverse learning styles of students in ALL grade levels.
- 352 I think that the magnet programs offer a diverse group of programs that meet the needs of our children and all of their diverse interests. I think that it is very important to the success of our children and our school system.

- 353 Prepare students to be productive workers and leaders in the real world.
- 354 International Baccalaureate schools help foster the process of becoming global citizens and help my child become more aware of the world and what we can do to make it a better place for everyone.
- 355 They offer more choice of schools to attend.
- 356 better open enrollment opportunities
- 357 Utilize inner city schools that don't have big enough base to fill them up, even if not in a poor neighborhood.
- 358 Allow students to excel in areas of interest
- 359 Prepare students for exams such as SAT and ACT
- 360 Please allow children to learn and be taught languages other than English at an earlier age. Waiting until high school is too late!
- 361 To aid in socio-economic and academic achievement balance across all schools in the district.
- 362 Make sure that all students get the same help regardless of academic levels
- 363 Current magnet schools are doing a great job offering diversity and expanded learning opportunities.
- 364 Love Magnet Schools
- 365 I love that there are so many magnet schools! I am even happier that there are more in Garner. NGMS needed the STEM and we got it! It is already a great school, this will make it even better!
- 366 Provide families with options in choosing a curriculum (which really isn't the same as your #3).
- 367 Provide alternative programs for students who need something different from traditional classrooms. For example, the classroom changes at a GT Magnet (due to electives) provides a stimulating environment for students who do not do well sitting still all day.
- 368 1. bring expanded community support to inner city neighborhoods 2. strengthen teacher support/PTA with diverse families
- 369 There is a lack of AG schools to serve the vast majority of AG students in wake county. It is not very efficient use of resources to put the number of kids that are non AG in AG schools.

- 370 Ensure that there are not any racially identifiable schools
- 371 Allow the school district to offer a wider variety of programs and opportunities. Motivate teachers, parents, students and administrators by providing special opportunities.
- 372 I like the specialization such as STEM. People need and want options for programs their kids have a budding talent for, particularly since most families can't afford a private school.
- 373 ensure that arts, music and culture remain a part of the academic programming in wake county. I worry that in lean times, these are the first areas to be cut in traditional schools. Also, I believe that the diverse programming available at magnet schools allows children who might not be successful in their core classes to have a positive experience at school if they are more attracted to magnet offerings, such as music or dance. Wake county needs to offer its students a variety of paths into school success and I believe the magnets support this.
- 374 More emphasis on identifying and nurturing talent at an elementary level.
- 375 While it's totally unrealistic, based on how few are willing to pay for good public schools, what would no doubt make BOTH sides happier would be MORE magnet schools. This would've helped my older daughter, who's miserable - stuck in what's supposed to be the best base high school in the district, where she's surrounded by reckless, boring, unmotivated kids. And it would relieve much of the thinly-veiled sour grapes that opponents have, seeing how their suburban schools only LOOK nicer.

- 376 The magnet program should serve the entire county. Eastern Wake is left out of the equation. A 500 student magnet in Zebulon leaves most of eastern wake students left out. The loss of students in the East Wake attendance zones to magnet schools compares to all of the top officials leaving central office to DPI. How do you think that would relate to performance? We need middle and magnet high schools around the Knightdale area to draw the best students from Raleigh and to keep our best students here. It has been like this forever.
- 377 An objective should be the utilization of the private sector opportunities that make connections to education. For instance, high school internships at a school close to a business that benefits a particular area of study like veterinary science. Maybe having an area of learning at a particular school because there is a private business that manufactures a product in the area that could supplement the learning for those students which could provide a learning lab at the business, etc.
- 378 Provide diverse educational opportunities which benefit students future educational and career goals.
- 379 I think magnet programs should be available in all areas and not just in low income neighborhoods.

380 1. Serve a larger neighborhood base area. i.e. Underwood Elementary. It is difficult for the children to build relationships outside the classroom because most children live vary far from the school. Adding more neighborhood children will also boost parent participaton which is low in that school. 2. Many children in my son's magnet program are too poor to pay for books, teacher suppllies, field trips, and volunteer in the classroom. This is a huge burden for the other parents because we end up paying for these children and volunteering to compensate for the parents who are unable to help. My son has over 8 kids in his class that are ESL students and that is unfair to the other kids and parents. Diversity is a good thing, but you cannot take ALL the poverished kids and put them in Underwood. There needs to be more balance. 3. Children's/parent's location and transportation needs to be a factor. There was a sick kid who had to wait 2 hrs for his mom to take a bus and it took them 2 hours to get home. It was over 5 hours total from the time the child got sick until he got home. Why bus kids all over town, if their parents cannot pick up their children in a timely

381 Some schools are PERCEIVED as being "undesirable" due to demographics and test scores. Introducing a magnet program to these school would change the perception of the schools desirability in a positive way very quickly.

382 teaching languages others don't already speak.

383 Trying new teaching styles that have been successful in other areas.

384 Limit class size

385 No opinion

386 Remediation for the local populations.

387 I think that the programs should be offered on a year round calendar to maximize the offerings and desires of all parents in Wake County. I also think that they should be used throughout the county not just in Southeast Raleigh.

- 388 Language immersion not simply providing 4/5 class periods per week. International studies should be more in depth across the board starting with world geography in K as well as creating educational relationships with international students via Skype, FaceTime, etc. so much can be gleaned from other classrooms across the world. Wake County has so far to catch up.
- 389 Provide an extraordinary education involving global awareness and advanced subjects for higher learning and to be competitive w/private and charter schools.
- 390 Diversify home ec classes and add life skills classes to teach things like financial responsibility.
- 391 nope
- 392 creative approach for school cafeteria improvements based on the natural distribution of subsidized vs non-subsidized students. better and healthier lunch choices and creative way to nav.
- 393 More broad based education not just standard old boring teaching styles. Sort of like a Montessori style. The arts are important!
- 394 Yes, of course! Maximizing actual education. That's markedly different from maximizing opportunities, facilities, and diversity.
- 395 no
- 396 no opinion
- 397 None.
- 398 attract strong families and students to less desirable schools by offering unique programs
- 399 Similar to #3, but we love the electives offered by our son's school. Not only do they provide expanded educational opportunities, but they also allow him to explore diverse topics that are of interest to him.
- 400 None
- 401 Stress on Diversity!!
- 402 No
- 403 The magnet programs makes two schools under one roof. It's extremely difficult to get into these programs. Magnet programs also need to be available in Western Wake because students deserve to have more programs.

- 404 Children are getting opportunity to have electives and can study more in detail.
- 405 Continue to provide the same or similar bus transportation for those desiring to attend a magnet school.
- 406 No
- 407 None at this moment.
- 408 transportation to transfer students
- 409 We are very happy with Washington but with the feeder pattern not so good for middle school....
- 410 I think there should be more opportunities to for my child to become fluent in a foreign language.
- 411 Magnets are also useful in ensuring that school facilities are not underutilized. By balancing school populations, teachers are not overwhelmed with a high proportion of students who are academically challenged. By supporting diversity, we are providing the opportunity for teachers to reach students.
- 412 THIS SCHOOL NEEDS MORE AFRICAN AMERICAN TEACHERS TO SUPPORT THE COMMUNITY THAT IT IS IN!
- 413 No
- 414 Piloting implementation of innovative instructional and curricular approaches. Fully supporting and developing student growth in NON-CORE areas... the arts, humanities, vocational, etc.
- 415 Enhance student achievement.
- 416 I think that magnet schools could provide opportunities for after school programs to disadvantaged children and volunteer opportunities for those students interested in serving their community
- 417 College track for first-generation college-bound students.
- 418 Focus on special needs children and SENSORY needs. You are missing the boat. Look at other states sensory integration programs.they facilitate learning even for typical kids. It is so easy and cost effective to do this across the board in wake county. You will find more opportunities to provide education to children in the least restrictive environment (I.e. The classroom)Rather than pulling out for resource 2-3 times a week

- 419 It will be nice if all magnet middle and high school kids get a 20 to 30mt recess time so it will help them focus more in the academic areas. Make PE part of their daily curriculam
- 420 Provide a high quality of educational opportunities for the community
- 421 To provide children with exceptional abilities the chance to maximize potential (whether the exceptionality is a deficit or an advantage)
- 422 Giving students the opportunity to learn through their gifts and talents.
- 423 Not sure. Both of my children's base schools were all magnet until last year so they had that natural (base) opportunity and didn't have to apply causing more stress for us. Now, I don't know what to think
- 424 I agree with the three objectives, however, should these objectives not also be reflective of what is expected from all schools? As a former educator in WCPSS, I always felt that the Magnet Programs also set up inequities across schools. There should not be some schools that have specialization in arts or classics, while others have no such offerings.
- 425 I could be wrong, but it seems they are sometimes used to "test" new teaching procedures, techniques, programs, etc. Seems appropriate as the teacher's seem so eager and willing.
- 426 Special Needs
- 427 I like the idea of choices both in teaching style, offerings, etc. To allow parents to find the type of environment which best fits there child.
- 428 no
- 429 no
- 430 Create demand and increase acheivment in underpreforming schools. More staff and resources.
- 431 As an biproduct of those listed above- attracting high quality teachers to magnet schools that may have semi-high concentrations of poverty.
- 432 Broaden students' opportunities for intellectual enrichment.
- 433 All magnet school should offer Foreign Language classes. Promote diversity.

- 434 Programs of expanded study for kids NOT in poverty stricken areas that would do better in a magnet type of school but are unable to get in now. My son has Asperger's and would do better in a smaller, hands-on type of classroom. We live in a nicer part of Apex and get rejected every time we have applied to a magnet. My daughter is really into the arts & would love to attend an art based school but faces the same rejection. It would be nice to see magnet schools in Cary or Apex.
- 435 Magnet programs should be competitive. Children should have to pass a test to be admitted. It should be a privilege. Classes should remain small.
- 436 While all students do have talents and should be encouraged there should also be opportunities for high achieving students to be identified and provided access specialized schools. This extends beyond what a general school could provide as enrichment but a full program effort to allow those students to truly excel beyond a pull out session. This might encourage some of the very brightest from leaving public schools for other environments.
- 437 These programs should supplement the activities that are not available in traditional schools, such as: a foreign language program or a specialty in art or music, science or math.
- 438 Allowing parents to select schools that offer areas of study in which the student excels or is very interested.
- 439 Items 1-3 are the ones I support, but I've seen things on the news about schools that aim to decrease the achievement gap through a variety of programs. I wonder if the magnet program can look for a way to include this as part of our program
- 440 Offer extensions to the standard curriculum to help the AIG students stretch their thinking into higher levels of thinking with like minded peers. (Ability grouping)
- 441 No, the objectives they were already serving were just perfect. So quit messing with them.
- 442 It is a good opportunity for our kids to know other cultures and spend more time taking classes that they like it.

- 443 Yes, equal magnet opportunities for ALL suburban schools should be included in magnet development.
- 444 Access for as many students as possible (in terms of location of the schools)
- 445 I don't think there should be magnet schools. It is unfair that the downtown schools get extra money. I would like to see that money equally distributed to ALL schools. I think the specials classes should be expanded at all county schools.
- 446 YEAR-ROUND!!! More GT schools ADD & ADHD support
- 447 Provide gifted students with suitable opportunities
- 448 To help people appreciate a magnet program, preference should not be given to neighborhood kids then make everyone else apply. Although the program has good intentions it doesn't set a precedence for higher learning. The slackers and achievers are lumped together which takes away from the prestige a magnet school should have. Magnet should be set apart from regular school to raise a standard not only in education but mannerism. Teachers need to also be held with a high accountability to foster respect and good study habits.
- 449 Magnets success should be defined by improved student achievement. If a magnet is no longer located in a region of high poverty it should be moved to serve one that is.
- 450 transportation timing
- 451 Serve those of us who live further out in the county. What you did with knight dale hs was good! Now demagnetized WF elementary. We paid for band rooms and dance floors lets use them . You can easily balance your numbers WF has rich and poor. We shouldn't have to go all the way down to hunter! Or lease Dubois center.
- 452 Provide more choice for parents/students. Allow for increased specialization.

453 I think that the reduction of high poverty schools should be the main goal. There has been a push for more magnets in the suburbs, but that is not the point of the magnet program (and funding from the federal level states that) unless the area is a low-income area. The expanded educational opportunities should be a way to draw families. If there is truly a new push for proximity then maybe you need to consider more magnets downtown or close to South East Raleigh where there are high pockets of low income students.

454 offer it to more schools in outlying parts of the county (Fuquay). every resident should have a fair chance to attend a few choices of magnets within a reasonable distance.

455 teach peace among students of varying backgrounds

456 High quality, innovative programming

457 Provide merit-based admission and programs

458 Health Care and Technology

459 Community Service and teaching the foundations of Social Justice in a global economy.

460 Student achievement

461 Promote educational opps not offered in schools with magnet certification.

462 I think the three goals listed are primary and in the correct order of importance. Promoting diversity and educational opportunities - and reducing high concentrations of poverty is so, so important.

463 I would like to see a more math and science focused curriculum.

464 Engineering, Math, Physics.

465 Providing a greater breadth and depth of music and arts programs as well as academic programs.

466 Give all students equal opportunity. Avoid snap judgements that serve the most vocal. Put students first. I would like to hear more about that than School Board Meetings.

467 support community building programs that reach out to the surrounds of the school. Everyone should feel like they are part of the community whether it is in the community where they go to school or where they live.

468 They should support efforts to reduce gang activity, because economic hardship for young people and their parents is making this problem worse, and, I fear hurting magnetic school diversity efforts. Many people lack of an understanding of the root causes of why gangs attract young people, who already feel little hope of a better future even without being told they themselves are to blame for magnet schools' declining reputations.

469 These magnets like Poe Montessori provide excellent sandboxes for testing and validating phenomenal pedagogical innovations which then can be scaled across. It also is a huge trove of educational diversity and opportunities for parents like us who moved from other states valuing these unique and exceptional facilities.

470 Art, Music and Performing Arts

471 the different focused curriculum at the different Magnet schools offer students an opportunity to specialize their skills. Many schools have great programs that aren't advertised well - Athen's High School has computer certification programs (helps with job finding after HS), Enloe HS has an awesome car mechanic program (helps with engine repairs for personal or professional growth). My point is that our schools have additional great programs other than Magnet that might take someone to a specific school.

472 Serve to concentrate the best and brightest students from the around the county together where they can benefit from each other.

473 challenge gifted students by giving them lots of choices of courses

474 To offer targeted services such as the arts or technology to students who show potential for high achievement in those areas.

475 We love Farmington Woods! My son has excelled in Spanish and Reading. He has an appreciation for cultural diversity as well as being part of a community! We love the IB program! FWES offers more specials and field trips than our base school.

476 Relieve overcrowding

477 be a means to offer targeted programs to sub-populations without duplication

- 478 Good public education promotes effective, participatory democracy: "Information is the currency of democracy." - Thomas Jefferson "People who mean to be their own Governors, must arm themselves with the power which knowledge gives." - James Madison "The preservation of the means of knowledge among the lowest ranks is of more importance to the public than all the property of all the rich men in the country." - John Adams "Man's capacity for justice makes democracy possible, but man's inclination to injustice makes democracy necessary." - Reinhold Niebuhr (1892-1971), US theologian, 1944 "More and more I come to value charity and love of one's fellow being above everything else. All our lauded technological progress - our very civilization - is like the axe in the hand of the pathological criminal." - Albert Einstein (1879-1955) - "Perfection of means and confusion of goals seem - in my opinion - to characterize our age." out of My Later Years, ch. 14 (1950). and "Unthinking respect for authority is the greatest enemy of truth." and "He who joyfully marches in rank and file has already earned my contempt. He has been given a large"   
 479 Provide challenging opportunities for students who want to excel  
 480 Meeting the needs of individual students whose needs could not be meet in "regular" schools.  
 481 To serve as an example of best practices to be expanded as possible, to all schools in the district.  
 482 Most people see supporting diversity as a race-related issue. I believe another valuable part of diversity is exposure to other socioeconomic levels. For my middle-class child to realize how lucky he is to have as much as he does is vital to his development. At the same time, his friends who are of a lower socioeconomic level have the opportunity to realize they can achieve the same things. We spend time talking about the hard work that got us where we are and how we were in a lower socioeconomic class as children.  
 483 No.

484 I believe that a secondary benefit of magnets is bringing together parents from the multiple areas that the magnets draw from, who then work together to support the school and its programs. I believe having parents from diverse areas of Wake County (and I don't just mean racial or economic diversity) contributes to an understanding of other communities and neighborhoods in Wake County. In short, it broadens the horizons of both the students and their parents. I know that many favor community schools, and I get that; I love the idea of my child walking to school. But I also see great value in keeping magnet schools in the mix. Beyond the three original, wise objectives listed above, I believe there are parents like me who very much value magnets for the opportunity they provide to push us and our kids beyond the microcosms of our individual neighborhoods. Magnets help create a different kind of community that I see as a crucial part of what I hope is one of the Wake County Schools' long-term objective -- turning out students who are citizens of the \*world\* not just one city or neighborhood.

485 no

486 all schools should offer these expanded educational opportunities not just a few magnet schools that only a few kids can be bussed long distances to attend.

487 The magnet program fits in well with the new push to provide specialized programs in different schools such as STEM status.

488 I think \*some\* of the "specialized programs" should be available in the non-magnet schools, as well. And I have heard that kids in magnets do not have to take PE. I believe if a child is involved in sports outside of school, he/she should be allowed to opt out of PE and take another

489 I believe that the primary focus of the magnet program should be to offer something that a child can't get through the standard curriculum, the specialized programs are the most important objective and should not be clouded by other objectives.

490 Civic/Social/Community responsibility and engagement

491 they should also serve as an attractive choice for students who live nearby

- 492 increase opportunities for academically gifted children
- 493 The most important reason for magnet programs is to create diverse and challenging educational opportunities for students.
- 494 Provide AP type attention earlier for advanced students, K.
- 495 Enrich student learning experience.
- 496 Help fill schools with low enrollments
- 497 Set good example for academic excellence.
- 498 Providing parents choice in academic and cultural programming.
- 499 Spread them equally throughout the district/county so everyone has local access, regardless of economic or racial considerations.
- 500 I do think the magnet program should also look to improve achievement for students at all levels.
- 501 It has always allowed students a second or third option to their base school.
- 502 Provide stable, predictable excellence -- year after year. Knowing their kids will get a great education will attract more great people to the area!
- 503 Offer unique programs that will attract students from their base schools. Magnets should only be offered in county locations that stand the greatest risk of being unbalanced in terms of diversity.
- 504 Increased academic rigor; the rigor decreases every year.
- 505 I did not answer the above because I am unsure what a 1,2, or 3 indicates. Since you haven't clarified this, your results will be unusable.
- 506 Provide programs that are unique enough to draw students to downtown from other parts of Wake County. This ability to draw is diminished if these programs (or parts thereof) are offered in other parts of the county.
- 507 A system of choice
- 508 NO - I feel a reduction in poverty and an emphasis on diversification of socio-economic groups in our schools should be the principle goal in building our children's foundation in education

- 509 Teach students respect for all people. Get serious on all types of bullying. Stop soft pedaling. Make conduct count as a grade that will affect opportunities to enter college.
- 510 To provide superior education to to our children
- 511 Specialized programs for students with strong talent and interest in a specific area, versus general studies.
- 512 no
- 513 The various magnet programs provide opportunities to students with diverse interests which in turn, motivates students to learn.
- 514 NO. The intent, and model of Magnet Programming is research based. As with all research based initiatives brought into Wake County, once methodology of research is tampered with ("Wake Countized"), it is no longer a research based approach and will not yeild the same results. Wake County has deliberately created schools of concentrated poverty again! This overt act of educational ignorance and malpractice isa clear indicator that the district is not acting in the best interest of its primary and most vulnerable stakeholders, the children.
- 515 I believe Wake County is large enough to support an applied into AG program beginning at middle school to benefit the segment of the student population with the aptitude and academic interest. The current AG magnet programs are good and it is good to be inclusive, but there is a small percentage of students egregiously under-served in such an academically advanced demographic as Wake County.
- 516 Magnet schools should be for students based on academic achievement and not the color of their skin.
- 517 Consideration should also be given to the fact that magnets provide more individualized educational programs by their nature, and additional special education supports should be afforded to them because they attract individualized students.
- 518 Applying innovative programs as a learning tool, for everyone.
- 519 Magnets are public private education. Look at the make up of the kids in the classes.

- 520 Provide "project based" learning opportunities to connect students with the real life environment and situations.
- 521 enrichment and vocational opportunities
- 522 Magnet programs can serve as unique communities to meet needs that are difficult to meet otherwise.
- 523 Busing high income suburban kids into inner city schools is a wonderful way to diversify the community as well as the schools.
- 524 Serve as medium through which children are connected to the business community via targeted programming and collaborations w/ the school system. Each school should have a required element of science/tech
- 525 To have special programs to target children who are high achievers in classes where they can challenge each other and receive direct instruction to enhance their needs and goals.
- 526 In Elementary school make sure all schools have a strong emphasis on core subjects so that all students have equal opportunity as they get ready for the next level of school (middle / high).
- 527 Engaging and communicating better with parents concerning their children's academic performance.
- 528 The children who are leveled 75% and above (not always AG), tend to be forgotten and not challenged. We need places like that all over the county. My child was the only one out of 40 from her elementary to get the opportunity to be challenged. We are thankful but I don't think it is <sup>right</sup>
- 529 Provide an alternative to block scheduling.
- 530 Keep stressing the importance of great knowledge & experiences in the arts, foreign language & technology.
- 531 Retain and increase music and arts programs (music especially, as it has been shown in numerous studies to increase math and other core skills).

- 532 Even though the purpose of magnet schools is to bring diversity, from my observation, I feel there is segregation and big achievement gap between the base population and the bussed in population. It is especially more prevalent in the high schools. It is like two schools under one roof. One group, a very high achieving students and other not that challenged. There is a big disparity between the two groups. I feel the focus needs to be in reducing the achievement gap between the two groups and focusing on all students.
- 533 The leadership academies should fall under the magnet umbrella given that they are specialized programs.
- 534 I think these three are more than enough if done well!
- 535 Magnets should serve to give parents true choice and options. Magnets should NOT put students on a track that they will follow from K through High School - a MAJOR FLAW in the new "choice" plan. Nobody choosing an elementary school can have any idea how of their children's needs in middle and high school. Ridiculous.
- 536 Yes. I think the Magnet Schools should also look at concentrating in special education programs for children with special needs.
- 537 Offer expanded programming and areas of specialization not feasible to offer at all schools
- 538 Offer incentives to families outside of proximity. Calling any school a GT magnet lends a status that many parents will jump on.
- 539 More effectively (and cost effectively) educate children who are outliers
- 540 To promote diversity, as stated in the first objective, is very important in the public education system. It benefits ALL students.
- 541 Re: the above questions, does 3=strongly support?
- 542 The magnet program gave my child who had a learning disability the opportunity to receive the help she needed during one elective period while still giving her the flexibility to enjoy exploring other classes she found interesting.

- 543 Provide curriculum which challenges exceptionally bright students. Provide an access to academics in general for students who pay attention to academics only in specialized curriculum and do not seem to "get into" general traditional curriculum
- 544 Provide for unique and relevant educational opportunities for Wake County students.
- 545 Magnet programs should encourage not only a diverse student body but continue to provide a diverse curriculum which enhances all students education.
- 546 Magnet programs provide an immeasurably valuable option in school choice, providing alternatives to traditional classroom settings. The very nature of the program does not just provide expanded educational opportunities but more importantly provides a flexible environment in which various learning methods can be utilized for core subjects. There is no better environment for providing differentiated classroom instruction.
- 547 I think you should expand the magnet program into more schools.
- 548 Pull kids from high income areas for increased donations and volunteering.
- 549 After school studies or summer programs directed towards all students that are taught by students that could possibly give a better impact or hands on study skills to their fellow classmates.
- 550 utilizing available seats, promoting economic diversity, offering academic choice for specialized/targeted programs.
- 551 none
- 552 The prevention of high poverty and racially isolated schools, not just the reduction.
- 553 Not that I can think of.
- 554 Improve student achievement for all students.

555 I think that somehow there should be a particular Magnet program that helps meet the challenges of the students most likely to drop out of house school and/or find themselves in long term suspensions. My children have been involved in three of the downtown magnet schools and exposure to opportunity, integrated socio economic backgrounds and active PTA's is not doing enough to address this problem. I love the schools my children go to but I am conscious that some of their peers are still falling through the cracks. I would like to see the county consult with Ruby K. Payne for a creative proposal.

556 I think we could do even more to ensure that we do not have "wealthy" schools and "marginalized" schools. Despite all that has been done, that perception persists, and the kids know it.

557 To articulate my response to #2 - my belief is that the magnet program is an excellent way to give parents an option when neighborhood schools are at or over capacity. We tend to talk about maximizing use of school facilities by filling up undercapacity schools. In our case, we wanted an alternative to a new school that was clearly over-capacity and already utilizing portable classrooms.

558 Increase the spirit of education and encouraging kids to achieve higher goals (basically goal oriented education) Character education

559 Acknowledge and address the diversity of learning styles (not just demographic diversity)

560 Provide smaller school options.

561 support the efforts of students to learn about more obscure arts and languages (dance, jazz band, orchestra, Chinese, German, Italian, etc.) with the goal of having these classes in all high schools as funds allow.

562 Nurture excellence. While we must work to ensure that low-performing students are not left unprepared, we must also nurture and challenge our best students. Excellence in our schools supports local economic growth and is essential to national competitiveness. Magnets can accomplish both goals.

- 563 Universal specialized programs on international culture and intensive foreign languages.
- 564 They should promote the pursuit of excellence: academic, leadership, volunteering, community service, STEM, literary and athletic.
- 565 As the original purpose was to keep kids from being segregated due to geographic location, and to offer families the opportunity to choose to travel further away from home but as a trade off take interesting classes....this concept maximizes many facets of the process. Schools are used wisely, kids aren't segregated, parents who opt out of the neighborhood can do so, and it is a win-win.
- 566 should continue to only offer specialty programs in these schools to keep kids attracted to these locations.
- 567 Provide more special education class options for parents.
- 568 Magnet programs should achieve items 1, 2, & 3. And should ALSO recognize best learning scenarios such as early start times for elementary ages and later start times for high schoolers. Research repeatedly shows high schoolers benefit from a later bell schedule, yet Wake County continues with an early bell schedule - recently made even earlier with 7:20 am start times. With magnet students travelling from all parts of the county, no magnet school should start before 8 am. High Schools especially should start as late as 9 am to maximize the academic environment.
- 569 Magnet schools offer children the opportunity to learn in an environment that will mirror society when the finish education. They do this while offering unique curriculum to ALL students and attracting parent support through volunteer hours inner city schools would otherwise not have. This experience is invaluable for ALL students.

570 By providing electives, magnet schools allow students to learn topics that are not part of the No Child Left Behind standards that have degraded the value of our public education system. School should be more than preparing our children to take a test that determines how much money a school gets and if teachers remain employed. The job of schools is to educate our children to become better and informed citizens, not good standardized test takers. Electives offer a wonderful opportunity for children to explore their interests and get a more rounded education. Magnet schools should provide as many electives as possible.

571 no

572 Arts education, additional language instruction

573 Fostering tolerance of socio-economic, racial, and cultural differences. This is a genuine societal need that must be addressed with our young people.

574 No. The simultaneous benefit of expanded educational opportunities while reducing high concentrations of poverty, increasing school diversity and maximizing school facilities is what makes our magnet program so fantastic.

575 Differentiated instruction! With all the increasing demands placed on teachers in the classroom, children who perform significantly above grade level are largely underserved. While there is accountability for "no child left behind"...there is no formal accountability to teach and stretch the boundaries of children who have already mastered grade level objectives. Thankfully, our magnet school has an elective program and culture that drives differentiated instruction, but this orientation seems to be rare in my experience.

576 It often seems that those students who are not considered a minority population, are not given the same opportunity to attend a magnet school. ALL students should have equal access to all educational opportunities, not just those students that are "minorities."

577 I think these three objectives are pretty comprehensive. Numbers 1 and 3 are the most important ones for me and my family, and the reasons why we participate in the magnet program.

578 Keep it simple. The three above are a great focus of purpose.

579 They should serve students in all areas of the county not just a concentrated section. We shouldn't have to subject our children to extra long days and long bus rides to attend a school with specialized programs.

580 Offer acceleration to gifted students

581 Is there any possibility of having a magnet to reduce the discrepancy between advanced learners and those who need remediation. (don't know the educational term the industry uses)

582 To compete with charter and private schools

583 Promote diversity and economic, social, and racial integration

584 Optimal and unique school curriculums

585 Decreasing racial and socioeconomic academic performance gaps.

586 Serve specific needs for targeted and concentrated groups of students -- ESL, low achievement, high achievement, etc. Every magnet school need not be everything to all students -- more concentration to fit a targeted student population should be explored, even if all students at that magnet school were not qualified for the targeted magnet programs offered.

587 No, I think these three are excellent.

588 Allow the concentration of student groups from through out the county with special academic needs, so there is a large enough cohort for successful education. Examples, AG students, arts-talented students, special needs (ed) students, Talented students, etc.

589 To best meet the needs of individual students rather than teaching to the middle.

590 should be discontinued immediately

591 Provide more magnet options in middle and high school

592 The emphasis should be on diversification of socio economic students.

- 593 Despite my support of these objectives, the impact of magnets and the achievement gap needs an full and honest assessment. While I am sure that all in item 5 are attractive, the assessment needs to address how to all populations gain access to magnet resources in the same schools where some are not participating (e.g., socio-economic, ethnicity) engagement....Availability does not equal access...access does not equate to achievement
- 594 Expose children in areas of high poverty to programs that they might not otherwise have access to in the schools
- 595 I think it currently serves as an economic and cultural draw to our area. If someone is considering moving here with children, they take into consideration the (previously) very high standards and offerings which include magnet choices
- 596 Provide opportunities for expanded experiences through student diversity
- 597 To provide opportunities of advanced learning for gifted children.
- 598 I feel the magnet programs are better to remain in the schools where they are currently located. It seems to me more damage is done then good when magnet programs are transferred to other schools. Parents/students have applied to these schools for these programs and removing them causes mass exodus from these schools.
- 599 To provide additional options for parents unhappy with their community (or formerly base) schools
- 600 Magnet programs should be expanded, without sacrificing existing programs to offer opportunities to additional students.
- 601 The magnet programs should provide an opportunity for gifted and talented students to access challenging coursework in a way that is cost effective for the system. In addition, the program should: - Enable Wake County to qualify for federal funding for magnet programs. - Reduce concentrations of poverty - Increase achievement - Increase diversity in our schools
- 602 Give students with special interest an opportunity to pursue their passions
- 603 Bring out the creative talents in students

- 604 They should receive more funding for their specialized areas. For example, as family of an Enloe Music student they literally have no money because of lack of funding. Just because the students' families aren't as rich as Panther Creek, Cary, and Green Hope, doesn't mean their students should have disadvantages. After all it is an arts school for a reason! Also at Enloe, the IB Program should receive more funding. There are so many opportunities taken away from this program just because of the lack of funding. Same goes for schools like Southeast, Garner, Ligon, Carnage, and Hunter. I have heard of numerous issues with their special 'attractive' programs as well. In general, magnet schools deserve much more funding by the county than non-magnet schools. The lack of this is significantly taking away the beauty of the county's magnet program.
- 605 Provide expanded service to students with special needs - Id/add
- 606 give kids better education
- 607 Language immersion, STEM rigor, moves affluent children into non-traditional neighborhood schools for a diversity of cultures.
- 608 equalize access to successful teachers to under-served students. i.e. require magnet teachers to not only teach excellent students but also under-achieving students.
- 609 Magnet schools should not be located in areas of the county where resources are abundant.
- 610 A concentration in trades - A/C repair, car repair, plumbing etc. and/or agriculture for some high schools
- 611 Address the needs of high-IQ or high achieving students that are not served well in a basic school environment. E.g. International Baccalaureate program. Note that not all highly intelligent students achieve at high levels and our school system has historically done poorly in addressing this.
- 612 HELP STUDENTS EXCEL FOCUS ON TOP PERFORMERS INSTEAD OF LOWERING CLASS EXPECTATIONS PER NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND MINDSET
- 613 Provide expanded opportunities in the arts - both visual and performing

- 614 Priority given to students who live closest to school as long as they meet the academic criteria.
- 615 Assist those children with special needs; develop a specialized magnet system to assist those children who are unable to maintain in a public school setting or those who cannot flourish in a "traditional" public school setting. Develop a magnet program which is outside the box of any typical public school option for those children who are slipping through the cracks due to their specialized needs which current schools have difficulty serving!
- 616 Magnets also help eliminate congestion and competition for seats in Western Wake.
- 617 The primary mission should be to build the foundation needed to support the long-term goal of college admission.
- 618 Provide the opportunity for specialized areas of study to students who want to pursue certain academics or arts in more depth.
- 619 Probably similar to #3, but a place to test new and innovative teaching methods.
- 620 enrich downtown; get people out of their suburb; share the wealth with the downtown schools; make inner city schools an inviting place to teach and learn.
- 621 Offering more magnet programs in Cary/Apex area should be considered.
- 622 not just educating on a memory base learning but by tapping into the potential of each student
- 623 I think it does a great job, and offers so many more choices of schools above and beyond the base school.
- 624 Rather than "high concentrations" of poverty, I believe it should be just "concentrations" of poverty. I also believe that travel time/time spent getting to magnet schools should be factored in, as it seems unfair to put children on buses for as long as reported. This puts a burden on parents/caregivers as well. The Magnet program must be more considerate of that aspect.
- 625 Additional support, guidance for exceptional students in STEM

- 626 trade skills development; life skills development;  
expand building use into the evening hours; split  
high schools into smaller units and time-shift  
operational hours - hundreds of teenagers in the  
same place at the same time doesn't seem like a  
good idea - would like to see more  
experimentation as opposed to following the  
same recipe from the past 50-80 years
- 627 Most importantly, magnet schools offer an  
opportunity to choose the best environment for  
students. The effect of magnet programs also  
generalize across a school's population. Magnet  
programs attract the best teachers in many  
respects. Ideally, all students should attend  
magnet programs or schools that offer  
educational experiences specific to their talents  
and needs.
- 628 as when they were first established, I think  
magnet programs should support "under-  
selected" schools and schools with demographics  
that would overwhelm teaching staff without  
access to blended populations and/or additional  
resources to support various learning needs.
- 629 Discipline was a huge problem at Moore square.  
At Moore Square, several of the kids need to  
learn basic socialization and behavioral skills.
- 630 Innovative in- and out-of school instructional  
models.
- 631 Have better service for children in special ed.  
programs. The children does not always have a  
learning disability but needs teachers that are  
concerned how they be taught.
- 632 Focus on special interests like science and  
technology or the arts.
- 633 if the school is math and science based, there  
should be allotted space (not all) for those kids  
who excell in that area, seperate from the lottery  
program. math and science is an example, it  
could be leadership or athletics
- 634 at the high school level bringing in a voc ed  
program
- 635 Better and more diverse educational  
opportunities for all students
- 636 arts integration into main subjects and  
development in itself

637 The curriculum offered by magnet programs should be available in ALL schools. I oppose #1 because some magnet schools in the "inner city" have high concentration of high income kids because they aren't really in an "inner city low income" environment. And, the expanded offerings in the inner city areas haven't improved test scores among low income kids so they aren't meeting that particular objective. All schools should offer magnet programs, and all schools should work with the community to improve / increase parent involvement and teach parents how to support their childrens' education.

638 Offer more real life lessons/ classes. How to manage finances. Budget money, consequences of running up credit cards. Investing, saving, living within your means...

639 Offer a magnet program in west cary.

640 Provide specialized programs to children with different ethnic backgrounds

641 I feel the magnet program should provide a challenge to those children who have risen above the "average" and have the desire to excel even further by enabling them to do so without being weighted down by those who are accepted by way of lottery yet don't have the drive necessary to meet the challenge. In other words, acceptance into the magnet program should be based on academic excellence, not lottery.

642 I think magnet programs have failed to do what they were intended to do and should be closed. There has yet to show that they help bring up the base population or help them in any way that simply providing more resources to those neighborhoods to specifically target the needs of that community would do with good school planning and management. I do not see the students intermingling outside of school to promote intergration as intended in the school either.

643 Keeping the bad schools from getting worst.

644 health

645 create more magnet school programs

646 allow kids to be exposed to different aspects of education and their community that they may not otherwise have the chance to experience

- 647 No
- 648 Every school should have a magnet program so that every student will be challenged. Funding should be the same in every public school for purchasing computers, smart boards, iPads, etc.
- 649 Provide excellent education
- 650 Magnet schools shouldn't be free unless all children are allowed to attend. If all aren't allowed, then taxpayers' money should not be subsidizing such education.
- 651 Magnets support diversity through CHOICE, not force. Magnets allow for better schools in poorer areas, which is good!
- 652 Facilitate intercultural encounters and learning among students and faculty. Make sure that socio-economically disadvantaged students have greater access to high-level or advanced programs as well as to the arts.
- 653 support alternative teaching strategies
- 654 Enhance student learning and give more diverse options that teach to student interests.
- 655 Yes, I think the magnet programs should be the pioneers in instituting two recesses a day during school!!!! The magnet schools could show the entire Wake County school system how incredibly beneficial having two recesses a day would be to so many aspects of school: obvious improvement in student behavior, measured increase in student test scores across the board, and on and on and on. Everyone will benefit greatly from this and absolutely no one will NOT benefit. With so many studies showing how much student learning is improved post-exercise, I simply cannot think of one reason not to do this. Let the magnet programs lead the way, or let the entire Wake County system lead the way for the rest of the country!! Wouldn't that be an absolutely wonderful thing to be recognized for?
- 656 Exposure to various career opportunities.

- 657 Open more magnets and make them regionally based. I.e., we are IB in Cary but there are no true options to continue IB either Garner or North Raleigh, Central Raleigh would have been so much better to continue IB program. Garner and NR make no sense geographically, central Raleigh would have been a better option.
- 658 offer more magnet options
- 659 I don't think magnet has a vast different than regular school. Student can learn any environment, any school, not really in Magnet.
- 660 help students who are low achievers in core subjects find some level of success in their school day .
- 661 Address needs of students who are different/diverse in learning styles, behavior, abilities, and interests.
- 662 Provide live experiences that might not otherwise be provided. Because magnet schools are theme based, children are afforded opportunities/experiences through the school that they might not otherwise receive. For some students, because they are not afforded ANY opportunities through their home lives, this is their ONLY chance at having these extra experiences that ALL children SHOULD.
- 663 STEM programs
- 664 Provide unique or specialized teaching methods.
- 665 healthy lifestyle (less processed foods, more exercise) Teaching children to make healthy lifestyle choices is pivotal for lifelong health.
- 666 Implement learning strategies that incorporate collaborate work and utilization of information technology Provide strong focus on math and the sciences
- 667 Gain notoriety not only for the school but the city as well.

668 They should make it their goal to see that children in high poverty situations are first taught vocabulary to enhance reading before they are thrown into classes with kids from highly educated parents. These are two totally different playing fields I don't care what the color of the skin or the economic status of the family. Vocabulary is key to reading, math & science and I believe exploration through the arts can help save many of these children, but we are so tied up in what we think might look like segregation that we don't get to the root of the problem.

669 In my experience with my children, I have seen how the magnet program has helped with introducing them to different avenues of learning that has had a positive outcome in their overall abilities in school and in out of school activities. I think that the magnet program helps to show the student that we can always learn from the world around us and this includes the areas of reading, writing, math, and science.

670 Keep downtown school facilities fully occupied.

671 they offer choices within public education and i hope the schools will continue to receive the support from the board

672 Provide more available spots. They are not of benefit if I cannot get my child in.

673 Addressing the needs of all special needs, especially spending more focus on those children on the highly capable end of the spectrum of special needs.

674 I wish there was some way to provide the same innovative and quality education that magnet schools offer in all Wake Co. schools. Why not bring this same model and high level of expectation and achievement to all schools and all students?

675 I think that the A-A population should have better opportunities for the Magnet School Programs. They may attend a Magnet School but are not in the Magnet Programs, due to the school having the basic program and a Magnet Program

- 676 Electives/Courses for elementary/middle school kids to expose them to adults from different careers and focus on how elementary education and creativity helps in every career. Something like the HS Early College options. Partner with non-profit organizations like Junior Achievement.
- 677 Develop career interests in students in grades 10-12 thru immersion programs similar to ones seen in European influenced countries.
- 678 These objectives are the critical core of a strong magnet program that ensures strong education for all students.
- 679 To serve as college prep schools. Higher learning then traditional schools.
- 680 I strongly support the magnet objective and I believe that my children have benefited great by being assigned to his base magnet school.
- 681 No
- 682 Providing additional remediation through elective choices during the regular academic day, without removing students from their peers.
- 683 We need programs to address teenager parents, agriculture/nutrition/ecology, business/entrepreneurship, recreation/outdoor education
- 684 I think magnet programs cause parents to feel their student who doesn't attend a magnet school is not getting the best educational opportunity as those who do get to attend magnet options. All magnet schools are not equal and many have an abundance of resources for children where other magnet and non- magnets have little or no resources. It is not a fair process in selection and makes traditional schools look really bad. If the resources were balanced then you wouldn't need a choice plan and have "regional choice" schools
- 685 Provide concentrations of students and faculty based on related areas of interest and ability, such as athletics, the arts, science and mathematics.
- 686 Give a high quality, second-to-none education.
- 687 Respond to needs of children whose learning styles are not recognized and rewarded by traditional educational system--special needs, etc.

- 688 I think we should concentrate a little more in math. Almost every kid I know is struggling with that
- 689 Take advantage of local resources, as when an area has intrinsic educational value (e.g. downtown Raleigh for history and government studies; near NC State for science).
- 690 I believe that the Magnet Program should be designed for low poverty neighborhoods & it IS NOT! I know over 100 families that are perfectly capable to pay for the extra "Magnet intitlements" ie, drama, art programs. . . On their own dime. This in my opinion defeats the purpose
- 691 i think more time in classess
- 692 Pilot programs that may then move out to all schools.
- 693 Academic excellence.
- 694 More STEM and AG schools for affluent areas in Wake County.
- 695 Support student based interests - provide opportunities for advanced studies in specific areas.
- 696 I think that the weighted selection process for magnet school attendance by node/neighborhood should be ended so that children across the county have the equal opportunity to access magnet programs. I also think that the county needs a high school for the arts that is by application/portfolio for students who are seriously interested in the arts (e.g. Durham School of the Arts)
- 697 It would be wonderful if magnet math classes were offered on-line. The student would have no homework in their regular math class. All homework would be the magnet advanced math class.
- 698 I applaud the efforts of all magnet schools and their programs. Suggestion for another magnet theme - leadership and community service. These are key to IB programs and other magnet programs throughout the county, but having leadership and community service as a predominant theme is something that I think is deserving of consideration.

699 I believe magnet programs should help integrate students who live in poverty and in impoverished areas with students of a higher socioeconomic status. I also believe that the magnet programs should work to close the gap between the grades and scores of the poor and more wealth students. I believe magnet programs should seek to have the most qualified teachers to insure great educational opportunities for all students.

700 provide options for parents and students  
701 reduce sprawl.

702 Provide a better education for the higher achieving students instead of teaching to the lowest common denominator

703 Pilot programs for new approaches to be scaled up across the district; model for innovative teaching practices

704 As a part of the expanding educational opportunities objective, the equity magnets served a very important objective of offering an equal education to all sections of the district.

705 More Field Trips i belive that that we all learn better when we can relate or visually see obiectives we need to learn.

706 More options for advanced-gifted and upper income students.

707 helping distribute student enrollment throughout the city

708 Introduction of new programs for a limited number of students that are cost-prohibitive to put in all schools.

709 Address the needs of gifted and talented students, a population that has been completely left out of the nonmagnet public schools in Wake Countv.

710 Given the current population and expected growth I feel full utilization of facilities is vital. I think is creating/allowing high poverty schools in Wake county is a disservice to all the children impacted immediately and to those impacted by concentration of resources at those schools. I know I wouldn't last long as a teacher in such an environment. Magnets can serve a useful role in avoiding this.

711 magnet progrrams should continue to offer special programs in math & science.

712 Provide choice by way of magnets.

- 713 Offer unique programs in addition to what a regular elementary school would offer (including additional foreign languages such as Chinese, German etc. in addition to Spanish)
- 714 Provide expanded/extended opportunities for learning in specific areas for gifted children.
- 715 It is very important that the magnet program should continue to provide the high quality curriculum and electives as it is currently offered.
- 716 Team with targeted area business for HS interns and voc ed programs!!!
- 717 Yes. Magnets can best serve very smart kids. These kids may languish in regular schools, which tend to teach to tests and to a median level at best. Also, magnet schools provide a place to get advanced kids together with their peers, many advantages to advanced kids working with their peers. Magnet schools also may be better reaching kids that need more help (if they have the resources to help them). Magnet schools better serve certain learning styles (like Douglas Elementary does) and special interests which motivate children (music, art, drama, pe). These interests can keep children engaged and excited, and motivated for school.
- 718 Increase excitement and challenge for students.
- 719 I think that EVERY school should have the same opportunities available as magnet schools. PERIOD.
- 720 Vocational schools should be available - food services, mechanical training, carpentry, plumbing, HVACA - not every student needs to/wants to go to college!
- 721 No
- 722 I believe all public schools should be equal - offer same programs/electives and funding. Non-magnet students do NOT receive an equal education as magnet students do.

- 723 I think these objective are all good, however at what cost to the overall success is their implementation? Are kids being bussed for long periods of time? Are teachers given the tools to teach different levels of incomed families? Everything looks great on paper, but actually implementing these ideas is a different story. When you put these broad questions on the questionnaire, who wouldn't be in favor? But the ideas and the reality are two differnt things.
- 724 To help attract new families to historically strong schools with F&R populations that have dramatically increased recently, such as Stough Elementary School.
- 725 none
- 726 facilitate interactions across a diverse array of socio economic classes, ethnicities, and abilities. All schools, whether magnet or otherwise should also have student achievement of all attending as the primary remit.
- 727 Cater first to neighborhood students, then accept busing
- 728 AG services
- 729 Maximize usage of natural and municipal resources for the advancement of education. (Ex. schools near parks, colleges, museums should take greater advantage of these resources.)
- 730 They should not redistribute high concentrations of low-income students at neighboring non-magnet schools. Low-income base student should be evenly distributed among MANY nearby schools, not just a few, to make room for magnet students.
- 731 I think it's important to expand magnet programs; not strip them from current school just to allow them to be placed in another location.
- 732 To give students unique opportunities not provided at other schools
- 733 promote divergent thinking
- 734 These three objectives are well thought out and well coordinated
- 735 provide alternative programs for families that do not fit or want the traditional school experience

- 736 Magnet seems to be code for drawing good kids to previously bad schools propped up with \$. Spend \$ where it is needed. This may not be equal per school. Asking a child to travel to a school far from home in order to be exposed to classes unavailable at his or her "home" school is ~~not effective~~
- 737 they should continue to be placed in high poverty schools to attract a more diverse population and level out socio-economic levels in those areas
- 738 Student achievement through various learning methods
- 739 Continue to supply quality curriculum programs with an emphasis on language and creative arts
- 740 I want more math, science and language, arts programs in our program.
- 741 Magnet schools should be flexible and move as school needs change. The program should be phased in and phased out so the program is not 'removed' from the student. Siblings should have the option to be grandfathered into the former magnet school.
- 742 Provide a variety of educational styles to meet a variety of educational needs and interests. Enxpannd learning opportunities for children with an IEP.
- 743 Yes It will be good for every school.
- 744 Magnet schools should serve as an incubator for innovative programs that can be "tried and tested," and then introduced into non-magnet schools.
- 745 We need a program that is the basis for etiquette and morals and behavior. our worst experience is the lack of a defined behavior responsibility and consequences for same. Children are rude and disrespectful to each other and the teachers and adults and face NO CONSEQUENCES. Bullies and victims are treated the same. Its very disappointing. Instead of focusing on diversity we should focus on the quality of education being provided and maybe we will create well behaved educated children regardless of their skin color!
- 746 Variety of offerings for family choice
- 747 Increasing community involvement and pride.

748 More than just "expanded" opportunities, magnets offer flexibility in learning environments to meet each students' needs. I am tired of magnets being portrayed as the only programs that are allowed to provide "icing". People need to understand that all schools are different, and that any school choice may have trade-offs. Sometimes the "cake" at a magnet school might be stale, with respect to our older or somewhat lacking physical facilities. However, I believe the children's education could not possibly be provided by a more dedicated and caring staff. We are very happy with our choice and also very aware of the good and bad differences between "have" and "have not" schools.

749 Providing connections between school and the workforce and enriching student knowledge through unique experiences.

750 I think that new and old magnet programs should be established keeping in mind the changing face of Wake County students, so the program methodologies need to include instruction to support English Language Learners

751 Stress that the presence in schools isn't to isolate nor abandon non-magnet students. Create an initiative to reach out to parents who have shown no participation in school activities in any way. Help them to feel included.

752 Magnet programs should provide learning opportunities that prepare our students for 21st century jobs. This means teaching critical thinking skills and subjects beyond the basics. Our students need more than being "taught to the test "

- 753 My son attends Martin Middle School, and my daughter attends Joyner Elementary School. Both schools are excellent academically and socially. Parents send their children there because they share the values (educational philosophy) of that school and they think their child would thrive there. The children benefit by being with like-minded kids and learning values their parents want them to learn. Those values are then reinforced at home. So a student engages in that philosophy at school and at home. Consequently, the student learns more and is less likely to see a separation between school and home. This is an additional benefit of having magnet schools as a choice. I think that students who attend a magnet school should be guaranteed a seat at their closest proximity school and feeder pattern. A student may thrive at one magnet school, but not the next one in the feeder pattern. Parents should not have to choose magnet feeder school packages as opposed to particular schools because a particular school may be a good fit but the package may not. The current system makes magnet schools less desirable which will over time diminish the educational value of magnet schools. If parents can opt out of their magnet school, why not?
- 754 Entice people from their local neighborhood to expand their "Raleigh community" to include people and neighborhoods they might not otherwise know
- 755 Learning different languages from Elementary School.
- 756 Lure magnet families to under-enrolled schools with programs not offered at traditional schools. Enhance educational and enrichment opportunities for under-performing schools. Provide academically gifted students with greater opportunities for challenging and enriching curriculum, including grades K-2. Offer a wide variety of electives in the performing arts.
- 757 Providing the "expanded educational opportunities" to everyone in Wake County - not just the magnet kids.
- 758 Work on improving some of our magnet middle schools- East Millbrook Middle has terrible school test scores, in fact each year they seem to be getting worse. Just over 50% passing the reading test in 7th grade? Why would anyone choose that for their children!

759 Incorporate awareness of health and well being into all programs. Regardless of the focus of the magnet program, we need to be guiding children to make healthy choices in life, not just food, so that they will be healthy well balanced adults in the future

760 n/a

761 No. Let's quit paying for magnets, and busing, and focus on ALL the kids at all the schools. Please redistrict kids from Panther Creek to less crowded schools.

762 magnet programs need to be spread equally throughout the county, i.e. eastern wake county

763 The above questions would be more meaningful if there were more than 3 choices. Or if participants had been asked to rank the importance of the three objectives. You're going to get a lot of 'support' answers and little else. An additional objective should be making sure all students are served well. This goes along with student achievement. Most, if not all, of our magnets are designed to keep affluent parents happy. The low income or struggling students are an afterthought. The thinking has been: 'well this is much better than they would get if this school wasn't a magnet'. That's a great justification for affluent parents to keep the preserve for their own kids, while making themselves feel good that they are helping less fortunate children. But is that the reality?

764 Need more diversity within the schools. Magnet students tend to be separate from home school students because of the level of classes they take.

765 I do not think there should b all classes for 1 day. My child is finishing 6th grade this year & has done wonderful with the A/B day schedule at EMMMS! He actually got on the A honor roll by the end of the year, something he never accomplished n elementary school. To change this class arrangement would b terrible. If there r kids falling behind, then maybe they need to repeat a grade, but changing the way magnet schools run is not the answer! Some kids need extra help & they always will, so don't punish the ones who work hard to keep their grades up to comply with the crazy no child left behind thing.

- 766 more technical training as our drop out rates are high and our test scores are low. Children in middle school should get more chances to begin learning a trade
- 767 Magnets provide a way for parents to match their kids' special temperaments/interests with special programs such as Arts, Montessori, Academic enrichment. etc.
- 768 STEM + A = STEAM
- 769 Student achievement should be the goal of all schools in the county and not just for magnet schools. EOG/EOC scores should not be the only measurement tools used to evaluate whether the students are making progress and learning.
- 770 In reducing the poverty and supporting diversity in magnet school programs the students that are not "gifted" or particularly interested in the expanded educational opportunities at the schools they are assigned to need additional support
- 771 Provide differentiated instruction and options that lead to specific careers, particularly in industries likely to hire students from the Triangle.
- 772 NO
- 773 As the choice program comes into play, magnet programs could be used to support schools that become viewed as "undesirable" among families, and begin to see large migration of middle-upper class families away from the school.
- 774 Serve as exemplars to other district schools through innovative programs
- 775 Im ok with magnets where needed but there are too many. Martin MS should not be a magnet. When you are reassigning someone who lives less than 1.5 miles from the school so you can bus in someone that lives 23 miles away(both with the same socio-economic levels) it no longer is doing what it was set up to do. Douglas ES, Brooks ES, and several in the Cary area are also like this.
- 776 Provide creative outlets and enhance academic studies
- 777 I believe the magnet schools need to be helping ALL the children attending its school to achieve and be successful. There should NOT be such a huge gap between the F&R/base kids and the "magnet" kids.
- 778 no comment

- 779 Test new programs that when proven successful can be expanded to other schools
- 780 Equity in educational access. I think every district should have at least one magnet academy at a MS or HS age range.
- 781 Objective #1 is most important, followed by #3.
- 782 Universally support an option of languages. And offer music. I believe at a young age they are learned more easily.
- 783 All schools should be providing enriching, quality education to all students regardless of their abilities. In other words concentrate on the majority of low performing schools and the gifted will take care of themselves
- 784 Magnet schools should be schools that would otherwise not meet the area standards. This can be done by giving families from other areas an opportunity to enroll in high success, non-standard schools.
- 785 An opportunity for students who care about their education to escape to a school where they WILL NOT be forced to deal with students who not only do NOT care about school and learning but also simply spend their say bullying and harassing those that want to learn. An opportunity for students that want to learn to have classrooms free from those students that only what to cause trouble and harass students that want to learn.

5. Which of the following magnet themes/programs, including ones currently offered, do you think would be attractive to Wake County families? Check as many as you like.

Respondent #	Response
	1 gender specific classes because boys and girls learn differently
	2 Vocational (MS/HS level only)
	3 School-Based Health Centers
	4 Environmental studies, sustainability
	5 Medical - Not sure if this is wrapped into another program.
	6 all
	7 Agricultural, Environmental Sciences
	8 Areospace & Technology (Parkland MS in Rockville, MD)
	9 early college or AP focus high schools
	10 Music, Arts, Dance

- 11 International studies (culture, language, history - but not immersion); special ed
- 12 Career and Technical Education options
- 13 Special Needs - i.e. High Functioning AU or ADD/ADHD
- 14 Engineering
- 15 Spanish as currently offered at Joyner
- 16 AP, vocational
- 17 Vocational / Technical
- 18 language immersion in French as well
- 19 Medical Arts, Medical Professions, Computer Sciences/Information Technology
- 20 performing arts
- 21 Electricians, Engineering, Plumbing, HVAC, Green Energy Trades
- 22 technical
- 23 Technical school would be most appropriate
- 24 Medical, associates degrees, computer science, media.
- 25 Pre-College, STEM, MSEN, Advanced courses
- 26 hands on learning, small class sizes, health sciences
- 27 STEM
- 28 International Studies
- 29 Service centered
- 30 Electronics/Computer
- 31 International Studies
- 32 None
- 33 Performing Arts High School
- 34 Vocational (high school)
- 35 NONE - offer all these programs in ALL schools
- 36 Independent/Creative Study or Mentoring/Partnership...maybe even something along the lines of "Green" living and working
- 37 STEM
- 38 International
- 39 International Studies
- 40 Green Jobs
- 41 environmental/sustainability focused curriculum
- 42 Performing arts
- 43 Active, hands-on learning
- 44 Classes with no more than 20 students.
- 45 More early college / flexible "grades" (not age based) -- STEM approach

- 46 Global, CTE,
- 47 stop this program
- 48 School of the Arts
- 49 career-oriented & vocational high schools
- 50 Language, non-immersion. English magnet for older LEP students.
- 51 international studies
- 52 Magnet families are HAPPY with their choices.  
Isn't that what the survey indicated two years ago? We want our magnet programs to continue and the variety offered appeals to many different families
- 53 Engineering
- 54 engineering/math
- 55 STEM
- 56 specialized public HS with admission test NOT lottery
- 57 Environmental Sustainability
- 58 Music Concentration, e.g. orchestra, band, etc.
- 59 1-Engineering 2-Medicine 3-Business & Finance
- 60 Focus more on the medical side
- 61 Trade and Industry Education
- 62 Spread the resources throughout the county
- 63 Small school focus
- 64 Exceptional Needs and Special Needs Children
- 65 special needs
- 66 project based, problem solving curriculum (as is the world we live and work in!)
- 67 Culinary
- 68 STEM, partnerships with local universities
- 69 Technical Arts- welding, auto repair, cooking, etc
- 70 High Achievement School ITB focusing of ED
- 71 Expeditionary Learning School  
<http://elschools.org/> (similar to our well respected Exploris Middle School in Raleigh)
- 72 Project based learning
- 73 History
- 74 career/vocational magnet would be great
- 75 Waldorf
- 76 International program offered at Wiley currently should be expanded

- 77 I do not understand what the Museum Magnet does. I believe health and athletics should be an option at every school.
- 78 Cultural - the arts
- 79 Math based school and arts based school
- 80 STEM
- 81 Community Service
- 82 Public Service - education through volunteering
- 83 Global/international studies
- 84 Core Knowledge schools,
- 85 A+. Arts Integration
- 86 Information Technology
- 87 one on just all arts: dance, drama, film, art ,etc.
- 88 technical trades
- 89 fine arts/performing arts; vocational training
- 90 vocational and special education
- 91 special education
- 92 more language options in ALL schools
- 93 Full Day. Try an 8-5 schedule.
- 94 Basic education only.
- 95 HF Autism, High IQ, One teacher resource classrooms
- 96 Peanut-free magnet school (not for my kids but others may benefit)
- 97 Systems Thinking and Systems Dynamics
- 98 International, Global Studies
- 99 Performing arts
- 100 STEM
- 101 international studies
- 102 The Classics of Liberal Education
- 103 vocational training
- 104 University connections
- 105 engineering HS, career exploration, mathematics, online
- 106 Performing Arts
- 107 year round schools
- 108 Math & engineering
- 109 More single sex options, also in middle school
- 110 vocational
- 111 Technical training - automotive, culinary, etc
- 112 schools geared toward reading and writing
- 113 Financial Planning for High School Students

- 114 international studies
- 115 Vocational Academies: Plumbing, electrical, HVAC, masonry, auto tech and landscape design
- 116 Engineering
- 117 International community (like Wiley)
- 118 Career Track - focus on preparing non college-bound students for productive lives
- 119 Early College similar model to current but expanded offerings
- 120 More opportunities to learn foreign languages!
- 121 environmental studies, performing arts (audition-type)
- 122 Technical/Vocational
- 123 Vocational / Technical Trades H.S.
- 124 Chinese immersion school
- 125 STEM, Environmental Stewardship, Agriculture
- 126 Theater and music
- 127 all of these would interest a particular audience.
- 128 Performing Arts
- 129 computer science
- 130 Math and Science Academy
- 131 Performing Arts
- 132 University Connection and Environmental Studies
- 133 Chinese, Mandarin or French
- 134 Language (not immersion) and study of other cultures and geography
- 135 information technology as well as mass communications
- 136 STEM
- 137 Vocational/Entrepreneurship/Community Development
- 138 early college
- 139 Specialize in special needs and INCLUSION!!
- 140 \* Green Technology, Food sciences
- 141 Preparation for skilled jobs that don't require college training.
- 142 Performing arts
- 143 All, which should be reflected in all K-8 schools
- 144 Innovation and Entrepreneurship
- 145 School to Work job ready

- 146 I am very excited about special classes/concentrations in the single gender schools.
- 147 There should be a school that supports ADD & ADHD kids
- 148 professional skills
- 149 International Studies
- 150 Visual Arts
- 151 Dual Language (which is different than immersion) AND Active Learning and Technology
- 152 Active Learning/Project Based Learning
- 153 applied science and math and language
- 154 Health Science and Health Care, A combination of several of these offered at multiple schools
- 155 Math & Science
- 156 Accelerated Language arts programs,
- 157 General Business
- 158 STEM and Robotics focus
- 159 Advertise basic classes when taken together are a great stepping stone to a career
- 160 International studies and languages
- 161 dramatic arts
- 162 Dual immersion language programs
- 163 Performing Arts (this may be part of Creative Arts already?)
- 164 Vo-Tech
- 165 Sport/athlete - to enable athletes study during a shorter class time so that they can devote necessary time to developing in their sport field
- 166 Design, Advanced Art, Advanced Music programs
- 167 International Studies, i.e. Wiley Elementary
- 168 Vocational Skills Magnet (graphic arts, auto mechanics, wood shop, etc.
- 169 Medical
- 170 global cultures
- 171 STEM
- 172 AG program beginning at middle school with admission criteria
- 173 vocational
- 174 Mentoring with local business professionals
- 175 offer different language like arabic
- 176 Language curriculum - not nec immersion

- 177 Vocational training courses with a certification in the skill at the end of the high school.
- 178 Technical training HS, High technology that allows for distance learning, multi-age classrooms that allow students to learn at own pace.
- 179 Montessori Middle school (farm school)
- 180 Social Sciences and Government
- 181 trades
- 182 Get more local companies involved in the academia or special programs for technology, engineering, & entrepreneurship and
- 183 single sex schools
- 184 medical sciences - EMT, nursing precursors
- 185 (see above), global initiatives, economics
- 186 Economics and finance
- 187 Active Learning and Technology
- 188 Special Education
- 189 vocational high schools are a strong need in wake county
- 190 International opportunities
- 191 International or global studies; Design
- 192 engineering
- 193 none
- 194 Politics and global studies/vocational electives
- 195 Emerging Technologies
- 196 International Studies
- 197 More specific Arts- like Dance or Visual Arts
- 198 vocational (middle or high school)
- 199 Problem solving and collaborative learning
- 200 I believe the current variety of themes is good - the district must make a commitment to maintain the existing magnet schools. That is imperative.
- 201 Arts Schools
- 202 learning disabled, special needs
- 203 writing, basic money management
- 204 Trades/Agriculture
- 205 International Studies/World Language
- 206 Magnet theme for those children who are not able to flourish in a "traditional" school setting!

- 207 trade skills: welding, electrical, plumbing, small bus., carpentry, masonry, vehicle/motor repair, property management, food handling
- 208 International studies
- 209 Make summer school a positive option to get ahead not make up classes.
- 210 I do not support magnet schools and feel that gifted and talented should be offered at all neighborhood schools.
- 211 Music and Arts
- 212 vocational education
- 213 Active Learning and Technology
- 214 single sex classes (elementary), hands-on learning, active learning, PE everyday
- 215 Life Skills and Politics
- 216 More languages offered in more schools
- 217 African-American Studies
- 218 Chinese (not immersion)
- 219 Early College, alternate careers
- 220 International studies
- 221 Performing Arts
- 222 AP courses for 9th & 10th graders. Currently only offered to 11th & 12th graders.
- 223 Arts
- 224 All are attractive to parents.
- 225 for high school students, career oriented classes are greatly appreciated (transportation, computer programming, robotics, design, textiles, drafting, engineering, business and entrepreneurship, etc
- 226 Information Assurance and Security
- 227 Math & Science
- 228 business/entrepreneurship
- 229 Emotional intelligence and highlighting alternate forms of learning and K-8 school settings. ng
- 230 Military
- 231 If placed in the needed areas.
- 232 Vocational Education Academy
- 233 Finance
- 234 Mathematics focus, International studies focus
- 235 Leadership and Community Service (see above)
- 236 World ecology --- biological and cultural
- 237 Special Needs Program Specific School

- 238 STEM, Elementary Engineering, Olympic sports
- 239 AP Language - See note on targeted area business.
- 240 Vocational
- 241 International Studies
- 242 should be offered in all non-magnet schools
- 243 all of the above are attractive
- 244 Global/21st Century technology
- 245 CTE
- 246 other special programs based upon circumstances or special resources My c- ie the University Magnets connected to NC State
- 247 Global Studies
- 248 civic engagement; humanities
- 249 Visual and Performing Arts (MS, HS); Civic Engagement (at all school levels); the Humanities (MS, HS); Environmental Sciences (HS)
- 250 votech
- 251 An Odyssey of the Mind focused school, where creative problem solving and hands on learning are key elements.
- 252 Paideia
- 253 Music
- 254 engineering
- 255 Performing Arts; Science and Math (similar to the school in Durham)
- 256 smaller middle school magnets
- 257 Math and computer science focus

258 Understanding the school is a community & the students can change things for the better. It is a dynamic that needs to be set in their minds early. Instead of not caring and thinking "just let it be, it will never change" to "I believe in something better & I want to do something about it". This causes them to believe in themselves, take action, & think "why not" instead of "why, oh, ok". This brings positive empowerment, and to young fresh minds, creates new direction, being a part of something (community) vs. being apart from something (community). I am a JYJ Magnet Parent and I'm SO impressed with our first year's experience and looking forward to the next four.

The JYJ mission statement rings loud & true, "JYJ - We Are Family". The principles, office staff, teachers, parents involvement, ALL help bring this to fruition by believing in it!

259 Science and technology should be changed to Science and Math. However, it's crucial that kids who want to focus on Math & Science learn how to write well. Technology should be used as a tool, but not as a focus of instruction. Some of the magnet themes can possibly be combined, but I don't mean just having one school offer them in the county. For example, creative arts & sciences, museums, and gifted and talented can be offered at multiple schools through electives. Digging for dinosaurs can be an elective that's offered in a combined GT/Museum focused magnet school. If athletics are offered at all schools, why should there be one for Health Athletics? Although I question the value of Language Immersion, if you're going to have it, why not offer Arabic immersion as well? We know that the Middle East will continue to be of great importance to the US.

260 Traditional studies with highly structured academic day, uniforms

261 Center for Spanish Language, International studies

262 A magnet school that teaches practical skills to its students, and possible certification in those areas. Our society needs plumbers, electricians, auto mechanics, appliance repairmen, and carpenters. I wish I knew some of these skills. It would save me a lot of money and time if I could perform some of these tasks myself. Plus, realistically, not everyone is cut out for college, nor can everyone afford to go to college. But everyone needs to make a living and, ideally, learn a trade.

263 Music--band/choral/orchestra

8. Please feel free to share other comments about WCPSS magnet programs.

Respondent #

Response

- 1 we would like to have leadership or science and technology program with Cedar fork elementary school.
- 2 I think we have a lot of great schools it would be nice to see more that focus on taking advantage of technology and the data we have on how kids tend to learn best, i.e. in collaboration, hands on, vs. lecture style. Have lots of electives so kids can choose and be more interested in the subject matter.
- 3 My son is college bound. The school system needs programs (VoTech) to help non-college bound students get ready for Wake Tech or for other jobs. EVERY school should have foreign language starting in elementary school. Given politics, I suggest every school teach Spanish.
- 4 Please look at recent news articles, supportive data, community partners organizing in support of and the School Health Advisory Committee recommendations from last year that all show favor towards a school-based health center as a powerful "carrot" for students and families.
- 5 Many of our friends were adversely affected by the high concentration of magnet schools in the downtown area. As ITB becomes rich with young families again, I would support the relocation of programs to better disperse them across the district so that these families can have much needed neighborhood options.

- 6 The magnet programs of WCPSS are our strength, they make us stand apart. Let's keep them, and build upon them!
- 7 It would be nice if there were more seats available, we've been trying to get our sons into magnet schools for five years with no success. Doesn't seem very fair!
- 8 I believe magnet schools promote diversity - both ethnic and economic. Early and continued exposure to diversity is imperative to our children's success in today's global marketplace. Expanded educational opportunities of magnets also give Wake County students a competitive advantage in college acceptance and job placement.
- 9 I live in Holly Springs and I would love to enroll my 6 year old daughter in a magnet school, but there isn't one close enough to this area. I would like her commuting too long on a bus to attend a magnet school in Raleigh or elsewhere. If there was one closer to Holly Spring, yes, I would enroll her.
- 10 My main concern is MORE diversity within the schools offering magnet programs. I LOVE the magnet schools and programs that are offered. Perhaps Magnet schools should consider offer college credit classes as well in the future.
- 11 We have been so pleased with the opportunity to attend AB Combs. The Leadership program is excellent and the staff at this school are beyond compare. My son is in a very diverse class and has benefited from learning about other cultures. AB Combs provides individualized learning experiences in an atmosphere of tolerance, respect, and valuing of each child.
- 12 There are already enough programs for AG. Try to help those now who really need it.

- 13 The future of magnet schools should be RIM schools that for many years have been underenrolled with hi numbers of low income students . The board of education needs to have the courage to demagnetize other inside the beltline schools as it did with Daniels and Broughton to improve programs at schools more in need of incentives for parental choice. Using innovative magnet programs to improve the achievement of low income students would benefit all of Wake County.
- 14 While I appreciate the "specials" my children get in their elementary school, I believe we are doing a huge disservice by not teaching foreign language in every grade, in every school in the county. There is no foreign language at my children's elementary school. In fact, if I understand their slated middle school's schedule correctly, there is no foreign language option until 7th grade! And then, they need to choose between it or band/music. Both are important, and 7th grade is too late to start learning another language. Wake County can do better.
- 15 Overall we need more rigor in the classroom. There seems to be an "laziness" factor across the board and no sense that the educating of ALL children in Wake County, not just the top 10%, is mission critical.
- 16 I just wish we could get in when we apply.

- 17 The WCPSS magnet program is a wonderful program and as opposed to reducing the program, we should be embracing the program and expanding it to other schools. We should not water the program down for the benefit of expanding it as that will defeat the real benefits and purpose of the program. We should show the programs many benefits and find the resources in our state and county budgets to expand this program without diminishing the current program. As a country we are falling behind other countries in the world in producing bright, inquisitive and eager young academics. We have that ability with our current magnet program and we just need to expand it to more areas. Keep up the good work Wake County. This is a great school system and magnet program. Don't let it be tarnished by those who would wish to see it diminished.
- 18 We love our magnet school! It is small and personal. I love that my children go to school with a mix of people and not just people who look/think like we do. I wish there were more Montessori opportunities in WCPSS. I would LOVE to see a middle school! It is an amazing way to learn
- 19 the Magnet programs are one of the BEST thing about WCPSS, and a major reason why we moved to this area...keep them strong!
- 20 Both my husband and I grew up in North Carolina going to public school. We always excelled, but were often bored. I think a magnet school allows teachers to be more creative and collaborate with the rest of the school faculty to be more creative in their teaching and learning styles. Kids thrive when learning is hands on, interesting, and fun.
- 21 I know there was a lot of support for the leadership academy partly because there is a male and female school. Offer more same sex schools.
- 22 My kids went to Farmington Woods IB from kindergarten through fifth grade. It started out great, but in the last couple of years we started hearing more and more about fights, disruptive kids, and other impediments to learning. I don't know what happened, but tolerating disruptive kids just isn't fair to kids who want to learn.

- 23 We're moving to Farmington Woods next year and would like more IB opportunities closer to Cary than Garner for middle and high school.
- 24 My son has had a great experience at Carnage MS so far. It is more academically challenging than our base MS (West Cary). It offers advanced math (alg I, geom, alg II, pre-calc) which our son needs. Would be great if it could offer the same advanced classes in science as well.
- 25 I would like to see more AG magnet school seats available for AG kids. Also expanded number of early college seats and/or other opportunities for students who have mastered the high school curriculum to earn college credit in high school.
- 26 These are extremely valuable programs for our community and are part of what attracts educated families to live in Wake County.
- 27 The one major difference between WCPSS magnet programs and those in other areas of the country is the lack of an "application process" and instead a lottery program. While I don't know which vision I agree with personally, I definitely think that certain programs would be more highly ranked and utilized if there was an application process.
- 28 I wish that there was a way that all schools have a specialized program because magnet schools seem to have more money and months of employment than other schools. It seems with a system that includes schools with year round calendars, modified calendars and magnet schools the traditional schools often suffer and receive less money and months of employment. The money and months of employment should be spread out more evenly among all schools in WCPSS.

- 29 The goal should be that eventually, ALL the schools in Wake County are MAGNET schools. Year-Round schools should also have the option of being magnet in addition to year-round. Year-round is treated as a magnet, but it isn't; it's a calendar option. Some magnet schools are so popular they routinely turn away interested students. Create additional magnet program around the county for especially popular programs. When the online selection process for magnets and proximity choice opens, they should both be done at the SAME time so that parents can give accurate information about their actual first, second, third choices. Right now, if a family's second choice is a magnet and their first choice is a proximity, they still have to ask for the second choice first, and then remember to ask again when the proximity round begins. This leads to confusion in an already confusing system. Also, students NEED to have a base-school assignment so that families and neighborhoods can plan their lives to some degree without having to wait until the last minute. If the base-school assignments are based on diversity, as they used to be, and then every student is given the option (and
- 30 Would like to see Chinese offered in more schools - demand far exceeds supply.
- 31 Don't risk federal money by not using the magnet programs appropriately. Stop trying to satisfy small, special interest groups.
- 32 I'd like to have one more level of math classes between Common Core math 6 PLUS and Common Core math 7 PLUS in AG based magnet school for rising 6 graders who are in Math AG but not in compacted math.
- 33 What was exclusive to Magnets is now true of all schools. Attendance is by chance/lottery, not by choice.
- 34 PLEASE!PLEASE! plan more spanish immersion schools. It is so important especially in the Cary area. The IB programs only provide a foreign language twice on a 7 day calendar. This is not enough! Kids need foreign lang. EVERYDAY from Kindy on. PLEASE consider how important this life skill could be for our children.

- 35 I hope your proximity choice does not eliminate too many seats for magnet applicants. You need to make room for those who choose magnet schools for their special programs and expanded opportunities. These students usually have parents who are willing to work on the pta, volunteer, donate, etc. This support helps elevate the school, which benefits all children in the school. Without those magnet students and parents, the school staff is at a disadvantage when it comes to supplemental support. I have seen this played out time and again. Make room for the magnet applicants. We are very pleased with our magnet schools. Thank you.
- 36 The Montessori approach has been wonderful for my children and I would not be able to afford to send them to a private school. I suspect many other parents feel the same way. Please, please, please do not gut the magnet system with the choice program or any other modification to school assignment!! It is an asset to the area, providing incredible options for parents of children who are best served by something other than the standard educational model.
- 37 My children have attended JY Joyner as Magnet students for the last 6 years! Because the Middle and High School path has changed from when my oldest started and is no longer desirable for our family we have pulled our children out of the magnet program and Joyner. I think the Wake County school system is a mess and not something we can count on from year to year. Thank God for Charter Schools!
- 38 It would be nice if kids are provided opportunities to participate in extra activities like science olympiad, math competitions and programs like odyssey of mind or chess club at elementary level itself to develop the habit of challenging themselves and not be complacent.
- 39 We have to keep the gifted and talented programs in our magnet schools because they offer all children a wonderful opportunity to explore subjects outside the normal curriculum that they might not otherwise have been exposed

- 40 We have been at Powell since my son was in K and his sister is now there. We love the idea of the diverse community, the wonderful opportunities for electives and the well trained and highly qualified teachers. Because my children attend a Magnet school they have both been involved in musicals, have learned to play the cello, violin, and piano...they have both excelled in academics and benefited from the diverse population. My hope is that both of my children attend Magnet schools throughout their educational years. I am 100% behind the Magnet schools!
- 41 Wake county should have magnets schools in the Cary / Morrisville Area. All the magnets schools are in the Raleigh Area and is very difficult for the residents of Cary/ Morrisville area send our kids to a magnet School. This is not corresponding to one of the principles that is provide expanded educational opportunities. I hope consider this comments for near future. Thanks
- 42 While I think we need to do something about low-income/low-performing schools, I don't think shipping rich kids in to up their test scores is the answer. I don't think magnet schools do a good job of integrating the shipped in kids with the local kids. I also think we are wasting a lot of resources busing kids around (there are 80+ bus routes that go to enloe). I think the electives you have at magnet schools benefit a very small set of students and that those electives and opportunities should be spread throughout the system. I think the money you save by shutting down the magnet programs could be put towards hiring more teachers for low-performing schools. Imagine the difference that could be made by having a 10 student classroom in those schools. I am all for diversity (one of the things I dislike about my base school is that it is not diverse at all), but I do not think the magnet program promotes this. Have you thought of having "sister-schools" where a high-performing school and low-performing school are paired up. You could promote diversity by having field trips to the other school and the high-income school could be encouraged to share their resources with the low-

- 43 All AG magnets should be 100% application only. Magnet schools should have year-round schedules to allow for more students in the Magnet schools.
- 44 I think the Magnet program offers great opportunities to a)utilize all WCPSS facilities to maximum potential and b) offer students expanded opportunities to those who might have other needs.
- 45 Wiley Elementary and Enloe were the best possible experiences for my son. Both schools shaped his life and his world view in a very positive way and also provided excellent academic opportunities. The diversity and the acceptance of diversity at Wiley saved my son from a miserable childhood filled with bullying and abuse that was already present in another school. Thank you WCPSS!!!!
- 46 The economic efficiency from concentrating special equipment, facilities and staffing, as well as the unique school community make the magnet program a practical solution to motivating students, retaining staff and providing differentiation in a system as large as WCPSS. It is one of the few things that make WCPSS an attractive alternative to great private and charter options in Wake Co.
- 47 The magnet program is the only thing that's keeping me in the Wake County Educational system. If it discontinues, it will signal the dismantling of the entire Wake County Educational system. Please keep the magnet programs strong
- 48 they are great programs- I wish they were more widely available throughout Wake County schools
- 49 we love Farmington Woods, but need a clear feeder patrern (closer than Garner) to continue in the IB program through high school!

- 50 Would love to see more after-school programs installed at current magnet schools to provide options for working parents. Access to on-site after-school care would ease the worries of long commutes of magnet students. Many parents have difficulty with long bus route with magnet schools. If on-site after care is provided at the school with home work time and educational activities, it will greatly help magnet student families and facilitate parents pick up after work. It is also a better use of the students time and potentially could save transportation budget because the more students enrolled in after-care, the fewer bus stops are needed.
- 51 I bought a crappy little house last summer so my children could go to Martin and Broughton without having to participate in a magnet lottery. I'm grateful that Broughton opted to keep the IB program after being demagnetized and hope it maintains that #3 ranking! I like the Health and Athletics idea...for many lower income families who feel that a sports scholarship is the ticket out, that would be a good way to draw them into a program that teach self discipline and would demand academic excellence as well.
- 52 I feel strongly that the Magnet programs in Wake County are great and have been a very successful way to strengthen schools and promote diversity. I am very concerned that the school board's current policies and assignment plan are intended to and/or will weaken magnet schools in Wake County. The magnet program IS NOT BROKEN, and should remain a strong part of the school system. Because of Magnets, people always felt like they had choices.
- 53 PLEASE keep the magnet program in place as it is the only reason my child is still in public school!!! We look forward to his actually getting some education in the arts that he has not had at all during his elementary education.

- 54 Magnets should be placed at under utilized schools.. Demographics have changed and will continue to change so location of magnet schools should change/follow demographic trends. East Cary Middle is an example of an under utilized school that would be a good choice due to high concentration of impoverished students in that area and unfilled seats and easy access to the beltline. Same goes for Athens High. Martin is a good example of a school that should be demagnetized due to changed demographics.
- 55 Absolutely LOVE the program at Ligon! I do think that this school could be used as a model for other AG/GT schools and by the # of applicants WCPSS DEFINITELY needs more AG/GT schools. I think this district could support 2 more AG/GT middle schools, one in Western Wake and one in North/Eastern Wake. I also think there should be a AG/GT high school available other than Enloe. I strongly, strongly believe we should have a vocational/technical magnet MS & HS near downtown with partnering connections to Wake Tech.
- 56 Think variety of magnets should exist in various parts of the county, not so many centered in Raleigh.

57 1. Prioritizing of children to attend a magnet school: I feel that failing to consider the preschools that children attend or give consideration to their backgrounds creates a big gap in the school assignment process. Personally, I feel that children with a preschool background of language immersion should be given priority in the application process. E.g. Wiley is the only school in Wake County that offers German in Elementary School. My children attend a German Immersion Daycare, but are not given a spot at Wiley considering this background. My family will lose the only opportunity available for my children to learn the language that is needed in our life on a daily basis, in addition to English by having to send them to a base school. 2. Express Busing should be available for all magnet schools. Parents should not have to consider whether or not to send their kids to a magnet school based on transportation issues. 3. Before and after school care needs to be managed better. A lot of parents can't send their children to a magnet school as after school care presents a huge issue for them.

58 These specialized programs should be offered to ALL children in all of the school, not just those in a special (magnet) school. The system needs to find other ways to achieve diversity, and reduce concentrations of poverty (which I applaud) and use of those facilities.

- 59 I think the magnet programs in Wake County are superb and I think the magnet programs should be expanded. I think our leaders are reactive and things happen to slowly from the top. There is way too much politics in our district which has brought our progress to a halt. Our leaders and our Board of Education are not forward thinkers and have hindered our county in making progress for the future of our children. I understand that you are evaluating the magnet programs and I feel strongly that they should be evaluated so changes can be made to help our magnet programs advanced. I think the STEM/GLOBAL schools are very poorly planned. The stem and global programs that are being placed in schools is just a title to get parents more interested in an under enrolled school. Why are we not receiving a survey on those programs? They do NOTHING different from what the school was already doing. The Stem and Global program should be a magnet program not a separate entity. This is another case of the Leaders not thinking things through. It is also a shame that there is not a technology director in the county. There also needs to be magnet programs in vocational education. Why are we not helping the students?
- 60 We don't like that there are so many different PUBLIC school systems! EVERY public school should have the same program so that EVERY Wake County student has the same education standard. Equal rights for every student in this county!

61 When considering the expanded educational opportunities objective, all students attending the school should be focused on the objective - it should not include proximity and magnet. While our child was selected for our second choice magnet school this year, we have elected to send him to a private school because the entire student population was not part of the magnet program. With families that are not committed to the objectives, we do not feel that the benefits of the magnet program advertised would in fact be achieved. While we did not feel Partnership was a great match for our child, we did like that it was all application based. With everyone applying to the school for attendance, parents could be assured that the family commitment to education was on a similar level.

62 I would love for my daughters to attend a magnet program, but I have given up applying because the lottery process and waiting lists are ridiculous. It's just out of our reach to have these beneficial programs and that is extremely sad.

63 i wish my son could get into the magnet program

64 The magnet program has been such a great tool in sending my children to schools that fit their best educational learning styles. I have one child that is AG and high functioning autistic. It was important for me to find a school that fit his interests and was small enough to get the attention he needed to succeed. My daughter had different needs and I was able to choose a school that fit her. Not all children fit in the same box....offering choices makes it possible for all children to succeed and want to continue their education.

65 All three of my children have been in the AG Magnet schools and have received a wonderful education!

- 66 My daughter was in a magnet program at Farmington Woods. She was not diagnosed at the time, but she does have Asperger's Syndrome. I remember her struggling in the school and the Principal telling me that they just didn't have the appropriate resources to help my daughter. All schools should have appropriate resources for special needs children. I don't know why the principal told me that, my daughter was SO behind in reading and with the help of Mrs. Brooks she became an above average reader who still remains above average in that area. I did end up switching my daughter to Laurel Park Elementary, but I'm not sure I would have if the Principal had been more positive about the resources available.
- 67 I would love to consider a magnet school for my child; however, we live in Western Wake and the magnet schools are primarily concentrated in central Raleigh/SE Raleigh area, which would necessitate a very long bus ride both ways for my child. I would love to see an expansion of services into areas that would traditionally not be considered underserved.
- 68 My kids really enjoy the schools compared to the base schools. Its a bit far.
- 69 The lack of a magnet feeder path for Farmington Woods Elementary school is utterly disappointing. Last year, FWES was the number one magnet school in the country, and those students have no defined path forward with the existing plan. Even worse, this top school is slowly being disenfranchised from the magnet program as parents will choose other schools \*with\* a defined feeder pattern. Shame on WCPSS.

70 I have a fairly high moral objection to restricting educational opportunities to any class of students, there should be foreign language classes at all schools not just magnet schools, there should be a high component of computers, science and technology at all Wake county public schools not just magnets. As a country, this is our future. Everybody is paying taxes, all should benefit, not just as a result of some socioeconomic diversity political correctness bullshit - ALL should have equal access to the public schools best educational opportunities. Anything less is still discrimination, just against a different group. I understand this is costly, so put out millage proposals for better funding. Property tax assessments for schools was something established by our country's founders.

71 Some magnet schools are much superior in education quality than others. Please review this as part of your evaluation. For this please review not only the EOG scores between the magnet schools, but also the prizes the students wins from different schools.

72 I love my magnet school and the leadership based learning model it has instilled in my children. Our daily life has changed for the better as a result of this program. We use positive goal oriented language and our kids help us, parents, work harder and think more about reaching goals and setting a good example.

73 All three of my children attended downtown magnets since kindergarten. They are very open and accepting of others' viewpoints due to their early and continued exposure to peers from a wide variety of economic, religious, racial, and ethnic backgrounds

74 When we moved to Wake County, it was suggested that my child enter one of the AG magnet schools. She was denied entry. Unfortunately, her base did not provide the diverse courses. I approve of the magnets but there needs to be more of a balance of offerings for all students. Be mindful of taxpayers money.

- 75 It is important to review the magnet status on a regular basis. It would be wonderful if magnet seats could be increased at magnet schools.
- 76 Children should not have to be tracked into a magnet school in elementary school as their only way of getting into a magnet program. It is hard to know what special talents/interests children are going to develop. They should be able to BEGIN in a magnet program in HS. We moved here when are children were older and it was VERY hard to get into the magnet system at that point.
- 77 I think the new school assignment plan has hurt the magnet program. Return to the old assignment plan and fix the issues in the high growth areas. Wake county spoke during the last board election and by not taking part in the choice plan
- 78 I come from a different state. Before I had children here in NC, I just assumed all states are the same, and I never even considered schooling to be an issue of concern, of mine. Now, that I've had children and now that my oldest was ready to be entered into the school system, to learn as the parent along the journey/process of entering my child for Kindergarten, the limitations currently on WHERE my child was allowed to attend, was so very disturbing to me. I have the educational future of my children in my hands, with the choice of where they will attend to learn and grow wasn't at first, so acceptable to my high standards, as her mother. I felt lost. I felt like if I made the "wrong" choice of school that it would and could severely affect my Childs future success if it was indeed, the wrong choice of education. When learning and finding out, (which the selection seems so limited)....it made me cry. I cried A LOT – worrying if I had made the right choice, the best choice out of all of the options given....it really tore me up to know that my baby and her education was in my hands, and that I could possibly be failing at getting her the best she can have – without paying tuition! I Was A
- 79 We do not currently have a magnet option in Wake Forest. As a parent, it would be nice to have that option and not have to send my child 30-45 minutes away to attend a magnet school.

- 80 My family had been at Durant Rd ES & MS with our older son who with ADHD definately benefited from the year-round program. Our younger son attended DRES then was assigned to EMMMS in 6th grade. We had no idea what awesome opportunities EMMMS would offer our son! The last 3 yrs have been a blessing.
- 81 The magnet school program is one of the jewels of our school system. Please continue it as a way of balancing student populations at schools that would have large numbers of low-income students.
- 82 Love that my kids attend a school that is very diverse in cultural, economic, race, religion.....! And I especially love that they are in ag classes that are diverse in that way. It is so important that they see diversity in intellect from all populations
- 83 It might be helpful to provide a more uniform geographic distribution of magnet schools throughout Wake Countv.
- 84 I would like to see STEM schools as magnets, and I would also like to see the STEM vision fleshed out a little more in the schools which are starting to offer it. Currently they do not provide a lot of detail as to what, in concrete terms, a STEM designation means to the curriculum. I would also like to say that I have 20 years of education and learning the new process of assignment and magnets and choice and proximity and transfer, and how many seats were said to be available bearing little resemblance in reality to the number of seats actually available, etc., was, hands down, the most perplexing thing I have ever undertaken in my life.

- 85 I think the magnet program should be used at the #1 way to reduce high levels of poverty and support diversity. I had been one year at Olds Elementary when the magnet was removed because "it had worked". The school that 10 years before was not attracting students was now full to capacity. Three other schools lost the magnet including Root. I am not sure other school are reviewed the same way. I am still confused why Martin Middle still has a magnet if the same criteria were used for all magnets. The feeder pattern from Lacy/Martin/Broughton does not make sense to have a magnet when the same parents who have put together a huge foundation at Lacy move to Martin...and now ALL students from Lacy go to Martin where half previously went to Daniels. It does not seem like the magnet is needed to reduce a high concentration of poverty in that school. It seems clear that the political clout of the surrounding neighborhood keeps the magnet at Martin. Another school that I believe needs to be reviewed is Combs. I know many parents that have moved to that neighborhood in order to attend. I am sure the makeup of the surrounding neighborhood has changed since that school has
- 86 We absolutely love the experience that our daughter is getting at Washington Elementary. We are also excited for our special needs daughter to enter kindergarten there. We appreciate that while some aspects of school will be challenging she will be given greater opportunities to learn in creative ways and find things that she enjoys.
- 87 I would very much like to see Hodge Road Elementary get a dual immersion program for Spanish and English. We have a very high Spanish-speaking population and it would help both the students and the teachers to have this dual immersion. More generally, I would like to more magnet programs scattered about the county with a focus on the eastern part of the county. With a high concentration of low-income, the magnet programs would do what they claim they are intended to do -- draw higher-income families to these programs and even out the distribution.

- 88 There should be a variety of programs available to students in their base schools, such as Leadership, STEM Gifted and Talented
- 89 I absolutely love the magnet program and feel absolutely blessed to be at Hunter.
- 90 I am a strong supporter of the magnet program. I think more opportunities for language immersion would be a plus for Wake County.
- 91 If programs have proven to not have been successful or popular the last five years, they need to be completely overhauled and recreated. The themes sounds fantastic and are popular for a small amount of students, however, so much more could be done. Moore Square Middle would have been an excellent site for the Boys and Girls Leadership Schools. The museum theme has not been as appealing as the community had hoped. Students could still keep the STEM approach, have easy access to several colleges, and be in walking distance to the courthouse and legislative bldg. The middle school students get tired of going to the same museums for three years.
- 92 Wake county's magnet program is fantastic. It has given such a great perspective to both my children. They have learnt a lot with the additional opportunities magnet schools provided and they being in magnet program has enriched their education as well as social aspects of life. I really commend Wake County administrators, magnet program office, principals, teachers and staff involved in this program. Thank you so much.

93 If the county touts the benefits of magnet schools is it not readily admitting that they are better than most of the base schools? There are waiting lists for these schools so in my opinion the majority of students in their base schools are getting a raw deal as compared to those in the magnet schools. Shouldn't the county strive to have every school and the education offered at each of them be equal from one school to the next without distinguishing one from the other? And shouldn't every school have identical resources and house the same technology? I have never understood the whole concept of the magnet school program and I think we all know that the objective of the county for far too long is to evenly spread out the under-achieving students amongst all of the schools so that the overall test scores and whatever criteria are required to qualify for Federal funding are met. Meanwhile the small % of children spread out amongst all of the individual schools continue to get "left behind" by being pushed along to the next grade!

94 I live downtown where I've had the advantage that all my formerly-known-as-base schools are magnet schools. However, I also have children with special needs who have had "out of base" placements which has been very disruptive to our family. Providing more inclusive opportunities in ALL schools will truly enable all families to experience what is now being promoted as proximity schools. It's not a matter of creating space for "special classrooms" but for providing professional development and support to teachers in the form of teacher's assistants when there are children with special needs placed in their classrooms. This is a much more effective way to deploy resources given the current budget and space limitations (and gas prices, to limit the costs of special transportation). Feel free to contact the WCPSS Special Education Advisory Council for any additional input on this issue. I do not submit these comments on behalf of this council but the council represents a diverse set of disability groups who can provide comprehensive input into all areas of special education issues. Only 1 in 6 or 7 of the 19,000 children with special education needs in WCPSS are in self

- 95 It needs to be more accessible for interested families. Right now our chances of getting into a magnet school through the application process are not very good.
- 96 With all of the resources devoted to magnet schools, I find it appalling that the schools have done such a poor job ensuring that minority and ED students can read and do math on grade level. Our son was in a magnet school but was placed in the base classes. When I removed him from the school, his reading was at the 24th percentile. This was not surprising since he was assigned very little reading in his courses. In fact, the electives he was "allowed" to enroll in were not very academically oriented. Three years later, after reading for half an hour each day (an amount of time that could easily have been assigned by his school), his reading level was at the 87th percentile. In my opinion, there is no reason why the school could not have done this. I wonder how prevalent this type of problem is at our magnet schools. My guess from what I have heard from other parents is that it is quite common for these schools to have very low expectations for their minority and ED students.

97 These programs have been stalwart champions of Wake County's education. Most of our schools are very good, whether or not they are magnets. Magnets play a particularly important role in providing expanded educational opportunities for a diverse population of students. The diversity is PART AND PARCEL of the learning experience. It is critical that we maintain those opportunities for parents who CHOOSE to be part of them. (That is our choice plan!) Magnet parents and students get a wonderful experience and they give up the convenience of new buildings and proximity-- THAT is the compromise we have been willing to make. I would like there to be more magnet seats by increasing the number of magnets schools not by displacing base students, but I also don't think you should put magnet programs in areas of homogeneous students (e.g. wealthy) as it defeats the first objective and denies these students part of the learning experience that is most crucial to their development--learning to work, live and play with people that are different from themselves. Magnets are a critical asset in our school system. DONT SCREW THEM UP!

98 Magnet programs allow students to work together in diverse groups while developing their own strengths and interests.

99 I don't understand how you can have an AG elementary school, when kids are not designated AG until the end of 3rd grade. I think travel time to and from Magnets is a big deterrent to the families at the edges of the county. Based on objectives 2 and 3, we need some magnets closer to us

100 NA

101 When considering the success of a magnet school, it would be helpful to understand the nature of each magnet program. It would be a shame if test scores (EOGs, etc.) are the only data reviewed to determine the success of a program. Assessments in the arts and for programs such as museums or leadership would ideally be designed to match the teaching style and content of the magnet program.

- 102 Although I realise the importance of the magnet school program, I don't agree with over-funding it at the expense of the rest of the school system. Since the assignment push is towards children attending their local schools, I feel that enhanced educational opportunities akin to those at magnet schools should be made available throughout the regular school system.
- 103 We have noticed a large number of the best teachers from our child's former Magnet (Hunter) have left in the last 2 years. The exit of these teachers points to a significant decline in the quality of teaching from our observation.... Large low economic class populations can not be dealt with in an efficient way... wake up school board (PS.. we are life long republicans)
- 104 It was the most incredible learning experience that I could have had - do not take away diversity and keep the magnet programs in place.
- 105 At Enloe, my son described his lunch table as a "little United Nations," and yes, in the mix it did include an African American base student. He grew up comfortable with and respectful of a wide variety of people, regardless of ethnicity or SES. This was a huge part of the success of WCPSS
- 106 I do feel that even though Cary is far out for some there should be an express bus for students who attends Millbrook Magnet High. I know of several students who live in this area and attend either Millbrook High or Broughton High but there is not a bus for Millbrook like there is for Broughton. My daughter will have to leave Millbrook next year if we don't move because its costly for me to keep driving her but that is just a suggestion. You may have more families wanting to attend the school with that kind of an option.
- 107 Please keep the magnet programs strong. They are doing VERY well so now is not the time to mess it up.

- 108 I feel that the Magnet program is a high value program for WCPSS. In a previous career before having children of my own, I had the opportunity to travel to many schools through out the US. No matter where I traveled, WCPSS schools were more impressive than any other schools. The WCPSS Magnet schools that I visited were the most impressive. My husband and I decided to move to Wake County with the hope of our children attending Magnet schools. Our child is now in a Magnet Middle school. Not only has the program enriched her academically, but the program has also her exposure to cultural diversity. This diversity is invaluable in today Global economy. The magnet programs are gems. They should be used to encourage diversity. They should be expanded where ever possible.
- 109 The only complaint I have about the magnet school is the school bus ride is too long. My daughter's bus ride is more than one hour and half in the afternoon. Strongly recommend using express bus to and from school. I know many families would be interested in sending their children to magnet schools, but choose not to because of the long bus ride. Express bus would solve the problem.
- 110 This is a wonderful way for all children to benefit. These schools teach compassion, humility and explore the wonderful talents our children. This is a very gods way for children from homes of extraordinary means to enjoy the company of children of lesser means, likewise for the parents as well. It has broadened our entire families perspective. Thank you
- 111 Do not look to make problems where there are none. The Magnet Programs in Wake are a shining example of educational excellence nationwide.

- 112 I feel that a school district that is in the 20 largest in the country should offer a high school specifically focused on the performing arts. I am of the opinion that Enloe and a few of the other Magnet high schools do a good job. However, Enloe is the one with the largest Fine Arts focus and is more often acknowledged for its math, science and engineering strengths and if you don't have children that attend the others you have no idea about the many offerings as a general community member. It would be a wonderful opportunity to give a place for the arts to flourish since we have so many venues in which we bring professionals in to perform.
- 113 Some of the funds spent on magnet programs should be spread around to non magnet schools to increase the number and diversity of courses available at the non magnet schools. All of the Wake County school students (not just the fortunate few who get into a magnet school) should have the opportunity to take the type of courses offered at magnet schools.
- 114 The feeder patterns for many magnet schools are discouraging parents from applying and causing current magnet families to consider leaving magnet schools (that otherwise they are happy with).
- 115 My two children attended both Ligon and Enloe. They were in the AG Basics program at Ligon. The AG programs at most elementary and middle schools are inadequate. We are thankful for both of these schools and the opportunities they provided.
- 116 They were in great shape BEFORE the Margiotta/Tedesco crowd got involved!
- 117 I think you need to do away with the magnet programs. Let's move to neighborhood schools and be done with it!!!
- 118 The previous magnet program was doing what is set out to do, and many parents were very happy with it. Please don't screw this up! You should be expanding the magnet program, not killing it!
- 119 The kids get so many more opportunities to enrich their core academic programs with various other activities. We love the Magnet schools and the programs they offer.

120 I think more magnet programs should be offered even if they were placed in a school like the booster program and functioned as a school within a school. Maybe consider a way to integrate a smattering of each type of program into all the schools so that students can get a taste of what it would be like in those programs to determine if they would enjoy and be a good fit. It was how I began my introduction to foreign languages. We had a class that taught Spanish and French for a semester.

121 The magnet program has been OUTSTANDING for my sons. They have thrived so much at Wiley that we turned out an opportunity to move out of state and earn a lot more money. Taking our sons out of Wiley was not worth the risk. They LOVE the electives. In fact, the only classes the come home babbling about are their various electives. What a rich opportunity for young children to get exposure to different topics and cultures to grow their minds and experiences. Education is all about experience and exposure. The magnet program successfully accomplishes that. We joke that our sons' classes come straight out of Hollywood "central casting." We all love the variety of cultures, languages, backgrounds, ethnicities, and economic levels that they interact with on an intimate level everyday. That is one of the MOST important facets of education and the reason we chose a magnet school in the first place. I cannot rave enough about what my sons have taken from Wiley.

122 The magnet program is a wonderful way to incorporate diversity into schools and offer unique learning opportunities to the children. However, Joyner is different from other magnets because there is no language magnet middle or high school. They get lumped in with the IB program. WCPSS should consider developing a language magnet or reconsider the feeder pattern of this school.

- 123 I think our magnet program does a great job making schools in high poverty areas more diverse and successful. We moved here from Cincinnati where the downtown schools are failing - discipline is a mess, test scores are poor, and it is difficult to hire qualified teachers/administration to come and work downtown. Raleigh doesn't have these problems I believe because of the magnet programs available to students.
- 124 The magnet program helps make Wake County attractive to prospective families. It is vital for the continued economic success of the region to have a strong school system and the magnet program is vital to this success. Strengthen the program!!
- 125 the seats in these schools which are not allocated to nearby/base-area residents should go exclusively to interested applicants and not used as a means to balance socio-economic diversity by busing in non-local students or non-applicants.
- 126 We are thrilled with the magnet opportunities in Wake County. When our daughter started Kindergarten our "base" school was a magnet and we chose to apply and enroll her in a different magnet, AB Combs. We would have been happy with either, but I appreciated having the choice to find the right fit for our family. As an educator myself and as a parent, I believe that it's important to remember that quality Magnet schools are created over time and with much community/school investment. A school culture cannot be shifted by simply retitling a school and providing more resources. Any efforts to change or expand the magnet program should include careful consideration of what works in fantastic schools like AB Combs.
- 127 Magnet school programs have been successful here and other states that I have lived. You can easily see the difference between the current magnet elementary school my child attends (Combs) and non-magnet base schools where I live. It would be a big loss the NC Education system to lose the magnet program. We drive 30-45 minutes one way to take our son to school because it is well worth it.

- 128 Its a good system that serves a good purpose.  
Sadly though due to budget cuts its effectiveness is diminished.
- 129 I love Wiley and feel it has a model that can and should be shared in the school district...the teaching staff is awesome and I feel they have a great mix of community children and children who, though bussed, can benefit from the exposure to other cultures and ideas.
- 130 The Magnet program as it has existed for some time benefits a very small number of children at the expense of many, many others. The base students aren't getting the benefit of programs happening right in their own schools, and non-magnetic schools are held back from offering courses and opportunities that compete with magnets. Furthermore, it's all quite expensive at a time when our budget is shrinking. It's time to seriously rethink the Magnet program in Wake County.
- 131 The inner city will look like a war zone of low income families struggling to survive like Baltimore or DC if we don't keep the magnet system as it was....this is so serious. Why do you think Raleigh's downtown is growing...people come down with their magnet kids in droves.
- 132 We love, love, love Ligon! Thanks for the amazing school.
- 133 Have been impressed with the level of instruction and accountability of the staff at AB Combs. The teachers and staff go above and beyond to support the leadership magnet in innovative ways.
- 134 Learn how to pray before your meeting that God will help the board to stop infighting so much. If the Board would only realize that they were elected to do a job in the best interest of Wake County children in order that they may be better equipped to be better citizens and human being.
- 135 I think we should be careful in offering too many singular options that prevent funds going to basic services like small class sizes and supplies.
- 136 Although we don't participate in the magnet program, it still is an important and integral part of Wake County. Please don't dilute it or reduce its importance.

- 137 Great program at East Millbrook Middle, creative arts & IB. Wish it had more magnet slots to attract a better balance of academic students! Love the Magnet/IB & Spanish Language program at Joyner. Wish there were more elementary schools that offered that option.
- 138 Every child in a magnet school should be part of the magnet program.
- 139 I think a lot of parents would like to see more magnet school choices in the northern parts of Wake County, though I realize that would defeat part of their purpose.
- 140 We are so happy at AB Combs. We love everything - students, teachers, staff and the building. We think the diversity is a big part of why the program works so beautifully.
- 141 WCPSS magnet program is very good. We hope wake county school system keeps them.
- 142 Combs is an amazing place with enthusiastic administration and teachers and dedicated parents. The energy there is infectious. I'd like to see more information about the magnet program and its costs. I think people assume that Combs is successful because it has more money. But, per pupil, I don't believe that's true. We need facts to make better decisions based on accurate information.
- 143 They are fine now. Don't mess with a great program.
- 144 Please keep the magnet program strong and well funded. It offers so much to so many school children.
- 145 I love it. It offers diversity, which I am in favor of.

146 I preferred the Magnet Program the way had been a number of years ago. Since the last two school board elections, apple cart has really been upset. The current school assignment policy makes the situation worse. It has tried to fix what wasn't broken, and it also creates new problems that weren't there before. Granted when building was really booming a while back, there were people out in the suburbs that had faced frequent reassignments, but now when there is not as much construction going on, they have even less control over where their children will end up. In addition I fear that what good the Magnet program was doing will now be lost and done away with.

147 The magnet program has been a wonderful experience for my children. By bringing in the amazing programs, the magnet programs have attracted a lot of parents who really care about their children's education. Many of those parents have time and funds to really support the school. I, myself, volunteer at least once a week. I've not only worked with my children, but also with others. I assist with the academically gifted making sure they are challenged, but also with those that are behind- helping them to catch up and to feel good about themselves and really start to enjoy learning and grow with their self esteem. I'm grateful for the program. I hope that it continues and that it expands. If we had not been accepted in the magnet program, we would have sent our children to a private school and I wouldn't be in downtown Raleigh weekly helping all the kids- not just mine and not just those who are able to afford private schools. Keep up the good work!

148 Personally, I think that the magnet program should be offered to all schools. Today, non-magnet schools are not permitted to offer the same programs that magnet schools can offer simply because they are not a magnet school. If you really want the system to be fair, look at a model that makes every school a magnet school

149 We love the program! My middle schoolers will start WYMLA in the fall which we are thrilled about!

150 While I'm in favor of the magnet programs I feel like they should be expanded to other parts of the county.

151 The system has received National Recognition for years and has been emulated in various areas across the globe. This needs to be held up and improved upon, not changed as the new plan has done for several schools.

152 Avoiding high poverty schools and maximizing facility use through the magnet program are critical to the overall success and health of the school system. Additional magnet programs should be placed at schools that exceed the 40% ED threshold. The percentages of magnet seats at magnet schools should be adhered to to ensure efficacy of programs and should not be reduced due to feeder patterns. Eliminating the magnet program would lead to increased racial and economic segregation in our school system and a system of greater have and have not schools than we have currently. The magnet program is one of the reasons our family moved to Wake County, as we are committed to public education with in a diverse system that provides opportunity for all.

- 153 In the interest of full disclosure let me say we applied to magnets twice. Didn't get in the first time for 6th grade. Oldest child will attend Ligon for 7th and 8th grade. This is unfortunately an opportunity for those who are angry about the magnet system to express their views and I hope you won't interpret that as representative of the whole parent population. The major problem is that WCPSS has grown tremendously and the amount of magnet seats has not kept up. I would like to see: 1) serious consideration for operating all on a year-round schedule so more children can take advantage of them. People who want the programs will accept the schedule. Provide inter-session support for economically disadvantaged children. 2) elimination of magnet feeder patterns into magnet middle and high schools so more kids have a fair opportunity to get in. I understand very well the argument against this - that kids in magnet ES's should be able to continue on the program. But they have already enjoyed 6 years of an education the majority of WCPSS don't have access to. 3) consider eliminating automatic acceptance for siblings - why should a family who is lucky enough
- 154 The magnet programs Wake has are great, but they are mostly concentrated on the eastern side of Wake County. Even the ONE magnet elementary school in Cary is 20 minutes east of me. I resent that so much money and energy is put into programs that don't effectively serve the entire county. If I could see evidence that the magnets were actually helping the kids coming from poverty, that would be one thing, but all I see is the district using the magnet schools as a tool to mask the poor performance of the under-privileged kids at the school.
- 155 I feel it's the best thing that has ever happened to the public school system - that allows parents/students different options other than a private school education. Without the magnet choice we would opt for private schools. Thank you WCPSS for keeping these programs active.
- 156 We need more magnet schools and also offer expanded educational opportunities at schools that are not magnets. We especially need better science and math courses.

- 157 If you want to reduce high concentrations of poverty by bringing people from Cary, Fuquay, Holly Springs, etc, then you need to provide transportation. It is a big barrier, esp for working parents.
- 158 My daughter is a seventh grader at Ligon. She spent sixth grade at Leesville Road Middle School. Ligon is far superior in terms of academic offerings, and I feel that it is a safer and less disruptive environment than the undisciplined Leesville campus. However, I am distressed that the school is really two schools under one roof. Magnet students from affluent families engage in arts and theater and other programs and take expensive trips (I know of two trips to NYC, one trip to Nashville, and one to Disney). My daughter tells me that NO local kids are involved in these activities, just magnet families. That may be incorrect but when I asked the school about it, I got a non-answer in return. If the extra resources we pour into the magnet programs are only helping the affluent magnet kids, and if we're not making efforts to help these kids engage in these activities together, we need to stop doing this and spread those resources around the county. I strongly believe in diversity and oppose any attempt to back away from our goals of socioeconomic diversity, but I have developed strong doubts on the value of the magnet program. Sincerely, Mary Ballard

159 My kids attend magnet schools downtown so that they can benefit from the gifted and talented and AG basics programs. I'm concerned that assignment to these schools will change to such a degree that the magnet programs will be diluted. Without those programs, I wouldn't prefer for my kids to attend those schools, yet I fear that I wouldn't be able to locate them closer to home because the assignment plan will prevent them from moving. If you want to be sure that parents will apply to the magnet schools, particularly those located in high poverty areas, they must feel some confidence that their kids will continue to benefit from the programs they're sending them there for and that if they don't, parents will have some means of leaving those schools. If you don't provide that confidence, parents won't continue to apply for the magnet schools and that will spell the end of the magnet program and its funding.

160 I would like to see a magnet program geared more towards acting and music. I think some of the kids would be very attracted to something like that.

161 Stough Elementary seems to be one of those schools that parents are not choosing under the new choice plan. Magnet status would make it more attractive and help keep the families that are already there

- 162 The magnet program can be a real gift to our area and have been for many years. My kids have really enjoyed the elective choices. Now with the proximity choice program, however, families have to agree to the entire magnet program (K-12) or not participate in it at all. The magnet high school for my son is so far away and we are not able to go back to his base high school which is walking distance because of this feeder pattern mess that was forced on us in the middle of his 8th grade year. Given this setup, we would not opt for the magnet program over being able to go to school locally. That realization may end up undermining the whole process and the desire for high achieving kids to be sent to magnets. Most families do not even yet realize that you took away the base schools because they were not affected. We know because we had the gift of the middle school magnet but now cannot have our son attend the high school that is walking distance because the feeder pattern send him to the magnet school very far away. I think as families realize this feeder process problem where there is no proximity and there is no choice, the magnet schools will suffer because
- 163 The system is too big. There is nothing close enough to Morrisville to even consider. All children should be able to learn a foreign language in elementary school, not just at magnets.
- 164 My children no longer attend school.
- 165 What would please me most is for my children to have intelligent, energetic, creative, and kind teachers. Small class sizes allow teachers and students to excel.

- 166 The feeder patterns do not leave enough enough magnet seats. We applied for Ligon (GT because coming from outside WCPSS) and had almost no chance of getting in. At most, 7 GT students were seated during the magnet process and at most a couple more through the waitlist. Also, had Moore Square second choice and had no luck there because magnet seats were taken away after the magnet application window closed. I had my daughter privately tested (tests were on the list of approved test that WCPSS can use) because she is in a private school that only tests at 3rd and 6th grade. She is a strong/very strong AG student and would be in all AG classes at Ligon. There should be a way to get students coming in classified AG so they have the option to apply as AG students.
- 167 Also need to balance the cost of these programs including the transportation costs when looking at the positive aspects they provide. People going to magnet schools should be there by choice and not be assigned. Not every magnet education approach will work for every child, the parents should decide what works best for their children and choose a magnet school when appropriate for that family.
- 168 I hate that politics have been so infused in our school! That's no place for it! Get that out of school, we need to try and educate the kids not use them as a political checkers!!
- 169 My child has been in the WCPSS magnet program for 11 years. He has received an excellent education. He is currently in the Enloe IB program and should be entering college with 15-18 credit hours due to the AP classes he has taken.
- 170 In some "proximity schools" if a student dies their hair, they get asked, "Why in the world would you do that?" In a magnet school they get asked, "What made you select green instead of red or blue?" Please don't force people out of magnets and the "neighborhood within a neighborhood" that they create. We are a richer, better place for them.

- 171 The magnet program is a truly wonderful program that satisfies the 3 goals that no other system can do. Also, I have heard statements from wcpss administration that Washington may be on the de-magnetization list due to the falling levels of F&R students. Please note that the lower levels in the past 2 years was due to the closing of the Walnut Terrace housing complex. Washington Elem. asked for more F&R students to replace those who left due to the closing of Walnut Terrace and was denied. Please do NOT de-magnetize Washington based on actions beyond its control. It is traditionally among the top 2 or 3 Elementary schools chosen during the magnet application period. Also, most of the application students attending Washington come from areas with currently overpopulated schools. Having to place these students back in already overcrowded schools would be one of the many negative outcomes if Washington was de-magnetized.
- 172 The odds of getting a magnet seat are against most parents and the distance travelled in many cases is too far. That is not GREEN or sustainable. I know the original intent was to keep raleigh City schools filled, but as Wake as grown west, the distance is ridiculous. There also needs to be a High School closer to the western side of the county. Kids like to participate in after school sports, plays and other activities and it is too dangerous for them to drive at night or rush hour to Enloe and SE Raleigh
- 173 Please do not dilute Magnet Program by spreading it thin throughout several schools. If a school is declared Magnet, it should have enough quantity of magnet program that helps every kid in the school.
- 174 My daughter's experience at AB Combs has been amazing. She has learned so much and grown as a person. I'm proud of the young woman and leader she's becoming thanks to the staff and programs at Combs
- 175 I wish there was a Magnet School in Apex we could apply to! Having our kids bused to Raleigh at 6 and 8 yrs old is too far/too long of a day for them. Thanks!

- 176 Love them, hope the school board doesn't  
destroy them
- 177 They are vital alternatives!
- 178 Placement should be more than lottery. Kids  
should also be considered based on grades and  
merit!
- 179 We love Washington!
- 180 Education is the key to opportunity and personal  
growth. With such a large school system it is  
impossible to teach the individual child but rather  
a group. With each child having their own unique  
learning style, it those children with different  
styles not compatible who suffer. Magnet  
programs offers students and families the option  
to tap into their child's strengths by matching the  
learning style with the school. AB Combs is an  
exemplary school. By far the greatest choice I  
have ever made as a parent and I ask that Wake  
County look to this school to determine what is  
working and mirror this throughout the county.  
Magnet schools are a vital part of Wake County's  
educational system and Wake County needs this  
program to remain competent and competitive in  
our global society.
- 181 Please look at the systems in Montgomery  
County Maryland and Fairfax VA. Why can't  
Wake, with it's wonderful resources, strive to  
have a High School on the same caliber of  
Thomas Jefferson in Fairfax?
- 182 Obviously Magnet programs are costly. I think  
A/G programs should exist with more depth at all  
schools,: even to the point were A/G lessons are  
seamlessly interwoven into all classrooms.  
Standalone A/G programs ignore talented  
students that are not enrolled in specialized  
school. These children's needs should be (more)  
broadly addressed.
- 183 Magnet programs offer excellent educational  
opportunities in specialized areas, that would  
normally only be available in a private school  
setting.
- 184 We love our Magnet program and moved here to  
have the opportunity for our children.

- 185 There should be greater access to magnet programs throughout the county. My child did not "win the lottery" and get accepted to a magnet program, however, several of my neighbors's children were accepted by virtue of having a sibling already attending the school. It should be a true random lottery with no preferences or priorities to allow newcomers and all areas of the county equal access. Siblings should not be given priority as this virtually eliminates access for new families at many magnet schools (Parents regularly had siblings at different schools due to reassignment/choice plan). It is unfair for a family to win the lottery once and have access for all their children, while my child is shut out just because he doesn't have an older sibling. The magnet schools and WCPSS claim that you can select programs based on your child's individual talents and interests. If that's the case, then siblings are all different and shouldn't automatically attend a magnet just because their older sibling does( 1 might be gifted in language, the other science--why should they both attend Wiley, for example). The pre-assigned feeder patterns for magnets also
- 186 Magnet program should not make base schools less attractive
- 187 I think that the administration (Principal, assistant principals and magnet coordinators) at any school, but particularly magnet schools make or break the school. I think there are currently some magnets that have great potential given resources and setting, but do not have good reputations or have attrition or you'll see a pattern of one child attending and siblings not attending because the administration is not effective. I am speaking specifically about Centennial, but there may be others with this pattern as well. I know of so many families who have been disappointed with Centennial and I fear your survey results may be skewed as a result. I think your survey would benefit from asking what schools the children attended in the past and also sorting out whether they attended schools they had hoped to attend or did not get desired magnet placements.

- 188 I oppose cherry schools in non-disadvantaged neighborhoods such as Brooks Elementary and Daniels Middle having magnet status and specialized programs. Schools such as these would have sufficient diversity and student achievement without the magnet program. Magnet schools should only be used for increasing diversity at high-poverty schools in disadvantaged neighborhoods. Other resources should be applied across the entire school system.
- 189 Powell is fantastic, we would not be in the public system if we were not in the magnet program.
- 190 stop the program
- 191 IMPLEMENT YEAR ROUND SCHEDULES THAT WOULD ALLOW DOWNTOWN SCHOOLS TO MAINTAIN STRONG MAGNET PROGRAMS, AND ACCOMMODATE DOWNTOWN RESIDENTS AS WELL. DILUTING MAGNET STATUS ONLY WEAKENS THE CONCEPT
- 192 I support the idea of the Magnet program and its approach wholeheartedly. Both of my children have benefited greatly from the magnet school programs and I hope that the WCPSS school board will continue to support and develop these programs to the best of their ability.
- 193 Leadership program at Combs would benefit all students

- 194 Enough with all the STEM Schools! Throwing technology at a school does not address the issues at poor performing schools. It is imperative that the School Board offer IB schools at the middle & high school level in Cary and Western Wake County especially. While the trend (& the money) seems to lean toward only STEM programs, recent news articulates that Fortune 500 companies are now looking for new employees that have more than a technology background. They have found that those students, with heavy technology backgrounds and little to no Arts involvement, can't work in groups, or deal with the diverse workforce, and have little compassion. These companies are now seeking new workers who have a broader educational background. No student wants to attend a school because the teachers get a cart of ipads to use -- they already don't use the laptops in the classrooms! However, a STRONG arts program will bring in families & statistics show that children involved in QUALITY Arts programs test higher! Please stop looking at technology as the only means to improve our schools.
- 195 I am homeschooling because there are no magnet schools near by. We only have one magnet school and that's done through lottery which is not good. I live in walking distance and can't get my child in for free.
- 196 The magnet program has been a rewarding and positive experience for my family. Both my husband and I spend numerous volunteer hours at our school to enrich the experience for others.
- 197 I do not believe that some of the current magnet programs are in line with all of the objectives, specifically the one related to reducing high concentrations of poverty. It seems that some of the magnet schools have very low diversity and have low FRL percentages.

198 As a native of Raleigh I was enrolled in Magnet Schools from Middle School (Ligon) to High School (Enloe). I choose these schools because they had programs that I was really interested in, specifically the performing arts. Because these programs were of such high quality and I excelled in them, I was very positive middle and high school experiences. I also met students from all of the county with similar interests as mine. I am still close friends with many of these people today. I know I would not have been as happy if I had gone to my 'base' schools. I fit in very well at Ligon and Enloe. Now my children are in the magnet program and I am so happy that they have these choices and that there are programs available in which they can excel, and hopefully they will have as positive an experience as I had.

199 We are thrilled with the magnet program!

200 Ideally, AG-basics style gifted programs would be available in every school, and the magnet schools would shift to providing other areas of specialized focus to diversify schools in areas of high poverty. Every gifted child should have access to a high quality AG program, not just those who win the magnet lottery.

201 The magnet program in Wake County is one of the primary reasons we moved to Raleigh.

202 I'm concerned that the magnet program is being marginalized by forcing/locking elementary school magnet students into 12 year feeder patterns. This is highly unattractive, and will discourage magnet participation.

203 One biggest concern we have is that children have to commute for 2 hr to 2 and 1/2 hrs everyday.

204 Coming from Florida, the magnet program in Wake County is sub-par in my opinion and is designed more for underprivileged students rather than the gifted ones.

205 I believe that we need to look at the magnet schools and determine if they should be beta testing curriculum that could or should later be moved into other non magnet schools, rather than restrict some offerings to just magnet schools

- 206 I think that we should find a way to offer at least one foreign language in all middle and high schools, and it shouldn't be only Spanish in every school! China will pay for Chinese teachers! Why don't we take advantage of that?
- 207 I would like clear communication about whether AG and non-AG kids are competing for the same 4th and 5th grade seats at AG/GT magnets. I don't think WCPSS has enough AG magnets at the elementary level
- 208 I strongly feel that reducing high concentrations of poor performing students in individual schools should be a strong focus of WCPSS, and that magnet schools are an amazingly creative and effective way of doing that!
- 209 Magnet schools are fabulous! I am so thankful my children were able to attend. I wish all schools were magnet!
- 210 Why is the main objective always to close the achievement gap? Where is challenging the brightest to reach their potential? In today's world this should be the top priority if we want to be world leaders. As I see it there are plenty of programs for kids who need extra help and very little for the high achieving kids. They too need to be challenged. Instead of playing checkers with magnet school and decide where to close and where to open one, you can make merit based acceptance for the existing ones and if you have the money for more schools emulate the most popular themes around the county. Close the non popular ones to get funds if you have to.
- 211 Removed our children from the magnet program and returned them to base due to our dissatisfaction in several areas. We are disappointed.
- 212 We love having our children attend Farmington Woods Elementary School as a magnet school, not as our base school. There is so much diversity and cultural learning. Children are very accepting of the differences around them and they are becoming great learners and great leaders.

- 213 Please end the weighted, unfair lottery, which penalizes kids in under enrolled schools and leaves families/kids in wealthier, popular, crowded schools with ALL the REAL choices. I know the magnet program has been partially used to relieve crowded schools, but the weighted lottery is blatantly discriminating against kids who happen to live near under enrolled schools. Their educational opportunities and odds of selection should be the same as their counterparts who happen to live near popular schools. Please change the mandatory magnet feeder patterns. In the long run, they will really hurt some outstanding magnet elementary schools. Insure magnet schools F&R is the SAME or HIGHER than the county AVERAGE. There are currently magnets with half the F&R % as dozens of traditional schools. This should not be! When a magnet's F&R drops below 30%, if that is the county average (I know it's actually a lot higher than that!) steps should be taken to either de-magnetize that school and give the program to a struggling school, or reduce magnet seats while adding base seats. Thank you for soliciting our feedback! It means a lot to us.
- 214 The magnet selection process is unfair. Children who don't live in high performance/income areas have little chance of getting into popular magnet programs. Nobody in Node 136 will ever get into Wiley. dain.palmer@gmail.com
- 215 I fully support the magnet programs! I have been extremely happy with the magnet program at Washington and absolutely love the programs offered through the gifted and talented program. My son has excelled and discovered subjects that he wants to learn more about. I love the diversity of his school and he has met so many kids from different backgrounds, cultures and lifestyles, I really encourage Wake County to keep the magnet programs and support this unique part of our school system.
- 216 There are so many kids live in Cary, Apex and Morrisville. But there is no magnet school in this area. So many kids have to get up 5am every day and take about 2 hours on bus. That's unfair to all those kids in this area. You should open some magnet schools in this area.

- 217 Very tired of some schools getting everything and the rest of our schools getting nothing.
- 218 Wonderful program. We are excited to be part of WCPS -- has been a great experience for our family.
- 219 I suggest considering Reedy Creek Middle school as a potential magnet school. The middle schools in the Western part of the county are overcrowded, with many parents dissatisfied with their middle school choices. Yet Reedy Creek MS is under-enrolled. Given the strong interest in magnet programs among parents in Western Wake (even for schools that are much more difficult to get to than Reedy Creek), I suspect many would flock to Reedy Creek MS if it had an AG, GT, leadership, or IB emphasis. Making it a magnet school would meet all the goals listed in questions 1-3 above.
- 220 I really like the IB magnet pathway in the Garner schools. It makes it very convenient to have the programs I desire for my children available locally.
- 221 PLEASE do not punish Farmington Woods magnet students because we have only a small percentage of magnet families. We are still an important part! I have heard that FWES has been placed on the 3rd level for protection-- considering that last year FWES was the BEST MAGNET SCHOOL IN THE U.S., this is frustrating. Please protect Farmington Woods--don't waste the training, certification, and dedication that has been required to make and keep Farmington Woods an IB school.
- 222 Selection process should be by lottery ONLY. Taking in to account the 'performance nodes' is unfair! They do not represent the actual student applying and their abilities...

- 223 For anyone who is contemplating using the achievement gap as an excuse to do away with the magnets, try to imagine what SE Raleigh would look like without the magnet programs. I think the positive impact of magnet schools has been profoundly under estimated. The achievement gap is its own problem that deserves direct attention. Doing away with the magnets does not solve the achievement gap. In addition, to give up on the magnets would be to give up on integrated schools altogether.
- 224 Please be careful. The more of these 'magnet'-like programs that are built around the Stem/Global schools model, the less likely it is that schools truly in areas of poverty will be attractive. The same can be said if we put magnets out in other areas. When those schools in high poverty areas become unattractive, it is very hard to turn that perception around. The first two objectives above really have to drive it all.
- 225 My family has enjoyed the magnet program for 13 years now. It has allowed my arts-focused children to discover talents and to feel valued for them. On the other hand, at the high school level, my child with an IEP has been ignored and has not had his needs met. The standards-level classes he has taken were for the most part a joke - those students are denied opportunities that might encourage them to enjoy learning. There is little respect from the teachers or the students, resulting in most class time spent on worksheets and bored/messed up students acting out. This was not true in the honors/AP level classes that he took. I assume this is a system-wide problem, however, and hope high school teachers and administrators can get more training, help, and support. On a positive note, my child would have certainly been a dropout without the multiple arts courses and the chance to discover his gifts. I am thankful to the magnet program for this opportunity, and for allowing my children the chance to get to know and befriend others from ALL walks of life, from ALL OVER the county.
- 226 I am opposed to the Magnet school concept. I believe children should not be able to select a particular school within the PUBLIC system to obtain specialized education.

- 227 I have seen the strength of a magnet program decrease, the decrease of diversity come as a result and the demise of the safe environment at that particular school first hand. It is a shame and a waste to have that happen. I sincerely believe in the positive impact the magnet schools have in our community as a DIVERSITY equalizer and I pray that these programs stay in tact in our county. Not only in tact, but also get the positive attention and funding that they deserve. They are worthy!!
- 228 This coming year I will have 3 children in 3 different magnet schools. We willingly drive/ride the bus to take advantage of the WONDERFUL MAGNET OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE with WCPSS. Without such incredible magnet schools, we would likely consider private options.
- 229 no need for magnet and charter schools; Properly fund Public Schools and offer more course options within each school.
- 230 You should consider combining magnet curriculum with year-round calendars.
- 231 Fire Beth Cochran for her inept leadership provided at Enloe HS. She drove a jewel of a school into near ruin.
- 232 The application should include teacher recommendations and consist of more than just name and address. It should actually serve those students who would best be able to benefit from them
- 233 We love the magnet program and compared to other areas in the country; feel very blessed to have these options in Raleigh North Carolina.
- 234 We have had a VERY positive experience the past three years at our magnet school. Both kids are thriving and the staff at our school is EXCELLENT. Keep up the great work! The only thing I can suggest is to open MORE magnet schools because some are too big IMO. Our elementary school has 400 students so it feels like family; after a few years everyone knows each other. I am cringing at the thought of middle school down the road, with 1200 students for 6, 7 and 8 grade. Even though it is a top rated magnet school, we may look at alternatives for a smaller middle school.

- 235 Magnet programs should be greatly reduced and programs (electives) should be spread more evenly among schools. In addition, many areas of Wake are naturally diverse. Other areas could serve children well by offering stability to students and a lower student/teacher ratio. Too much money is being spent on magnet schools and benefits realized by a relatively small number of students.
- 236 More magnets with the International Studies theme to satisfy better the great demand. If not, then more foreign language instruction much earlier in ES.
- 237 The magnet programs are harder for children and siblings to get into now. The programs are filled before siblings are able to get in if they weren't available for a first choice. I'm frustrated that my youngest will not be able to go to the same school his brother does because of the proximity plan.
- 238 The magnets were a big draw for us when we moved from Washington State for a faculty job at NCSU. We weren't happy with our initial placement at Weatherstone in Cary, but were willing to stay once we found our way to Washington Elementary. The magnets represent very important choices for families like ours.
- 239 Don't wreck them!
- 240 Not having base-schools connected with addresses has made magnet schools less attractive, because if the magnet school doesn't work out for your child, you have no base school to return to now. There is too much risk involved, and that is why there were many less magnet applications this year.
- 241 The county needs programs that will help smart children who struggle due to learning disabilities.
- 242 Add more of a security presence to William G. Enloe High
- 243 We need MORE magnet capacity! They provide the most wonderfully integrated schools with the best teachers and most supportive parent populations in the county!

- 244 I wish that some of the magenta programs were offered in other schools beside poverty areas. My child has attended EMMMS and every week there has been fights going on in school. I love the fact that we were afforded an opportunity to be apart of the magnet program but I have decided that my childs safety is more important than being apart of the magnet program. I will not enroll my children in another magenta school in Wake County until they resolve safety issues at these schools.
- 245 Magnet options should be offered in Northeastern Wake County. We have several Title I elementary schools but no magnet options to serve families in this area. Our elementary schools are becoming less socio-economically diverse, and magnet offerings could help reverse this disturbing trend while offering expanded opportunities that don't require hour-long bus rides.
- 246 I also think the Magnet review should be held to certain criteria and the schools reviewed every 2 years to see if it is meeting the objectives. I also believe they should be spread out within the county. The reason the RIM schools have suffered so much in the past 10 years is they lost so much of the base to the Magnet schools because parents were willing to drive 15 extra mins. They stole from Peter to pay Paul but now the RIM schools have been suffering because of the lose of middle class base students. They needed to fill these schools with students and the F&R at the magnets schools have gone to mid 20% while the RIM school are now at 50% with no additional programs or resources to attract students back to their schools. York is lucky now because they have a strong principal/teachers and now the STEM program. Some of the other schools in our area need help...
- 247 I believe the magnet and base populations should be better integrated at magnet schools so they are one school instead of 2 in one place. I also wonder if base schools should have more options b/c when we viewed the course options at our base middle, we were shocked at how limited the choices are compared with magnets.

- 248 The magnet program needs to be overhauled and offerings at these schools need to be more widely available throughout the county.
- 249 Eliminate the magnets, spread the resources throughout the county .
- 250 I feel the magnet program when funded and used properly is a wonderful enhancement to the school system.
- 251 Our school would greatly benefit from additional AG services!
- 252 I was very pleased with our Magnet experience. It offered my daughter many opportunities she would not have had at Davis Drive Middle.
- 253 LOVE the magnet programs offered in Wake County!!!
- 254 Some magnets (AG basics) should not be based on sibling status but on the academic achievement of the student. AG basic programs should not have magnet feeders since students are not identified as AG until end of 3rd grade so one would not know until entering middle school if they qualify for the program then it is too late to get in because space is filled by those who attended magnet elementary schools. Magnets should be placed throughout the district not just in low socioeconomic areas.
- 255 Please include nice activities and active play for these children no matter how old they are. It is best for all the children in preschool, elementary school, middle school, and high school to have a playground with swings, slides, monkey bars, seesaws, and playhouses along with a field and basketball court.
- 256 You can save a lot of money but shutting down the program & not busing kids all over the county.
- 257 Our son attends Enloe (not on list above!) and did attend Ligon and Fuller before. These are excellent programs, and I hope that the county will continue them. It would be ideal if the transportation could be worked out to be less burdensome. This year our son must board a bus at 5.45, which is way too early for anyone, especially a teen

258 Stop dismantling a winning system. Let us be proud of the amazing teachers and schools and diverse programs within wake county. Care about the kids, NOT partisan politics. I listened to an AMAZING middle school JAZZ BAND last night. No, I don't even know anyone in that band, but the possibility exists... and THAT is what needs to be preserved, the opportunities and possibilities of kids to achieve such things and surprise the world with what comes from Wake County, NC!

259 The magnet program tends to push kids a little more than the other schools. I like how this program forces my child to work hard and learn about other areas in the nation other than just what is happening where he lives.

260 Why does an AG student from a regular school and an AG student from an AG magnet school receive different education? They have the same potential!

261 We are in private/homeschooling. - would love a good magnet school closer to Cary-with a chance of getting in.

262 The magnet programs are among the gems of our school system. They attract many people to Wake County and are the reason that lots of parents have not put their kids into private schools. PLEASE do not tamper with the magnet program!! And please do not remove or transfer any magnet programs, especially from disadvantaged areas where the programs mean so much to the nearby families -- and please do not pull the rug out from under people who have made major decisions in reliance on the nature and location of the current programs. Thank you.

263 There are no magnet elementary schools in Knightdale.

264 See my comments above. I do not believe that magnets are helping our county schools, nor the "choice" assignment plan, nor busing, nor leadership academies. Get the basics right and stop wasting valuable tax dollars on these programs

- 265 Without the magnet program that Wake County offers at so many of the schools, not only would we not have moved here but without it continuing we would not stay. For me in particular, the IB program is something we are proud of. We love that it is offered and find it to be far and above a "traditional" school where expanded programs are not offered. In general, I feel strongly that the expansive magnet programs are what keeps Wake County schools strong and competitive with other counties and cities across the US.
- 266 FWES needs to remain an IB magnet. It also needs an IB middle and high school feeder pattern.
- 267 The current magnet school approach create the logistic burden on both parents and schools. The focus on test score in general makes school look good but not benefiting system due to the concentration of resource. Make resource be more flexible and even would take care more students. The accessible of education opportunity should take higher priority.
- 268 The magnet programs have been very beneficial for my children. They have a much wider array of classes to choose from that expose them to many subjects that they would not otherwise have the opportunity to study. I love that both of their schools include a focus on the arts increasing their creativity.
- 269 The magnet program needs to be maintained and strengthened. It has been one of Wake's great success stories. The magnet program has been a key reason that Wake does not have a decaying downtown core- unlike most large cities. I would like to see some expansion to rim schools that have increased poverty numbers.

- 270 It is quite remarkable how WCPSS has managed to keep a large percentage of middle class families engaged and enrolled in the school system as compared to other metro areas. Our strong school system is a big reason our entire community is thriving. Folks complain about pandering to the middle class, but it seems that with schools and much else in our world, that's the way it works, whether we like it or not. WCPSS is a bargain for local taxpayers, and the magnet program is a big part of the good deal. Magnet money is money well-invested. I'm always interested in discussions of achievement disparities between groups of students at different schools. Some argue that magnet schools ignore low-achieving students. [It's also bull that (formerly) base students don't get to participate in magnet programs]. In our two schools I have witnessed and participated in thoughtful, comprehensive support systems for low-achieving students. Test scores are the public measure of "success" in our current system, but there are so many ways I see academically struggling students succeed at our schools. The achievement gap problem goes far beyond
- 271 All schools need to offer gifted and talented programming rather than a stand alone school that focuses on G.T. Or A.G. As this does not promote diversity.
- 272 LOVE the magnet program (and fully support ALL its objectives)... one of the main reasons we moved to this area.
- 273 Magnet programs if offered at all should be spread across the county and offered to everyone on an equal basis.
- 274 My children did not go to a magnet school and I wish they had.
- 275 Appreciate the reduction of fluff, in the day, leading to the opportunity for electives. Wonder how the transition to middle will go, and if we will be able to stay in a magnet.

276 In order for the magnet program to succeed within the current choice program, it will still have to have unique programming unavailable at most schools. The success of the choice program and the damage to the magnet program remains to be seen. My family chose year round as a magnet choice beginning in 1995 when it was considered a unique educational opportunity and was under the magnet umbrella. Year round education was academically successful but did not attract student populations enough to maintain diversity and therefore came under fire. Now it has been made available to most Wake county families and is no longer a unique choice available at only certain schools. If that trend continues, you will not be able to provide unique programming in strategic locations to support under enrolled schools and maintain diversity. Schools will become "stacked" in their academic programs and athletics and enjoy more than sufficient financial assistance from parents.

277 I've been very impressed with the programs at A.B. Combs. Muriel Summers and her staff do a wonderful job! On the other hand, I am much less impressed with the Centennial Campus magnet program. We saw essentially no benefit from the proximity to NCSU during my son's time there. The complete absence of sports programs at Centennial is also a major failing. Our schools must have strong academic programs, but also help instill healthy living habits and develop teamwork skills through sports. At this time, I do not think that I will enroll my other child at Centennial.

278 Magnet schools should be one of the priorities of the school system. They provide choice to parents of children with varying needs and skills - one of the most valuable assets of the Wake County School system. Additionally, they are the key to a diverse school system that is driven by choice rather than forced on parents.

279 I am so disappointed in our new student assignment policy, which limits the amount of diversity in schools. The previous magnet program was a model of success and should be reimplemented.

- 280 My daughter is currently at FWES IB Magnet. It is a great school and we have loved IB. I think that all parents in Magnet programs should have to pick Magnet because there are several children in her class who do not care about IB and are there as it is their base school. By making all students choose to be Magnet you will have more involved parents who are willing to invest their time and students who will really want to learn. I think it is fine to have themes for different schools but try to space the schools out so that parents are not having to ship their child 2 1/2 hours away. Why does WCPSS not try to offer more technical schools to try to keep children in school and when they graduate they can go to work. Growing up in NC we had students who took brick laying, mechanics, industrial arts/drafting, home economics/cooking, etc. I know the numbers about how much money people make is based on how long they are in school but have you ever thought that there are some children who really need to learn the basics- reading, math, and job skills because they are never going to make it to college. Those same
- 281 My child attends private school. We are very, very disappointed with WCPSS and assignments/redistricting. We applied for Magnet in 2008 for Kindergarten and were turned down. We were blocked. Growth Management told use we were priority 3 (last) to get into Magnet. They wanted to keep us at the poor performing base school in Raleigh (rim). Magnets may work for some white families getting enriched education, but for the vast majority of families in Wake and especially those who are ED, I think we'd be better served if the Magnets were disbanded. Spend the extra \$\$ on the ED and minority students. They really need the help.
- 282 Having the magnet program has been a real jewel in our crown. It achieves many goals such as reducing poverty laden schools, attending to the needs of academically gifted children and utilizing school resources efficiently.

- 283 The only thing that bothers me about the magnet programs is the disparity I see at athletic events against non-magnet schools. It is obvious that neighborhood school programs have more advantages (athletics equipments, for example) due to the higher income level of it's boosters. Magnet programs, due to the very nature of the lower-income base they serve, should receive a higher percentage of program dollars than non-magnet schools.
- 284 The magnet school system has given my children the opportunity to receive a top education along with exploring their creativity, which always stimulates learning.
- 285 Very concerned over the impact of Feeder Patterns. Not all parents want magnet beyond elementary for various reasons. Feeder patterns over time may impact elementary school applications. Immediately, however, we have struggling elementary school students heading to academically rigorous magnet middle schools like Carnage and Ligon and slated to continue on to schools like Enloe.
- 286 teachers should be qualified
- 287 I am new to the system and my children are young within it, but I could not be more pleased with the balance and rigours of the magnet school they are in. I would love to think that the all children within the school system would have access and exposure to these programs, with the magnets on the forefront, breaking new ground for the other schools.
- 288 Being able to choose a magnet option is one of the great things about our school system.
- 289 So thankful/grateful to the magnet program- three children with three positive exoeriences-
- 290 best way to encourage voluntary desegregation

- 291 All of my children went to magnet schools through kindergarten -12th grade. I taught in a magnet school for 30 years and touched many lives. My three children are very successful now because of their education in Wake County through the magnet program. They are well rounded individuals and can along with anyone because they were exposed to diverse populations. As a Teacher I have seen many students benefit and grow as people and students by working together in class to help one another learn. If the school board puts all children of poverty in one school, teachers will leave the school, students will not learn due to discipline problems. Children of poverty need to be exposed to other possibilities to understand that there is a better way in life. Good teachers are attracted by schools that have high performing students. In my opinion, I feel the magnet program is highly effective and encourages new families to send their children to Wake County schools. My children had originally thought that they would send their children through Wake County but now have second thoughts because they fear that Wake County will no longer have high performing schools such as
- 292 All 3 of my children went to Hunter Elem. I chose this school based on programs offered and academics. Once there, I also saw the need of that school had for the magnet program. Everything the magnet school offered was available to all children there. The PTA was extremely successful because magnet parents had chosen that school and wanted to support it in a multitude of ways. I hope that this program will remain strong for all!
- 293 Love Enloe's Dance program!!!
- 294 I strongly support our schools magnet programs. They provide knowledge and skills for our kids to reach their full potential.

- 295 It would be nice if a magnet school would be built closer to where we live so we wouldn't have to spend so much time in traffic. I also don't feel comfortable with my children that far away from home at such a young age. Year round would be nice too as my children learn best in this type of environment. My oldest son with Autism is very concerned about when he starts traditional high school. He really needs breaks throughout the year that are provided in a year-round curriculum. He wants to go to one of the STEM schools, but they are so limited to the number of students. If there was a magnet school that had the same type of courses as the STEM school, this would be a great alternative for him. Although he has autism, he is extremely gifted in science/technology.
- 296 This is a fantastic and model program to improve diversity and academic success. Please do not discontinue. It is and has been well worth the lengthy drive and other sacrifices that my family makes to attempt to maximize the quality of our children's education!
- 297 We love the school that our children go to. Through talking to parents who have children in other magnet schools who have nothing but good things to say. We believe that they need to continue.
- 298 Over the years, we have experienced the magnet programs of year-round schools, gifted and talented and AG Basics. Each offered different benefits for our children that could not be obtained at their base school. The variety helped to meet the needs of my children as they each learned in different ways. We are about to graduate out of WCPSS, but wanted to share how much they have meant in the educational experiences of our children. We would hate to see future students deprived of those opportunities.

299 It would be nice to have some magnet schools up in the norther part of Wake County. For those of us who live in the the northwest part of the county, we need to travel far (and get up at insanelly early times) in order to attend a magnet school. Also, middle schoolers and teenagers need more morning sleep while elementary students are usually up bright and early. You should also consider earlier start times for elementary and later start times for the middle & high schoolers.

300 I know it costs money (that we do not have), but it is a real shame that access to magnet programs has not expanded with our growing enrollment.

301 I have the unique perspective in that all three of my children have gone to WCPSS schools since Kindergarten. One of them went to a magnet middle school. I can assure you she picked the magnet program solely because her schedule looked a lot more interesting than it would at the base school. Keep the magnet program in place to continue to draw from the suburbs. This is an easy way to voluntarily balance otherwise underutilized schools and to ease overcrowding in high attendance areas. By choosing a magnet school, parents are making a statement to their children that they want something more out of their education. I think for those kids they actually appreciate their education a little bit more because not everyone has what they have. Save money by offering express school busing just for magnet schools rather than driving busses into neighborhoods. This may eliminate boundaries that prevent some students from applying to a magnet school of choice. In addition, I would like to see families given a priority to attend the same school whether there is continuity in attendance or not. As soon as one child is in a school, a commitment to that school has started, emotionally and financially. And

302 I could not be happier with my daughters' experience at Farmington Woods. The only complaint I have is that there is not an IB middle school close enough to us to allow them to follow the IB track

303 I would like to see more schools based on Magnet Programs spread throughout the county for Parent choice of the type of program they feel will benefit their child.

- 304 Magnet schools show an appreciation for the talented students to do well. Most children have a more positive aspect when attending these schools.
- 305 Magnets no longer need the support for their websites. It's time to share those resources with other schools.
- 306 Please continue supporting the Magnet School Programs. I have been thrilled with my daughter's elementary school learning experience at AB Combs. She has excelled, She loves school. The administration, teachers, and staff are dedicated. Every week there is something extra special scheduled at Combs. I suggest you take a look at what is going on at Combs and see how some of strategies used can be shared with other schools in Wake County. One important element is parent involvement. I am sure the other Magnet schools have successful strategies to share with others as well. Research has shown that physical fitness increases health and academic performance therefore physical fitness should be part of the daily curriculum.
- 307 The elementary and middle schools are too far away for many families to choose and it is wrong that kids who are very advanced in math, for instance, can't get support at their neighborhood school -- or that the neighborhood middle schools are stuck with dreary electives (although some of our middle school's electives problems relate to teachers who are just collecting a paycheck.) I think if the board sticks with the choice plan, they should disband the magnets as they exist and set up geographically dispersed academies that could still qualify for grants, but would put options closer to more kids. In addition, applications to academies should be taken into account when kids want to move out of a feeder pattern school.

- 308 A.B. Combs would benefit from a fresh perspective. The current administration is not receptive to student needs. Other school principals are more accessible and responsive. There is a climate of intimidation at this school. If you do not share the principal's understanding across the board, you are treated with palpable disdain. Despite great teachers, my family is leaving this school due to its leadership. That is ironic considering it is the magnet school for leadership.
- 309 There needs to be a way for a child with specific needs to be able to get into these special instruction schools. Specialized programs are offered through lottery only. What about the child who is extremely intelligent and would benefit from a gifted and talented program but can't get in. There needs to be a way to notify the magnet program that the child meets certain criteria and deserves a seat. It is extremely frustrating to have to hope your deserving child gets lucky enough to get the right number!!!
- 310 I believe the magnet program provides an excellent opportunity to give students from lower income neighborhoods a chance to be exposed to programs that may not be available otherwise. As a teacher I also recognize the enormous task of meeting the very specific needs of the students who need us the most. We can do this the most effectively when these students are not all concentrated within specific schools.
- 311 I have a child who attend Douglas Elementary School, and I have had many concerns both with regard to the magnet aspect of the school, as well as very poor communication both with the teachers as well as with the Principal. It is difficult for me to tell whether this is a problem inherent with the magnet aspect of the school, or if it is simply poor leadership on the part of the principal. Maybe the school would be more attractive with another Principal.

- 312 How will the pathways work with changes in magnet programs? Changes won't be known 12 years in advance. Transportation is a real issue for most families. How can we change transportation and before/after school options at MS and HS to make it equitable across different magnets?
- 313 Magnets should focus on strengths such as AG, arts or math and science. These programs should have entrance exams or auditions to make sure that our best and brightest are being served. I have a double identified AG 10th grader who has never been able to break into the AG magnet programs even though her test scores place her in the top 10 percent nationally. She attends Millbrook HS as her base school, not as a magnet, but we don't see any special offerings in the 9th or 10th grade associated with the IB program though we know a lot of money is being spent.
- 314 We really like the IB-programme at Farmington Woods. It will really make the school stand out if only they could focus on Maths and Science like IB schools in other countries making it truly International Magnet School.
- 315 The faculty and administrators at Magnet schools should have the autonomy to design and manage their programs to lead to the most successful educational environments
- 316 The magnet program should be an ever-evolving one. Frequent, periodic reviews of Magnet schools are needed to ensure they are meeting their objectives. Neighborhood populations change, underserved areas change. When a magnet program is no longer needed for a school to meet its capacity with diverse base students, it should no longer be a magnet school. The program should then be moved to an underpopulated school to attract good students. I don't think this is currently being done effectively.
- 317 The AG program in Carnegie, Washington elementary, Fuller, Enloe should be removed from the lists of magnet lists because of creating all the commotion, tension between the parents, and the pressurized for the kids.

318 Magnet school applications should be considered on equal or strict lottery basis (with exception of sibling priority). Also, an AG program should be available as a separate school open to application only by academically eligible students and not mixed within a school containing the lowest performing students in a county. Prior to the new assignment plan, our family turned down an AG magnet seat at Ligon, because while the school has some attractive offerings, the chaos we witnessed by "base students" within the schools led us to the conclusion that any academic benefits were not worth the long commute to this school and it's atmosphere. We might have felt differently about an AG only school. Students who have worked hard and achieved deserve their own community and should not be located within a school such as Ligon for the sake of diversity.

319 I love the magnet programs. I'm concerned that the latest changes leave my children without a feeder school to proceed with the IB program past elementary school.

320 I am very pleased with my children's progress and growth at their schools. More schools should model their programs after successful schools.

321 We have been very pleased with the Gifted and Talented, AG Basics, and Museums Magnet programs. We felt the Moore Square provided a superior educational opportunity for our child, much better than what could have been obtained at a larger school like Ligon.

322 More should be done for the performing arts

323 Science Olympiad at Underwood is a model of teacher-parent engagement in scientific exploration that should be celebrated and encouraged across Wake County.

324 Please balance the diversity in schools. Children need to learn to live with all kinds of people.

325 Please do not take our magnet status or IB away. FWES is an incredible school. The staff has worked so hard to make FWES a great school .

- 326 I would like to see the opportunity and accessibility for entering magnet schools increased. It seems quite difficult for a student to get into a magnet school. My son is an AG student and although we applied to a magnet school he was not accepted. If the child is an AG student then they should get top pick.
- 327 Magnet schools should have a feeder pattern to other magnet schools. Parents who choose to send their children to magnet programs like to have an educational continuity.
- 328 I do NOT think magnet programming should be stripped from the system to support more base schools in neighborhoods. For years Magnet parents have chosen to send their students to schools across town, have chosen long bus rides, or have provided transportation to Magnet schools. What happens to our "choice" if Magnet schools lose their Magnet status?
- 329 Please add a grandfather clause to protect the families who had been in the magnet system under the original plan.
- 330 I used to live "inside the belt line" and my older children went to Martin Middle School. As this was our base school, I assumed all middle schools had the course offering Martin had, as my children weren't in "gifted and talented" classes. When we moved to Holly Springs I was shocked at the lack of electives offered.
- 331 My children have enjoyed the television, dance and drama programs at Ligon and Enloe. We were also happy to have our children go to school farther from our home to ensure that no school is burdened with the challenges presented by high concentrations of poverty. An added bonus has been the enriched experience diversity has provided our children.
- 332 harder to get into! chances are low for everyone!
- 333 I think the magnet programs are a great asset to our educational community.
- 334 The magnet programs should receive more funding from the state. They should be well staffed with AG teachers and teacher assistants.

335 I think the placement methodology is absurd in at least one respect -- our "node" (403.2) is in a high income area but considered a "low performing" node. That said, there are probably about 12 total houses in the node. Our son had zero chance of getting into a magnet school because of this poorly-drawn node where one or two low scores could and did torpedo the entire bunch - not to mention that our neighborhood does not particularly fit this node in the first place.

336 I think all schools should follow a magnet theme

337 Please do not eliminate these wonderful programs.

338 We strongly support magnet programs!! Parents will gladly send their students to a school far away if it is the right match for their child's learning style and/or to tap their child's motivation to learn

339 When our daughter was starting kindergarten 4 years ago we wanted her to attend Wiley due to the foreign languages offered. We did apply and she was accepted. In the end we had to give up her seat due to my husbands work schedule changed and since I was a teacher in Apex, we were not able to get her to school at Wiley. No other transportation was offered, not even express busing. It is a long way to Wiley from Morrisville. When I talked to transportation about why it was not offered, I was told not enough people were going that direction for school. Then I talked to other parents why don't they apply since they like the foreign language option, they didn't apply because no transportation was offered.

340 We love this program because of the enormous opportunities it provides to the kids. It helps them explore their interests.

341 This is our first year at A.B.Combs. We have a 4th and kindergartener and I could not be happier with the school. My girls love it!

342 My son goes to IB program at Farmington Woods Elementary. We are glad that he could get in that school. He is getting good education and understandign the world for his lifetime.

- 343 The special programs and classes in each school should be available to ALL students at the magnet school, not just for the magnet students. Several schools need to be de-magnetized. Underwood, Wiley, Joyner, Brooks and Martin no longer need magnet programs. Instead, schools like Stough, York, Lynn Rd., Reedy Creek ES and MS and Carroll should be given magnet programs.
- 344 I do not support the magnet school approach. I would rather have more variety available for all students.
- 345 I really want to have more magnet schools in Cary town as there is none.
- 346 Magnets in Wake have operated to the detriment of under enrolled base and base Title I schools. They have purposefully, knowingly neglected low income children. It must stop now. We need a complete overhaul of our magnet school system. Wake is too big and too diverse to cluster educational opportunity in a handful of schools. With the magnet system we have created clusters of educational enrichment and in turn, educational poverty. All they have done is change the location of under enrolled, underfunded schools from ITB to the rim. We need balance.
- 347 We need to de-magnetized the schools that we no longer have a need to "fill". We do not need to "attract" children to those empty schools anymore. In addition - doesn't each district deserve to have at least one magnet school? West Cary has no magnets schools - yet we have many schools that are underenrolled. We also have many schools that have ridiculously low F&R percentages - Highcroft and Mills Park for example. This need to be brought more in line with the rest of the nearby schools. Carpenter, for example has a F&R of 25%. How did this inequity happen?

348 I believe they are excellent programs but available to too few students and/or in places that make attendance extremely inconvenient for some families. I also believe that in some cases they can create two schools within a school rather than integrate all students. When examining programs at individual schools, please look at how students who are not in the magnet program are doing academically compared with peers at other schools rather than school performance as a whole to see whether having the programs are really helping to raise academic achievement at low-income schools. I believe there should be another system other than a lottery to determine which children have access to the most in-demand programs. Children who show the most interest in and ability to benefit should be prioritized.

349 I think Magnet schools under serve the base school population, while allocating extra resources to the non ED population. This creates a school with 2 populations - one that is under achieving and one that is overachieving in Wake county. The under achieving base students, which was an important reason the magnet school was created, do not benefit and they could be better serve with the additional cost of a magnet school going to develop programs that would enhance their education. Additional, the specialized programs that are only allowed at Magnet Schools limit the offerings non-magnet schools can provide their students. Of course, this leads to the unequal educational experience all non ED students receive in Wake county. Thus, I feel Magnet schools, as they occur in Wake County, are a disservice to both ED and non ED students alike.

350 All children should learn a foreign language beginning in elementary school. Daily foreign language helps children learn about the world around them and how language is connected to reading and writing

351 If the magnet pgm is going to change, I would like to see more for the AG students. Much effort goes into ESL and underperforming kids, but not enough across the district for AG students. The concept of AG centers, where you must qualify to attend, might be a good approach.

352 We have applied to magnets but have never been able to get into one

353 I said "no opinion" for providing expanded educational opportunities (Q3) because I believe all schools should have the same basic opportunities and resources with regards to technology, art, and music. Magnets with specific themes will certainly offer more electives, but they should not have all the Smartboards, iPads, copy paper, library books etc., which currently they seem to have more of than many non-magnet schools. I believe strongly in the original goal of magnets - Reduce high concentrations of poverty and support diversity - and disagree with wcpss desire to move away from laudable and worthy goal. Regardless of how the magnet program moves forward, it should NOT allow elementary families to have magnet priority as they move to the next grade span. The magnet status should start anew for elementary, middle, and high school so that all students can take advantage of programs they feel suit them best. Allowing magnet students top priority from elementary thru high school has been the #1 reason so many families applied in the past - it guaranteed them stability and a specific path. Coincidentally this is exactly what other families have been clamoring for if wcpss could provide it.

354 We currently have 2 children attending a magnet school and we LOVE it!!!! We are so grateful to have the opportunity to attend a school that offers daily Spanish language instruction. That said, attending a magnet school is not without its drawbacks. For us the largest drawback is the issue with transportation to and from school and feeling geographically distant from the school. We don't participate in as many after school activities or PTA meetings as we would like to simply because the drive to and from school is just long enough to discourage us ( because of the time, cost of gas and wear and tear on our car). Again, we have made the choice that this negative aspect of attending a school far away is greatly outweighed by the wonderful programs and instruction offered at the school. If all schools in Wake county would offer daily foreign language instruction we would proudly attend our neighborhood school but alas that is not currently the case.

355 Electives like Science Olympiad, Odyssey of Minds and Robotics, etc, should be opened to all grades instead of letting 6th graders try out. If your child joins the school in 7th or 8th grade, they would miss out on participating even if they are highly qualified.

356 I think that sometimes a school remains a magnet too long. Once a school is doing well, it might be appropriate to remove the magnet status so that other struggling schools can benefit from the magnet program.

357 The magnet program has been vital to making WCPSS one of the best school systems in the country. Don't dilute or destroy it!

- 358 Please do not separate Academically gifted programs and Arts programs! Academically Gifted students need the arts as a creative outlet as well as a pathway to learn resilience and the value of repetitive practice. Please consider offering more before and after school tutoring programs for low performing students in financial need attending magnets with electives. These students could benefit greatly from arts electives, but have to take intervention electives instead.
- 359 I think it would be tragic to lose Farmington Woods magnet status. It is an amazing school and we love the level of parent involvement that the school elicits from its parents.
- 360 The magnet schools are great. I don't believe that feeder patterns are necessary at magnet schools however. Parents target programs based on targeted needs. Parents should be given the opportunity to reevaluate those needs at different stages of their children's development.
- 361 The magnet programs offer a well rounded and an educationally higher level of learning, pulling in the best teachers and working with a clear curriculum. It offers the students more unique learning opportunities than non-magnet schools and helps to mold them into better citizens.
- 362 I feel that a magnet elementary school should be added to areas of the Triangle that do not have another magnet elementary school within 12 miles.
- 363 A consistent theme from my children is they talk almost exclusively about magnet/elective offerings compared to any other classes. There is NO doubt that these offerings add significantly to their overall learning experience.
- 364 Please protect a primary purpose and strength of magnet schools by utilizing special, attractive programs to diversify schools. If special, magnet-type programs are placed in already strong suburban schools, the purpose of magnets will die and the whole school system will suffer. Please do not make drastic changes to our already successful magnet system.

365 I anticipate that the upcoming magnet review will show less growth for base students at magnet than is desirable. I expect that will lead to some pressure to eliminate their diversifying purpose and simply open up magnets to provide "expanded educational opportunities" in affluent schools closer to affluent homes. I think this would be a mistake. While one might argue that resources can be concentrated in and focused on low achieving students at racially isolated, high poverty neighborhood schools, or even that low achieving students will get more attention in such schools, schools without affluent parents are likely to lose "extra resources" to claims of "fairness" by affluent parents, so long-term bets on high poverty schools are risky. It would take a strong Board and superintendent to resist these forces over time, and even a strong Board and superintendent might fail to address them satisfactorily if affluent students start to feel that too many resources are devoted to this purpose and begin to opt out—with an overabundance of school dollars—to affluent charters like Endeavor, Magellan, Exploris, and Raleigh Charter.

366 I think that more of the magnet type courses should be offered at non magnet schools, such as languages and more arts programs. This is especially true at the middle school level. I think most elementary schools and high schools offer a good variety of programs that are not as varied as the magnet schools, but offer students good variety. But at the middle school level, there seems to be a big difference in the electives offered. All middle schools need to offer languages (at least two different languages) and more arts programs. This can be done without competing with magnet middle schools.

367 I have been extremely satisfied with our Magnet schools. For the past 10 years since my children have been educated in them. It's been a great experience for them to be in classrooms with so much diversity and prepared them well to be citizens of the world extending friendships to all.

- 368 The magnet programs have prepared my children academically to be successful. They have prepared my children socially for the diverse world they live in.
- 369 I love the magnet programs but you need more magnet school
- 370 I work for the public school system and face families on a regular basis that would like to have more magnet options in our area. They apply for other magnet programs, but there are few seats for western area families. More specialized schools could make a difference in Wake County.
- 371 As a teacher and a parent, I am very concerned that with "proximity" choice many of the magnets that are not "AG" magnets will become segregated once again. I already see that happening in the schools my children attend and in the school that I teach. I love the way magnets were set up to provide diversity.
- 372 Last year, Farmington Woods was ranked the #1 IB Elementary school in the nation. This is a thriving and very diverse community. I would like for WCPSS to look at what is working with WCPSS schools which have received such recognition and carry this into other Wake County schools. I would also like to see Farmington Woods remain a Magnet school.
- 373 It would be great to have magnet options in western wake, Cary in particular. All of the magnet schools that were offered to us seem to be in Raleigh. quite far away.
- 374 I have 2 children at Powell, 1 at Carnage, 1 at Enloe HS. They are all AG and have been able to meet their academic needs through public school, we haven't had to move to enroll them in specialized University schools. Thank you!!!!
- 375 Please Don't take away our magnet school!
- 376 Under-enrolled schools should be considered for magnet programs, not just those in high poverty areas. Baileywick would do great as a magnet. We need to attract more families.
- 377 The IB program has made a world of difference in the education and international-mindedness of my child. It is an awesome program that is the best way to learn for all children. Please keep this program.

378 I believe the magnet schools are key to keeping schools academically/economically balanced and allowing Wake County, as a whole, to grow and maintain an high standard of living. Additionally, magnets help attract student who might otherwise attend private schools.

379 They should not be so incestuous. A student's sibling should not be given priority in the magnet system. It severely limits availability to others in wcdss.

380 I strongly believe that admission to the magnet system should be equal for all students in the county. We are all paying taxes to support the extended magnet curriculum and resources, therefore we should all have equal opportunity to attend one. I have been applying to magnet schools for my 11th grader since 3rd grade and my 5th grader since KG and neither have ever gotten a seat. I also feel that students should not be guaranteed magnet placement at the 6th and 9th grade levels. I feel that their names should back into the lottery pool with everyone else and maybe give others an opportunity to take advantage of those resources. It's terribly unfair that only a small percentage of the student population get in and then they are guaranteed those resources throughout their entire school careers. I can see how this is important for regular schools, but I don't think magnets should work that way.

381 We are extremely satisfied with the educational opportunities our children are offered at Smith. We feel very lucky to have our children attend the primary years programme and look forward to having them continue on in the middle school and high school programs, as well.

382 n/a

383 We have repeatedly entered the application process to get our children into magnet schools, but have not been successful. I don't really understand why kids who were in magnet elementary schools get automatic preference for magnet middle schools. It seems to me that it would be more fair to make it a equal process for all applicants, regardless of your elementary school. It would allow more children to get a magnet school experience.

384 One of the things I have always enjoyed about my children's magnet school is the diversity among peers they have been privileged to experience. There magnet school is a microcosm of Wake County and the United States as a whole. I am concerned that altering the magnet programs is going to have far-reaching effects, some that might be readily identified and other effects that might not be realized for years.

385 My children graduated Enloe. Leadership, Health and Athletics should be a part of every school!

386 I don't believe that public school funds should be used to give some children more educational opportunities than others. This is a LOTTERY for educational opportunities - how can this exist?

387 Please keep Wake County's magnet program vibrant and strong. We should be proud of everything the magnets have accomplished for the system. We've been fortunate to see kids inspired and challenged every day at school. This is worth working for and funding!

388 Until all schools successfully educate all children to a minimal level, magnet programs should be put on hold. We are spending too much money to benefit the few, at the expense of the many.

389 I am a parent of both kids in traditional and magnet schools. I cannot emphasize enough how vital the magnet program is to our community. Being in the environment of magnet schools is invigorating and enlightening. Working w/parents of all cultures and socioeconomic status to reach the needs of all kids is the perfect plan for our county. Also, my kids are better citizens because of their diverse experiences in the magnet program. Please continue to lift up this wonderful program..it benefits everyone.

390 The only issue I have is that it makes schools without magnet programs unattractive. We've recently been designated as a STEM - but with the competition we have it may not be enough. We are competing with private and magnet schools and live in an area with a shrinking base and affluent parents who are very intentional about educating their children. Magnet schools are drawing away those kinds of involved parents from our schools. The other issue is that the assignment plan has some unintended consequences - of people who are happy with their elementary school- transferring out because they are worried about their middle and high school assignments. Davis Drive has less socioeconomic diversity due to their early busing schedule and their location - so their scores look better and they are perceived to be better - using an early start schedule to keep kids from being bused in is not a good thing.

391 These programs are an integral part of WCPSS as a present, past, and future. From observation at our particular magnet school, a program such as ours takes much creativity and flexibility by staff to support elective programs while teaching the core curriculum standards, all the while valuing differentiated instruction for ALL levels of student. I am always amazed at the low staff/teacher turn over rate at our school given the amount of juggling they do, which says a lot about a program, staff, and school!!

392 My child spent his first year in a non-magnet school. It has been amazing how he has thrived since changing to the magnet program. By offering alternative educational programs, magnet schools provide places for kids who learn outside the box.

- 393 I am opposed to the magnet program - it is a very unfair distribution of resources. Students inside the beltline get the "cake" with close-by special programs while students outside the beltline get the "crumbs". Why should LMMS offer one-hundred electives while WLMS only offers five? My children were never selected for AG/IB magnet programs so I had to pull them out of WCPSS to get a decent education.
- 394 It would be nice if there were year-round magnet options. We love the year round schedule but are considering Magnet middle school, which mean then our children would be on different schedules or we have to change the younger kids out of year round.
- 395 The recently implemented stability in school assignments is a huge factor giving parents and students a new-found feeling of security. It's fear of the unknown that has had so many people in turmoil for so long!
- 396 Magnet schools make the Wake County Schools unique. It is an effective way to address capacity issues.
- 397 When I see other regions of the country with high poverty inner city schools and compare them with Raleigh's downtown schools, I am grateful for the magnet program and the way it helps to keep all of our schools strong, not just the ones in the affluent areas. I do not understand those who are calling for "magnet" programs to be established in such areas.
- 398 I feel that my son has received a wonderful opportunity by being in a Magnet program. His transition this year from elementary into middle school has been a great one. I was concerned witht he workload at first, but the way the classes rotate with only 4 per day, he has been able to maintain quite well and improved grades from that in whcih he received atthe elementary level. EMMMS has a great staff and they are good at what they do.

399 My children have been (and continue to be) better educated as a result of the magnet programs. In addition to the academic challenges they have received in the classroom, they have grown significantly through the arts programs offered through the Magnet system. However, perhaps the greatest benefit has been the fact that they attend school with segments of the population from whom they would have been isolated. This has afforded us the opportunity to have family discussions about many aspects of life in the world. My husband and I and our four children are grateful for all that Wake County has provided through the magnet program.

400 I am waiting school assignment for my son. I am a new Wake County resident. The Magnets haven't really interested me, as I feel the traditional schools are good. However, maybe by High School, my opinion may change as my son's interests and talents develop. I think that Magnet Programs should be offered in all High Schools rather than schools that all attract the exact same type of student. I think there is a lot of benefit of a traditional High School experience, but that school should then have special programs.

401 n/a

402 My children attended the "neighborhood" school in Apex and we transferred to a Magnet. I can not tell you how wonderful the magnet school is and what it has done for my kids. The diversity in the student population has led to a wonderful accepting and warm environment. The dedication of the parents and teachers is amazing. The electives have helped my children gain confidence, they can get up and speak in front of a group and talk to adults without any hesitation and such confidence and respect. I credit this to the electives like drama, chorus, etc. They know the whole school since electives mix between age groups. The school is a wonderful positive community. The administration at Washington Elementary is unbelievable, kind, warm, caring, and dedicated to the kids. I live in Apex and my kids go to Raleigh and could not be happier with our elementary school.

- 403 Increasing the number of magnet schools just because people don't want to drive their children further to school is not a good reason to increase the number.
- 404 Languages are important! We should offer them earlier and in more variety at all schools. A high school that only offers Spanish, French, and Latin is simply not forward thinking.
- 405 Zebulon Elementary is a wonderful school. The elective choices allow students to shine and excel in many areas. I would like to see Zebulon increase its use of technology but they are an older school. Technology funds are used to maintain current programs not expand them at the same rate as newer schools. A technology audit across the district would be beneficial to allow for equity. The equal lump sum given to all schools does not equate equity. Even with the limited technology resources the teachers do an excellent job incorporating technology the best that they can to allow our students to be competitive in later years. My experience as an educator and parent has been very rewarding due to the Magnet program and the opportunities it offers my students and children.
- 406 I don't understand how you could take a school that won Top IB Magnet school in the COUNTRY and punish it by reducing the number of magnet students and possibly jeopardizing its magnet status!!!!!!
- 407 Its a great program. Please don't screw it up.
- 408 We love the program at AB Combs. We are fortunate to be involved in it and feel that the inexpensive approach to character education can be done elsewhere. But it requires strong leadership from the District and the School. We are fortunate to have both in Wake County and especially at AB Combs. Thank you to Ms. Summers for her incredible energy and passion.
- 409 Get rid of magnets. Expensive, elitist and not available to all. Get rid of the new leadership academies.

- 410 The arts are lost. What will kids write about or compute mathematically if creativity is removed. Art, like math is a discipline not a subject. Art should be paired with a subject matter like social studies or science not just the teaching of art like techniques. Art is creative thinking and should have deep veins running through each subject matter.
- 411 My family loves the IB program at FWES. The teachers and staff are wonderful and the additional programs (language, etc.) are great for AIG identified kids. Both kids were AIG identified in first grade and FWES has done a wonderful job fulfilling their IEPs. All schools should have this funding for AIG to ensure this population has the educational opportunities they need.
- 412 I would like to see a middle school option in Cary as a magnet school. Because I have kids at Farmington Woods Elementary, I think a great fit would be taking their feeder middle school, West Cary, and converting it to an IB magnet school as well. That would boost the magnet population of FWES as well as give a magnet option for middle school in Cary, as we would already feed into that school. If you look at West Cary's feeder pattern, it does not just go to 1 high school - it goes to 3 which I thought defeats the point of having a feeder pattern - these kids will not be staying together anyway! It is a start adding STEM to East Cary but the year-round option in middle school is not very popular. If it was converted to traditional, I would be interested in the STEM program for my kids. Please consider an IB magnet middle school option that will enrich the children from the #1 magnet school in the nation, Farmington Woods!!!

413 I've heard great things about the magnet programs. Yet, I don't think there is enough information about how magnet programs and methods are being used to influence the broader school system to become better. Clearly, there is a demand for magnet schooling. Why can't some of the insights about what is working within the magnets -- be clearly translated for the benefit of the public schools at large. If this is happening, then its not very well explained to parents on how their schools are getting better because of what is learned at the magnet school programs. If the only reason magnets are in demand is because of greater resources, then I would argue that we are wasting a valuable opportunity to experiment and use magnets to actually prove/disprove better ways of learning (which is resource neutral) so that ALL Wake County schools can benefit from what is learned. Sincerely, Mr. Sanjay Joshi 919-866-1496

414 Feeder patterns for magnet programs are important. Kids who go to Ligon and Carnage for the AG Basics program are, for the most part, not attending just for the magnet program of the middle schools, but so they can progress to Enloe's programs and style of learning. Some may prefer to return to their base for high school (which should be allowed), but those who wish to continue in the type of education they have chosen should get priority to continue to Enloe. The AG Basics program has been exactly what my kids needed. Please do not be afraid to keep the AG Basics programs. They offer an opportunity for some kids who felt completely out of place in traditional programs to feel included and accepted and free to reach their potential. I hope that your focus groups include parents who know and like the magnets. There seems to be some suspicion and even contempt for the magnets in some circles, and I would like to see the magnets treated fairly.

415 Magnets are an integral part of the success of WCPSS and make ALL schools in the county healthier. The only drawback to them is the busing past multiple other schools but it's necessary to ensure diverse schools throughout the county. The lower socio-economic groups that are bused out of their neighborhood benefit by having a different set of expectations and standards applied to them than they would if they went to school with a very large F&R lunch ratio. It has helped the suburban school students by enriching their population and exposing them to those with a different background. It has helped the inner city as some stay in their neighborhood school but they then have the benefit of it being diverse and offering a specialized program they can take advantage of; and the 'suburban' kids that are bused in from the outer edges of the county get a chance not just for a good Wake County education but a world class education through magnet programs.

416 it is obvious to everyone by wcpss that the greatest need is more GT & AG schools to provide adequate differentiation to serve all students with increased needs, without disadvantaging parents -- put some GT/AG schools where the AG kids live -- no one can get into Martin -- VERY DISSATISFIED

417 How in the world can the school honored as the best magnet elementary school in the country be reduced to third-tier? IF anything Farmington Woods should be given more resources from the county not less

418 It seems that creating/maintaining Magnet schools is the best way to ensure that we have diverse schools across the county. I hope that Wake County will continue nurture and create more of these programs.

419 I think the magnet program is a shining jewel of the Wake County Public School system and achieves the three very important stated objectives well

- 420 Overall, I have been very impressed with the Wake County Public School System magnet program. I would like to see more of an emphasis on Chinese, Portuguese, and Hindi language immersion programs to ensure that we are preparing our children to work in the world, the best of our ability. We need to have a clear path for children to learn these languages from elementary school through high school. Furthermore, through the increased use of Montessori methods and modern technology, I believe that we can continue to make strides in providing our children with the strongest foundation possible. Mentoring and internship programs should also be a larger part of the magnet program education as well. This will great help all of our kids--from all backgrounds--to understand their career choices and what they can truly achieve and become. It is a great way to provide guidance to our diverse student population in Wake County. Moreover, we need to expand the number of magnet programs in the district to provide more magnet opportunities for those families willing to take on the challenge of improving diversity while supporting a rigorous
- 421 They are extremely valuable and necessary to raise kids to be competitive in the workforce.
- 422 Please don't allow the choice program to undermine what had been an exceptional magnet program.
- 423 Would like to keep Magnet program as it is valuable to Wake county's attraction. Additional resources must be provided to Magnet schools since they deal with poor students.
- 424 I would like to see more Japanese program offered.
- 425 The magnet programs certainly provide an enriched experience within WCPSS, however, they are not available to everyone - many who apply do not get in, therefore, the efforts of the magnet system to "reduce high concentrations of poverty and encourage diversity" are not always achieved, leaving many to wonder about the fairness of the system.

- 426 There is not uniformity across the district; i.e., foreign languages, bands, and the issuing of personal laptop computers to students. Offering should extend to all schools. We attend schools within our "base" area, to keep busing costs down and to allow my children to go to school close to home and to feel a part of their community. It does seem they are at a disadvantage when looking at what others children their age are able to participate in/receive from magnet programs, especially those who will be attending Hilburn, 2 miles from
- 427 Our children are thriving at Wiley, and we have been thrilled with the opportunities they have had to experience other cultures, to be challenged with foreign languages, and to take responsibility for changing classes, starting with kindergarten. The variety they experience there, both as part of the educational curriculum and as a result of the diverse student body, is a strong foundation for the international world of graduate education and work they will ultimately compete in as adults.
- 428 Magnet programs should be geographically distributed throughout the county so as to allow all students to have reasonable access to them. It's absurd that some students (ahem, ITB) can get to an assign magnet school in 15 minutes, and others have to spend a couple of hours on a school bus. In addition, to the extent that magnets exist to reduce concentrations of poverty, they should not be placed in affluent areas, as a couple of ITB magnets are.
- 429 It is disgraceful that in these difficult economic times, the WCPSS has lost millions of dollars in magnet school funds due to the abandonment of the socio-economic diversity policy. Keep our magnet programs strong! These schools offer a REAL CHOICE to parents, and increase overall efficiency for WCPSS.

- 430 It is ridiculous to offer electives such as Japanese, dance, etc. until all Wake County schools have a technology teacher paid for by the county. The inequities at magnets vs nonmagnets are unbelievable. My child's school had classes of 35 kids. The neighboring magnet school was given 2 FT teachers to teach a class deemed too large for one teacher. That class did not even have 30 kids in it. De-magnetize some schools and use those funds to help the other less fortunate schools. AND PE programs do not need Wiis. What a waste of money. You pay PE teachers to get the kids up and moving-not technology.
- 431 Our children have attended both magnet and traditional schools over the years. We have thrown our support toward whichever schools we land in with generally positive outcomes. We believe firmly that the primary goal of the magnet system, to reduce high concentrations of poverty and support diversity, is a most important one for WCPSS. The system needs to reaffirm this value and get back on track in thinking about best practice for education (and quit spinning its wheels on gimmicks and politics).
- 432 Magnet schools provide opportunities for students that the majority of students would not be able to access outside of school. In addition to the standard curriculum, students have the opportunity to discover other talents, strengths, interests and skills. Since children are our future, we need magnet programs to nurture and develop abilities that academics alone cannot.
- 433 The track to middle and HS for magnet students should be optional and not mandatory - a student should be able to change back to their base track at these times. School options only work if transportation is convenient for the magnet students and needs to be re-evaluated at these times.
- 434 We are very happy with the opportunities to participate in school population diversity created by the Magnet programs.

435 There should be a true magnet choice in the Zebulon area. The magnet elementary and the magnet middle are not magnet schools. They are more like jokes. And you have made it almost impossible for our kids to go to the schools in Raleigh to get the true magnet education. FIX IT

436 I think the magnets worked well when parents were not forced to stay in them. When we entered the magnet program, it was under the premise that we could return to base if we needed to. Since we were providing our own transportation from Apex to downtown Raleigh and didn't know if we could continue to do that for several years, that was critical to our decision to accept a magnet. In addition, we had no intention of continuing at a magnet beyond elementary school but the new assignment plan made that choice for us. Given the difficulty people had getting into a choice school at sixth grade, we chose to move our daughter in fifth grade so she would be on the same feeder pattern as our neighborhood. This was a crummy choice for us since it removed her from the elementary school she was familiar with for her last year, and the only school option we had was the one furthest from our home that no one from the neighborhood attends. She will now be spending fifth grade at a school where she knows no one to avoid being stuck on a magnet feeder for middle school. I believe that taking away the option to return to base and putting kids in

437 We have been very happy with Brooks Elementary and feel the WCPSS magnet programs are essential to a strong WCPSS and to making Wake County attractive for newcomers.

438 Both of my children have attended IB-themed magnet programs. I think that value of the IB program, to focus on community, values, and incorporate learning into a global perspective provides for a more aware and focused child.

439 We started to attend Wiley Elementary to expose our child to a diverse cultural background and have her learn Mandarin. While Wiley is very diverse, the language program has not met our expectations and we do not feel our child has learned Mandarin and has lost the skills she had in preschool. If Magnet programs are to be put in place for specific programs, there should be money and curriculums to follow to make this successful.

440 I originally considered placing my child in a magnet school, but it was too far to travel to. I wanted my child to go to the local neighborhood school which, sadly, does not offer any special programs.

441 I think magnets are a critical tool for helping to not only fill our downtown and struggling schools, but to keep them viable with a wide range of parent and teacher support. When schools are too heavily weighted with low income families, they lack the extra support in time, involvement, and money that more balanced schools have. Also, even good teachers get frustrated and leave to work at a school that doesn't have as many challenges, thus further weakening the school. It then becomes a vicious cycle... Magnets are not for everyone, but they serve multiple purposes.

442 I would like to see the benefits of the magnet programs be more easily accessible to all of the schools. I think that if we pumped all of the money more equally into the schools and had more money money put into schools in poverty areas then everyone would want to attend the schools closest to them. I would even be okay in the beginning having more money pumped into the more poverty stricken areas to get everyone on the same playing field.

443 As a former teacher in an IB School, I really love IB. While there are not a lot of double magnet schools in the county, I think that an IB school could also function very well as a language immersion school. I am former MS IB Spanish teacher and my students that came from the dual language program at Joyner ES performed very well in the Language B courses.

- 444 After all our school system has been through it would be a disgrace to dissolve our magnet program. Thank you!
- 445 It's great that our child can study Chinese 4 days a week at Wiley- a very difficult language that must be started in elementary school. We just need WCPSS to provide continuity in teachers- 3 teachers in our child's 3 years means inconsistent teaching and learning. They start over every year. Also, Chinese should be provided more widely in middle and high schools, and to more elementary kids than can attend our little school. I perceive a demand for it.
- 446 My child is a student at Wiley ES. She's had a wonderful experience this year (in Kindergarten). What concerns me is the lack of classroom space for all instructors. For example, the Japanese language instructor pushes a cart from classroom to classroom. This is unfortunate because it limits the students' exposure to the language (i.e. materials posted on the wall) and diminishes the value of the instructor. As Wiley offers daily language instructor I feel it is critical that these teachers have the support of the administration with regards to their physical classroom environment. These teachers deserve to have a place to call their own. Without one, I believe there will be more turnover. I know that Wiley is an "old" school and space is a challenge. Within the magnet program, emphasis on a basic need, such as dedicated classroom space, is needed.
- 447 I did not see Enloe on the list and I have a child there as well. I believe the magnet program is essential to raising well balanced kids.

448 Some of the magnet programs seem to overlap, for example Science and Tech, AG Basics, and G&T have core commonalities. Immersion and IB would be another example. I'd suggest streamlining and combining the number of different magnet programs and instead have multiple schools that meet that criteria. That might allow give greater flexibility for teacher hires and a better chance for parents to get the type of school they select. They might not get their 1st IB school choice, but could possibly get the second. Early College offers some unique advantages, but it's unclear the net difference between early college and either taking a lot of AP courses or even the practice of placing out of courses available at many universities.

449 The reason I oppose the objective of "Reducing high concentrations of poverty and supporting diversity" in magnet schools is because the economically disadvantaged (ED) base students do not succeed at magnet schools. For example, Enloe has a lower ED student passing rate than the ED district average and ED state average. I also think the funding of more resources for a select few non economically disadvantaged (NED) students at magnet schools is NOT fair. Entrance to a magnet school should be earned by demonstrating gifts/talents in specific elective areas (e.g., academics, arts etc.) or by true lottery (regardless of income, location, or race) for a school catering to a particular interest that cannot be measured (e.g., Montessori).

450 Magnet programs are a unique opportunity for student development. I think magnet programs should not be part of the feeder pattern and should allow students transitioning to middle and high schools to explore all magnet options to reflect their growth, talents and strengths. My daughter is certainly not the same kid as she was in kindergarten and her passions are just being discovered. However, her feeder school will not allow her to fully explore these, perhaps stifling her growth in many areas.

- 451 The IB curriculum teaches children not only about the world, but stresses the impact each individual can make. This is vital to becoming adults who care about the world and strive to make a difference.
- 452 We need more STEM programs that's integrated with a language. I believe there is a tie between a language and math/science especially since we operate in a Global economy.
- 453 Thanks for asking for input.
- 454 Our experience at Daniels was wonderful; we are happy to have had such a wonderful middle years education for our older two. We do have some wonderful teachers at Dillard but the level of expectation and the control of the environment is totally different and disappointing.
- 455 I would like to see a magnet that focuses on integrating the core classes and involves more project work.
- 456 All elementary magnets should feed to magnet middle schools. To do otherwise is a detriment to the parents who participate and the school trying to maintain national standards.
- 457 We have loved the magnet program at Martin. The elective choices have been fabulous.
- 458 I have loved the Magnet programs. My daughter has attended Hunter, Ligon and now Enloe. She has received a wonderful education along with her interests. Having AG classes and performing arts was a perfect fit!
- 459 Moved here in 06 and have been thrilled with my childrens' educations! We were in an AG magnet before we came and so we continued on that track. The diversity issue was a huge bonus for us; I enjoy volunteering in our school communities and feel like I am can really make a difference with my time (and money). Our experience in Wake FAR EXCEEDS what we had in Fairfax County, Virginia.
- 460 Provide additional training in order to school based coordinators in order to better market the program. Train more teachers and administrators. A teacher needs to be a distinguished teacher in order to teach magnet curriculum

- 461 I highly value the IB Program at Farmington Woods and would be surprised and alarmed if the school were to lose that program. Farmington Woods was named best magnet school in the country last year, and the IB program plays an important role there.
- 462 attendance at magnet schools should be by application only, with no local "base"
- 463 We are so pleased with the magnet program. It's wonderful that the students get an opportunity to learn and explore classes that they would not get in a traditional public school. I also like the diversity of families.
- 464 love the programs - should maintain diversity as a component. also, might look at entrance criteria to programs - might draw more students b/c of the elite nature of the programs.
- 465 We thought learning Spanish would be supported at Farmington Woods and our children would learn quite a bit and be excited about it. We have 4 children attending and the school does not support learning Spanish. The program should be deleted if it is not going to be supported by the principal and the teachers. Thank you.
- 466 Have teachers who are certified and curriculum should offer more practical and workforce related programs as early as 4th and 5th grade rather than just academic focus. Need for kids to have field trips which should include other than historic sites, visit to a factory, office, R&D labs, and other day to day trips including maybe the local farmers market.
- 467 I love year round schools. I understand why high schools have a harder time with the year round schedule, but truly wish we could have more modified year round calendars for high schools.

468 Having been a part of WCPSS since 1995, I think it is critical at this time to be FISCALLY responsible. It is also critical to understand that the IB program is different from the other magnet designations as it CANNOT be treated like a chess piece that can be moved from one school to another. There is HUGE financial investment in this program that takes a minimum of 4 years to see any results as well as millions of tax payer dollars. It is an academic strong hold once accreditation is achieved. Past decisions on magnet removal have NOT considered the investment nor the program. If other job skills training opportunities with equipment needs were a part of the magnet program, they would need to be considered much like the IB program if the equipment is not easily portable. Thank you for your efforts to make WCPSS a stellar learning environment for both college bound and career bound students.

469 Our children have benefited greatly not just from the expanded programs they have had access to through the magnet programs but also from the enhanced diversity in their schools. I hope that maintaining balance and diversity in schools continues to be an important mission of the magnet programs as it moves forward.

470 The magnetic schools are the pride and joy of the Wake County School System. With so many people of diverse backgrounds living in the Triangle, it is imperative to offer these enriching programs. We have a responsibility to ALL children to provide the best possible education to prepare them for a global world. The magnet programs are our answer to that - until we can get all Wake County Schools up to the same high standards of education, which should be our ultimate goal.

471 We are so thrilled with Douglas Elm. It is an awesome school. Dr. Sivey and her teaching staff are so thoughtful, dedicated, fun and are giving our children a wonderful education. My kids love going to school everyday and I am always recommending this school to others.

- 472 In this new system of "choice" rather than "nodes", we need to emphasize that ALL of our schools are desirable for their own reasons. Some parents, myself included, choose not to attend a magnet school. I think they magnet schools are valuable to the system, but we cannot lose sight of the majority of our schools, which are not magnet. A school does not need a specialized curriculum to be considered "special" or "unique". At the end of the day, all students need a high quality education, and we need to ensure that each of Wake County's schools will deliver.
- 473 I really like the electives offered at magnet schools, especially the academically gifted and arts.
- 474 My sons attended Martin Middle School because it was our base school. I think the GT Magnet has been useless to anyone who is not into music or dance. Eight classes were too many per day, especially with 3 "easy A" electives. I would have preferred that my children had 6 classes a day: 4 core classes, PE and a foreign language. More time in the core classes would have been more helpful than classes like Solar Race Cars or Robo Lab.
- 475 Magnet programs are the best education WCPSS is providing.
- 476 I would like to see more magnet programs offered outside of the city of Raleigh, in other parts of Wake County, especially for middle and high schools. I realize diversity is an objective. Where I live (Morrisville) there is a lot of international diversity, I think more magnet schools should be placed in the Cary/Morrisville area.
- 477 We love the magnet system and hope that it will continue to receive strong support from Wake County. If the magnet system were to be watered down, we probably would leave for private school.

478 Although I really like the magnet program 2 of my  
4 children attend I would like to see a realistic  
transportation system to serve the magnet  
schools along with the more traditional schools.  
The lack of transportation is causing a logistical  
challenge for my family and the new choice  
program does not allow me to return to my base  
school. I would like all of my children to attend  
the same school. Also I do not necessarily want to  
remain in the magnet feeder pattern as this  
would only continue to exacerbate the challenges  
for me and my family.

479 The magnet programs make WCPSS unique and  
should keep these programs going.

480 I think magnet schools are particularly good at  
the Middle School level. They offer electives that  
give kids a chance to explore and help "find"  
themselves during this transitional time. I  
particularly like the approach at GT magnets,  
where each child is considered to have a  
gift/talent (not just AG kids) and it is up to the  
teachers to help discover what that gift is. More  
children should be given an opportunity to go to  
magnet schools at the middle and high school  
level. I truly hope that you don't demagnetize any  
schools, especially with rising K, 6, and 9 students  
just having selected those and now essentially  
"locked in" at schools.

481 I think the magnet programs are great but I  
wonder sometimes if it wouldn't be more  
beneficial for all students in the district to have  
equal opportunity to the great programs.

482 As a Spanish teacher for WCPSS, it was very  
important to me for my child to receive foreign  
language instruction in elementary school. Our  
base school did not offer any kind of foreign  
language, so we were very excited to be accepted  
into the magnet program at Joyner.

- 483 It would be great to offer the same level of resources currently at magnet schools to all other schools. It seems like some of the current magnet schools are no longer in areas that were once pockets of socioeconomic depression, and therefore don't necessarily benefit any diversification of local population. It can be heartbreaking to see how incredible the magnet schools are when compared with the lack of resources at non-magnet schools. Re-evaluation is definitely needed for what the schools are supposed to do, and what they actually do. I love the benefits available, but I really do wish that they were equally available to everyone in Wake County. For those schools so popular that they recieved two or three times the number of applications as there are spaces, I think it is time to consider a straight-up lottery for seats, rather than relying on neighborhood or "node" student performance. We got into a great magnet school thanks in large part to the great scores of neighborhood students, but I don't think it was fair. It would be better to give every child who wanted to go to a school the same chance, especially if there is such high demand for the
- 484 We do not like the express bus program and have considered a change of schools simply because of that. We also dislike the feeder pattern available for our son. The feeder high school is about twice as far as his middle school, yet he goes there before being dropped off about five miles away from home. We had hoped the "choice" program would fix that. No longer having base schools also concern us. We went into the magnet system to give our son more options but now it seems to be to his detriment, especially since he will no longer be able to attend the high school where, coincidentally, his express bus now drops him off.
- 485 I think it is important to use magnet resources to draw affluent students to high poverty areas.

486 There are no magnet programs in the Wake Forest area. When we were picking out schools for my child to attend next year that was very surprising. We live in a low-performing node and would love the opportunity for magnet schools however I can't see driving so far for my child to attend.

487 I am disappointed that there are no high schools in wake forest that are magnet.

488 "Question" #6 is not actually a question, and therefore, should not end in a question mark. ("6. Please indicate the city or town you reside in?")

489 Resources for top notch education should be at all schools - not just magnets. Current geographic location of magnet schools needs to be expanded - as the county grows it is simply to far to bus some kids (from higher income areas for example north of 540) to various magnet schools. Parents then "choose" to keep kids in non diverse "high achieving" schools (north of 540), since magnets are too far. This has created kind of a "middle zone" of schools that parents don't see as a first choice that are geographically located between the magnet zones and the high achieving schools zones. The schools in this middle zone need to appeal more to parents with unique academic programs. There is some evidence of that, like language immersion at JGES and Hilburn's new structure, but there is public concern that without magnet status these programs could be removed from the schools at any time.

490 those waitng lists make the programs uncertain

491 We are strong supporters of the Magnet Program and believe the magnet schools create an important balance with diversity in our schools!

492 The magnets offer so much more that they are worth the extra bus ride down town.

493 I think arts education is extremely important-- many jobs now and in the future will require creative thinkers and employees who can apply the arts to business. The jobs that cannot be outsourced are ones that create things.

494 We love the magnet program and are very happy that it is available to our children.

495 I hope that magnets continue with the purpose  
for which they were created, and that the  
"powers that be" do not cave to political pressure  
to put magnets in Apex, Cary and N Raleigh  
where they would clearly not be serving that

purpose

496 I have been highly pleased with the magnet  
program. I love the mixture diversity that I feel all  
kids should experience in life.

497 Absolutely love my school and the Paideia  
principles used to enhance curriculum.

498 I came from a private school background and my  
husband from Europe. We were hesitant to start  
our children in public schools. FWES, however,  
has been wonderful so far. The international  
component is wonderful for our family and we  
are excited about the future AG programs.

499 Family should be allowed choose the Magnet  
program based on family choice not by the home  
address. Trying to get into AG basics since last  
three unable to get a seat for my daughter after  
transfer request, and appeal, all are denied till  
today

500 The Magnet Program is fantastic and sets Wake  
County apart from other school districts. It is a  
great opportunity to draw students to an  
otherwise under-utilized school.

501 The School Board and the transportation department should replace the current bus system with express buses for all magnet routes. Our bus ride is typically close to 1 hr 15min to 1 hr 30 min one-way. Since most bus routes travel the reverse of the run in the afternoon, the kids at the end of the routes typically have a 10 hour day from the time they are picked up to afternoon drop off. Express Routes are also more efficient for the transportation department. The bus picks up at a specific time and typically drops off in the afternoon during a very short 10 minute window. This year we had an express route after many negotiations with the transportation department. Pickup and drop off times are much more consistent and because of this students have shorter wait in the morning and parents have a shorter wait in the afternoon. Our magnet bus route this year was the Mills Park Middle Express Route for Carnage/Enloe. I would suggest getting feedback from the parents.

502 The Magnet Program has been a wonderful program for our family to be a part of. We fully support all the good work done at Brooks Museum Magnet. We plan to send our growing children there in the years to come!

503 please keep the magnet program intact.

504 This is the second survey I have taken with poorly worded questions. I had no idea how to answer the first three questions. What do 1,2 3 stand for?

505 I love the IB program at Farm. Woods for its emphasis on multiculturalism and the variety of electives at Martin. However, some of Martin's electives are little more than filling out a worksheet and thus, a bit of a time-waster. I would be willing to have a few electives removed from schools like Martin if it meant non-magnet schools could get the resources for a few more electives--I know the non-magnet middle schools can be lacking in choices. There shouldn't be that great of a disparity.

506 Perhaps allow changes only every 5 years, or whatever. Nothing sticks long enough to make an impact.

507 I wish more students would be accepted into the magnet program.

- 508 The elementary parents I know have been very pleased with their children's experience. The middle school parents were not as much. Perhaps that is something to look into...what is the attrition rate of magnet middlers back to their proximity schools?
- 509 Too difficult to get into. Need to figure out how to offer some of these programs, such as AG, in a more meaningful/productive way in every school. Because if your child is academically gifted and does not get into a magnet, Wake County is failing them by not offering them these opportunities
- 510 Please do not discontinue the magnet programs. They are absolutely critical to the health of the school system and serve as a competitive edge to private schools. Without them, many more people I know would leave the public school system
- 511 use the magnet funding to enhance instruction at all schools
- 512 I have been thoroughly pleased with our magnet middle school experience and wish our elementary school aged kids were able to get into a magnet program. I am excited about the opportunities offered at Carnage that are not offered at our base middle school.
- 513 Please continue our strong tradition of strong magnet programs.
- 514 I believe in the Magnet programs, and the reasons they were established. We feel strongly that the strength of any school, not just a magnet school lies with the principal and the direction that they take the curriculum and the way they manage their staff and budgets.
- 515 I have been pleased to have school options to better match each of my children with the best school fit. Magnet programs are needed in poorer areas or else you would not attract higher income families. I'm glad that my kids attended diverse schools and experienced excellent programs, such as AB Combs leadership opportunities and Martin's Dance and other electives.
- 516 The current magnet program takes away monies that could be better spent to update technology in all schools.

- 517 Martin Middle school should have AG classes similar to what Carnage Middle School does to provide higher education to AG students.
- 518 IMPORTANT - MAGNET OPTIONS SHOULD BE EQUALLY AVAILABLE TO THE COMMUNITY IN WHICH IT RESIDES - SUCH AS A MAGNET BASE!
- 519 Garner High School does not need to be an IB; it does not match the community and does not serve as a draw for the program at that school. See graduation rates compared to other programs.
- 520 Magnet Schools are vital to the health of the Wake County Public School System. They achieve all the a fore mentioned goals and so much more!
- 521 I also feel that once a child is accepted into magnet programs that their sibling should be given magnet priority. When one child comes home telling their family all about the opportunities available to them and their sibling doesnt have comparisions it makes them feel inferior
- 522 I believe the magnet programs have benefited so many children over the past few decades. I believe it is crucial to keep these programs in place, to support diversity, which begins with elementary school children but also affects our overall community.
- 523 We love Martin and all the choices for electives. Our child has taken band, a foreign language, and other academic electives- math art, astronomy, and oceanography. The choices magnets offer are superior to LMS which is where our child would have gone. It is a longer bus ride, but the benefits far out weigh that.
- 524 The Magnet schools provide a vital source of academic variety and should be maintained or even expanded.
- 525 My children attended magnet schools from K-12. The schools were wonderful and pulled students in from outlying areas thus keeping inner city schools filled and healthy. The magnet program is good for WCPSS, for Wake County, and for all students in the county. Please keep the old saying in mind: "If it isn't broken, don't fix it."

- 526 Have been extremely happy with Magnet Program at Carnage. Feel that regular Wake County curriculum is not rigorous enough but Carnage teachers challenged my children. Strong need to upgrade Wake County Middle School program way to easy for the top 25% of students.
- 527 I understand the reason for the location of magnets. We did not apply because all magnets are just too far away from where we live.
- 528 Please keep decent feeder patterns for magnet schools and keep diversified nodes to balance some areas.
- 529 the magnet schools are just way to far away. the bus rides are ridiculously long
- 530 I would like to see more total immersion language opportunities for middle and high school.
- 531 We feel very fortunate that our son was chosen to attend Washington Magnet Elementary. We love the social diversity as well as the diverse educational opportunities. Since these programs are so popular, would there be a benefit to making these school year round which would allow for more students the opportunity to attend? Please keep the current magnet system intact. Thank you
- 532 I feel like kids that are not in the top 1% or bottom 1% are getting left behind. They aren't challenged and are getting bored b/c the teacher spends more time with the top and bottom 1%.
- 533 I am very pleased to have Powell Elementary as the school for my two children. I am amazed at the electives that my five year old is/will be partaking in, such as Lego robotics and audio/video work. I believe exposing young children to a barrage of educational avenues is the next best thing we can do for them, behind giving them love and respect.

- 534 I believe that the WCPSS magnet programs serve a vital role in education. Diverse educational settings benefit all students. I can support this claim with real educational data unlike Mr. Tedesco who has created unbelievable damage to this school district. This region didn't prepare adequately for the exponential growth it experienced from the early 1990's until the real estate market crash in 2008. Maintain magnet programs and mandate year round schools with families on the same track for multiple children. Jeff Huckel Educational Administrator 919-802-8249
- 535 WCPSS magnet programs are an invaluable asset to the school system. The fact that they assist with diversity AND expose students to programs, topics and ways of learning that they may not be exposed to in a standard school setting, is a fact the school system should never take for granted.
- 536 Magnet programs are one of the things that make WCPSS distinctive. I appreciate the opportunity to choose different school focuses for my child,
- 537 I do not believe they have a place in the district.
- 538 Please keep Brooks as a magnet program. I live in North Raleigh, and this provides a type of learning style that benefits my child.
- 539 Having Magnet options as choices for my children have allowed me to choose an appropriate education for EACH of them as individuals and not trying to send them to the same cookie cutter style of school. One of them would not meet their potential...how would a parent choose wich child would loose out? Not even an issue with magnet options. THANK YOU!
- 540 Please protect, preserve and continue to expand this vital part of our education system. The magnet program has wide support in the community and is very important as we strive to meet the needs of all of the children that we educate in Wake County.

- 541 It has been said to see the GT magnet electives cut at the elementary school both my children attended. It looks to me like parents now apply to Washington Elementary as a "route to Enloe" rather than for the programs that were so exciting several years ago, when it was selected as the #1 Magnet School in America. How can that level of achievement be maintained when cuts are so profound? They now offer fewer elective periods in a day, fewer opportunities for foreign language, fewer elective choices overall, and even the magnificent tradition of the school play has been reduced to a 5th grade performance. Time must be spent teaching to prepare kids for EOG's and the magnet offerings and the diversity of options the children were offered in order to expand their learning has been boiled down to whatever might end up needing to be "bubbled in" on a scan-tron sheet in May. What a waste.
- 542 We love the magnet program at Underwood. The teachers and elective offerings are awesome and have allowed our daughter to thrive!
- 543 My children have received a great education from Wake County Magnet Schools. They have attended Fuller, Carnage, and Enloe. Yes they had longer bus rides, but the expended resources for the arts and AP classes were and are worth it. Please do not destroy one of the best aspects of Wake County Schools!
- 544 We love the opportunities our children have to learn about the other cultures and how fortunate they are to learn a foreign language starting at such a young age. This is very important for our young children to learn the differences and similarities of people all over the world.
- 545 We need more, better staffed, and better funded schools, both magnet and non-magnet schools alike. This region draws high skilled workers who make the triangle what it is and we demand that our public schools keep up. It is time for wealthier citizens and corporations to start paying their fair share in investing in the high quality education of our youth.

- 546 I hope changes with the WCPSS do not adversely affect the Magnet school program. Magnet schools allow children exposure to expanded course offerings and diverse populations.
- 547 We love A.B. Combs and the leadership curriculum.
- 548 Magnet schools offer unique learning experiences for our children. Parents should have magnet options to find the best learning environment for their child.
- 549 My son has been in the magnet program since kindergarten, the experience and opportunities he has been given has been great. He has been able to take electives, participate in music, drama and also has taken a foreign language. Some of these things are not available in the base schools. The magnet schools have great diversity and has given my child a broader outlook and given him a chance to make friends with children from all races and cultures.
- 550 I feel there is a strong need to provide AG schools for the Northern portion of the county. None of the students that applied from our area were admitted due to their non-proximity to the program sites (downtown Raleigh). As a result, several of us are moving our AG children out of Wake Co. "regular" offerings and into a Charter Schools where they will get the additional educational opportunities and experiences to challenge them to their potential. Wake Co. "regular" schools are losing bright students and involved parents due to this short-coming of appropriate resources and their allocation.
- 551 can you bring magnet ideals into year round schools. all kids should have some magnet experience in their schools.
- 552 Please be careful about taking away magnet programs from existing magnet schools. This could have many unintended consequences.
- 553 The magnet program helped my son realize that other kids were as smart as he was.
- 554 Magnets provide a great sense of community. They allow parents and students to find a good fit for the students needs.

- 555 We would like to see the magnet schools continue in Wake County. Farmington Woods IB has offered a wonderful learning opportunity for our child and she is thriving there.
- 556 My child is a base student who has really benefited from the magnet program at his school. Having the opportunity to take a foreign language since kindergarten has been a great experience for him. While he has struggled with reading and writing in English, he has excelled at learning to speak another language, which has been a great boost to his confidence. I think that the opportunity to choose from such an amazing variety of electives has allowed my child to try out lots of different activities and subjects, as well as helped us boost his self-esteem with electives in which he feels comfortable, confident and successful.
- 557 I would like to see a magnet program closer to Holly Springs
- 558 These are wonderful programs that need to continue to be supported by the district.
- 559 I adore the magnet program, even though it means long bus rides for my kids; I believe they have been exposed to programs - foreign language, orchestra -- that they would not have received at our local school
- 560 We have been so pleased with the success our children have achieved at Fuller and Carnegie. The programs (GT and AG) are excellent, as are the administration and staff. We fully support the magnet program and its objectives, especially the goal to reduce high poverty schools and support diversity. We feel that Wake County and its public school system is strengthened by the magnet program.
- 561 Even through all the mess of WCPSS. Powell has provided excellent programs for my son. He has learned to read music and has a positive approach to life. Thanks to his teachers and the staff who have instilled in him that it is about him. His self esteem is high and he knows who he is.

- 562 WCPSS has consistently stated that one of its primary objectives is to provide equal educational opportunities to all students. Magnet schools, with their specialized and exclusive curricula, promote the polar opposite. Why are students at a magnet elementary school given the resources to learn a foreign language, for example, when other students don't have that opportunity at traditional schools? The magnet program should be abolished and their resources spread equally throughout all schools.
- 563 I have had 4 children attend Farmington Woods Elementary School as Magnet students. They have had an exceptional elementary education and enjoyed programs and experiences that are part of the IB program. I think it would be a shame for Farmington Woods to lose this Magnet program especially since it is often ranked as one of the top schools in the country.
- 564 We are very pleased with A.B. Combs Leadership Program and feels it offers great learning and leadership skills that will benefit our child and others. Principal and teachers are especially dedicated to the role that the school plays in the community.
- 565 I do not like the way the new middle school feeder patterns work for magnet school students. I think this will make people less likely to enroll in magnet programs. Magnet school enrollees should be put in middle school feeder patterns based solely on their address and not in special feeders just because they go to a magnet elementary school.
- 566 I do not think we should have AG magnets at the elementary level. AG students should have all-AG classes for English and Math beginning in fourth grade at EVERY school. It is completely unfair to give one student daily AG work and another, possibly more qualified, AG student a 45-minute pullout once a week. We are doing a disservice to our AG students across the district. This is what Durham County did in the late 70's and early 80's when I was a child.

567 I grew up in magnet schools in Wake County. I loved my education. My mom worked at a magnet school which made transportation into downtown Raleigh easy for us. As a parent, our family decided 45 minute commutes 1 way to a magnet school would put a great strain on our family in terms of time, money and would weaken our neighborhood ties. I have one very bright AIG student who could really benefit from an AG Basics/Gifted and Talented school. There are many kids in our schools that could really use the magnet education-- but in a neighborhood setting. I love diversity, but no AG basics in regular old middle schools is hampering my child's education. Let's get creative and figure out a way to offer this opportunity to kids without sacrificing a lot of their time to long commutes!

568 I would like to say I feel the magnet programs are the last opportunity for students to have a truly diverse experience in the Wake County Public school system. We decided to live in Wake County because of the Magnet program and we were specifically interested in the Montessori option. We were lucky to get into Poe, but if we had not, we would likely move to a county with lower tax rates and home prices. If the magnet program goes away, we will likely sale our house and move.

569 The Magnet program is a wonderful addition to traditional public school. The Magnet program allows children to learn about life, each other and how to interact with people who are different. This is a program that needs to continue in order for this county's education system to compete with other school districts across the state and country.

570 SERS is an AMAZING school and we would have continued to homeschool our son if he did not get in. We are THRILLED he did. Our two other boys are at NGMS and Mr. Butler is amazing as well. I feel like my boys have the best principals in all of Wake County - John Walls and Greg Butler - really the cream of the crop! Way to go WCPSS - you have made me a believer!

- 571 I am shocked that Farmington Woods' recognition as the #1 magnet elementary in the nation garnered so little attention and press. I fault you, WCPSS, and your PR dept. for failing to get this news out. This school is above and beyond in so many ways, and now you have cut our magnet seats in half! Does this make sense, to take such a showcase school and essentially kill its magnet program? Trust me, you--meaning WCPSS--need all the good press you can get, and this is not going to help.
- 572 My son started this year at JY Joyner in 3rd grade after starting elementary school in a Spanish language immersion charter school. He has had a WONDERFUL and positive experience at Joyner. The teachers and staff are amazing. We drive 20 minutes each way to get him to school each day, and we think it's definitely worth it. Thank you for having the magnet program. It certainly fills many needs in our community.
- 573 We believe the magnet program is a great way to increase diversity. It's optional so it does not cause busing complaints.
- 574 We are very fortunate to have the opportunity to place our child in a school that adheres to the Montessori method. We believe it has given him a great learning experience.
- 575 We love the magnet schools!
- 576 For the past 6 years, I have seen a high demand for the AG Magnet schools. With the high number of AG students in Wake County, I think it is time to add a couple of AG Magnet schools to the program to allow the expansion of this opportunity.
- 577 I've had 2 kids in GT and AG Basics and IB. It's been a great experience for them. Without Ligon and Enloe my kids' needs would not be met. As it was, they would have done better with AG Basics in elementary school but there weren't enough places.
- 578 I think schools like Daniels who lost their magnet need a language concentration. Several feeder elementary schools as well as Broughton offer IB/Language programs so it would make sense not to have a disconnect in Middle school.

- 579 Magnet programs offer a great alternative to families that may want something other than the traditional education or families that are not interested in their base school.
- 580 Please keep Poe a montessori magnet school....we love it!! We look forward to having a new admin and seeing all the support from the new PTA.
- 581 magnet programs don't work if they are assigned too large a base population. There has to be enough seats available for choice. Families that commit to magnet schools and who drive long distances should be protected from reassignments
- 582 Every family should be assigned a base school in his/her neighborhood and two magnet options. Every child in a family should be able to attend the same school, even if they were born more than two years apart. The constant shuffling of students is demoralizing, a waste of time and effort and disrupts families, neighborhoods and communities.
- 583 There is a lack of AG schools to serve the vast majority of AG students in wake county. The AG magnets have been near impossible to get in for the majority of students.

- 584 I feel that when the magnet program was initiated in the 1980's to bring people to downtown Raleigh schools to increase diversity and reduce high concentrations of poverty, that those objectives were sound and achieved. However, I oppose putting magnet programs in outer areas of the wake school district where there are other school options available. I feel that doing so creates unequal educational opportunities within the system, when the original goal was to create equal opportunities by breaking up high concentrations of poverty. Now you have schools that draw from areas of wealth receiving programs and the vast amounts of money it takes to run them, to offer 100 electives to kids in some schools, with some just getting 5 elective offerings. The magnet system as it is being run now in the 2000s-2010s is creating unequal educational opportunities in the school system, and separate educational experiences within the same schools for the (what used to be called) 'base' kids vs. the 'magnet' kids. This is very frustrating for me to experience as a parent of school age kids now in Wake County, when as a student of WCPSS back in the 1980s I witnessed
- 585 i do have some concern about magnets when they seem to take away from educational opportunities at non-magnets. Some schools cannot have certain classes if they are taught in magnet schools. Spanish comes to mind. Also, it is a concern to me that you need to get on a magnet "track" in elementary school to be guaranteed particular magnets later. Sometimes, a child is ready and qualified for a particular magnet program when he or she hits high school, but really had no reason to be in one prior to that. However, at that point in time, they may be shut out from the magnet program because it is difficult to transition in at higher grade levels.
- 586 Magnet schools play an important role in our school system and should be protected and expanded. Ideally, they avoid high concentrations of poverty and aid with facility utilization. Additional programs should be added at schools that exceed the 40% ED threshold and the % of magnet seats at magnet schools should be protected to meet program goals and preserve program efficacy.

- 587 We love combs and Ms. Summers is  
EXTRAORDINARY!! Excellent teachers at COMBS.  
Amazing to see how are son has grown through  
the leadership program.
- 588 Millbrook HS has been a terrible experience. The  
principal makes no effort to connect with the  
youth. Most parents are only concerned with the  
their own children. No sense of of community at  
all. Powell on the other hand has been a great  
experience, where from the principal down  
everyone is treated equal and everyone looks out  
for each other including the students. At Powell  
students are all challenged.
- 589 The magnet programs need to look outside the  
box when selecting schools to become magnets.  
Kingswood Elementary may be a school in Cary  
but it has a very diverse population and a very  
high F&R population compared to many other  
schools in Cary
- 590 I have been surprised about the lack of academic  
rigor at both Ligon and Enloe, both touted to be  
among the best. My children study very little and  
make A's in the highest level classes (honors and  
AP at Enloe) and they're only average bright  
kids...not exceptional. I expected more from both  
schools. In the area of performing arts, they are  
both exceptionally strong.
- 591 We live in North Raleigh, so our daughter's ride to  
Moore Square is long, but we love the school and  
the theme of using downtown museums and  
resources. The program more than makes up for  
her not being at her neighborhood school, which  
I didn't like anyway.
- 592 I strongly encourage wcpss to support and extend  
the magnet program where ever possible.
- 593 Keep the Magnet Schools!!!
- 594 I believe that their location and seat allocations  
within downtown no longer reflect the  
gentrification to the downtown that has occurred  
during the last 15 years. This explains why there  
was a shortage of proximity seats under the new  
plan

595 Now that my younger daughter is about to go to Enloe, I'm getting a picture of just how incredibly different the atmosphere is there, as opposed to Green Hope High. It's like a graphic illustration of what Sarah Palin would call the gap between REAL AMERICANS and THOSE OTHER PEOPLE. We're proud to be a magnet family, which basically means we're THOSE OTHER PEOPLE. I only wish my older daughter wasn't stuck with those REAL AMERICANS at Green Hope -the ones who come to school waving the Confederate flag out of their trucks.

596 My understanding was that one of the original intents of Magnet schools was to encourage voluntary busing to provide for all of the goals above. In order to do that you must provide an incentive for people to put their children on a bus, ergo the special programs provided by the magnet schools. In my opinion, we are not obligated to provide those special programs in the suburb schools that have much higher PTA budgets that provide for many advantages at those schools. Please maintain the strength of the magnet schools with monetary support and continuing to provide special programs to attract families willing to put their children on a bus. The zones that feed these schools are important too. Making sure there is a diverse area to draw from for each of the magnet schools is important to the diversity of each school. It was the magnet system that turned our school system and its reputation around. Making sure people understand the goals will help to keep the community support for this system. Those who are in schools other than a magnet need to understand their child's schools has its own advantages and their child's school is still an

597 There needs to be more balance between the haves and have nots.

598 We are so pleased and excited about our magnet school. Every day is a joy to go to school. I am proud that my daughter is able to attend AB Combs and so happy with leadership model.

599 I think the magnet program at Ligon has helped foster critical thinking in my son. We are looking forward to a very positive, enriching and challenging experience at Enloe.

600 I was a base parent at Root and the magnet program was taken away. Same at Daniels and at Broughton. I really think that Daniels could use the magnet program again. By taking away Lacy, you're losing a chunk of good children. Daniels F&R level is getting higher each year, and something needs to be done to boost it up before it hits bottom again.

601 Their should be racial and socio-economic balance in maintained in the magnet schools.

602 I've been very pleased with the electives and additional resources made available via magnet programs.

603 The most important role of magnet schools should be to keep schools diversified

604 It seems that some magnet themes and magnet schools receive more support from the county. My daughter is slated to go to Moore Square for middle school. The population at that school is VERY different than the other magnet middle schools in the area. They have much lower test scores and a much higher poverty rate. Why is that? Their reputation and Southeast's reputation is not nearly as strong as Ligon's, Martin's, Carnegie's, Enloe's. It is concerning that children can go to magnet schools and have such different experiences. Maybe it is the magnet theme. Maybe it is the way kids are put into the schools. It just seems very uneven and unfair. Why are students who are in poverty allowed to be magnet students if the goal of magnet schools is to reduce the large pockets of poverty? Why are large amounts of failing students allowed to be in certain magnet schools? The teachers in those schools spend more time reteaching and remediating students than incorporating the unique learning advertised by the magnet theme. Kids who do go to those schools for the program often feel cheated and "sold a false bill of goods." I have heard this from many parents whose

- 605 Magnet schools are an important feature of Wake County schools, offering supplemental coursework and creative outlets for children who have different interests and strengths. As a taxpayer, I am glad and grateful to have a choice, to select schools based on diversity of population and coursework. I would hate for my children and every family in Wake County to only have choices based on geography/proximity or academic scores of the masses in the schools.
- 606 I am very happy with Underwood Elementary. I think it is a great school. I would like to see the base area expanded because I think you will see greater parent participation and money raised for class programs by the PTA. I would like to see more computers in the classrooms and a focus on all gifts and talents and not just the arts.
- 607 My children have both gone to magnet schools since K (Farmington Woods for both). My daughter went to Martin Middle and is now at Enloe and my son is now at Carnage middle and plans to go to Enloe. I am very impressed with the education both are receiving and the commitment of the teachers and staff. They are both excelling in school and being exposed to many types of learning and much diversity. Keep up the good work!
- 608 Wake County was done a wonderful job promoting the magnet schools. Unfortunately, magnets have been made to look so desirable that it has had a negative effect on the traditional base school. There is a collective assumption that most people only go to their "base", or what used to be referred to as base, schools if they did not get into a magnet. Magnets have been glorified and as a result, traditional is looked at as 2nd class. I would like to see the county do more to promote traditional schools. Magnets take care of themselves.
- 609 The Carnage Magnet MS program for gifted does not appear to have the same high quality associated with Lignon MS. I would like Carnage to offer the programs that Lignon has developed.

- 610 there should be more international programs with different languages and more programs that have to do with solar energy.
- 611 These schools should attempt to maintain low teacher to student ratios. And be continually improving their academic performance for all students, not just the magnet students such as at Floc.
- 612 I think that if your base/proximity school is a Magnet school, you should be automatically accepted into the magnet feeder path for that school.
- 613 Please keep the magnet program in tact. It is critical to keeping our public schools strong while providing important educational opportunities. They are also a good use of space and able to attract students to areas that would otherwise be under-enrolled while providing opportunities for equal achievement.
- 614 I am just now starting to learn more about the magnets. I was HIGHLY interested in the programs prior to moving to Wake County and would definately have pursued placing my children in magnet programs. However, since I could not apply prior to obtaining residency I dropped the idea. My family relocated here from overseas and once the children were "settled" in a school I wanted them to have that continuity.
- 615 It is good
- 616 I clearly understand the reasons and theory surrounding the magnet programs but the issue is that once the schools that are not magnets get the same programs the magnet schools end up in a place similiar to that of SE Raleigh HS where the best and brightest faculty have fled and the school begins and continues on a downward spiral to the point where the population is 90% free and reduced and no one with actual middle class values and viable college aspirations laugh at the idea of attending. Take a look at the numbers of students who had siblings attend SE or other magnets and how many of those younger siblings went to a more local school. It seems like the central office personnel ought to show up unannounced at schools like SE to see how it truly works.

617 The Magnet Programs are great and I would like to see more intense learning opportunities at wash site. Some of the electives are fluff. Stop wasting the kids' time and emphasis more on language, science, technology, and computer programming. Don't teach down to the children but set a high stanard forcing the children to learn to an expectation.

618 We feel as if magnet schools closest to our home are not choices for us to choose from. We just feel if it is going to be a magnet school, then it should be built accordingly, therefore many more students can have the opportunities as well.

619 All of our public school should be made into magnets. However, the parents and teachers make the school. Those who choose magnet program care about kids' ed and really want to be there. The kids reflect that attitude unlike standard public school in my experience.

620 The magnet school program has not only challenged our child beyond our base school's abilities, but it has also exposed her to other ethnic groups and culturesthereby enriching her nersonal life.

621 The magnet school my children attend has been a great educational experience so far. It certainly exceeds, by far, the educational experience i had at Aldert Root in the 70's. Lyman Kiser

622 have been satisfied to date

623 My daughter is just 2 years old so she doesn't attend any Wake County Public School yet.

624 Having experienced the negative effects of demagnetization, at both the middle and high school levels, I implore WCPSS Staff and Board to be more forward thinking than the 2 year window that was utilized for the prior magnet review. For schools where demagnetization is a consideration, the review should include a qualitative analysis of the reasons for the initial implementation of the magnet; in order to insure that history will not repeat itself within a few years after proposed demagnetization. Finally, please be fiscally responsible. Please consider the investment the taxpayers have made into the implementation of a magnet program. If it is a successful magnet program, rather than demagnetization, please consider other options to preserve the program at that school; even if it means removing the magnet component of the program. The outcome of building a successful program should not be removal of the program. Not only is this fiscally irresponsible, it is demoralizing to staff and students who worked so hard to make it successful.

625 My children have both attended Martin Middle - which was our base school. The diversity offered in curriculum and students has been very beneficial to their development during the middle school years. So thankful for their years at this magnet school!

626 We just moved from a traditional to a magnet program this year and absolutely love it. We want our children to be educated in a diverse environment that provides a strong educational foundation. The magnet program supports these

627 Impressive, looking forward more educational programs

628 Right now they are good as it is

629 We love it. Washington school management and teachers are doing a great job. Kids indeed get to explore and learn a lot of new things.

630 Great program giving elementary school children to stretch their abilities and skills.

- 631 Thank God for Magnet programs because it allows my child an opportunity to foster her talent and to explore other avenues that would not be open in her base school. She has tap dance class and violin class. She also has reinforced support with her academics in her major subjects like math, and reading. This extra help is needed by my child to succeed in her class. So many valuable resources in the magnet schools. Those were just a few that I can remember at this time.
- 632 While I support the magnet schools and their objectives, it's frustrating for such great programs to be offered, yet not all children applying will get in.
- 633 We need to have magnet programs for the students who are not college bound.
- 634 I believe the magnet school our daughter attends has been the better alternative to our zone school. Had she attended it, she would have essentially been in a nearly segregated school simply because most of those attending it are white. She would not have encountered the diversity she has at Washington, nor do I believe that her understanding of different cultures or tolerance would have been so well developed. Diversity makes a BIG difference.
- 635 I like magnet program because of many choices in electives and have more choices in math and science.
- 636 The current or similar bus system is vital for the magnet schools and us. The magnet schools and Washington Elementary are great. Our daughter has benefitted tremendously. The elective and music/arts opportunity is also very important.
- 637 I don't feel it is fair that 2 schools close to each other and one loses its magnet status and one gets to keep its magnet status.
- 638 We really like the wide choice of interesting electives offered to the students in the magnet program.
- 639 We love our school, and feel so fortunate to be a part of it!
- 640 Great!

- 641 We are pleased with the choices of electives that are offered at the GT magnet school we are attending. The electives are a good way to expose the students to alternate learning methods for the core subjects , as well as exposure to the arts and music
- 642 Washington is a great school my daughter enjoy every single moment at school! The teachers are awesome and she loves the orchestra class!!!
- 643 I could not be happier with the education that my daughter is getting at Washington Elementary. She has so many more opportunities than the children that go to the local schools. It is a huge sacrifice to send her there but it is well worth it. I just wish that the teachers acknowledge that these kids get home so late due to the long bus rides that they cannot get homework and dinner done and still get to bed at a reasonable hour. Cut down on the homework in all of the schools!!!! They need to be kids.
- 644 Magnet programs require your support. They are frequently in old buildings that have significant facility needs. They are harder to clean and have concerns over lead-based paint, mold and asbestos, and broken HVAC units. Concerns about equity in curriculum for "affluent" schools are offensive when there isn't also equity in facilities for older schools like the magnets. It is imperative that magnet school funding be restored through federal grants and is shameful and shows a lack of fiduciary responsibility on the part of the former Board to have let magnet grant money fall to the wayside as schools were being segregated.
- 645 I love Washington. I've talked to parents with kids in other magnet programs, and I think Washington does it best. The programs, classes and staff are all phenomenal. Keep up the good work. If anything you should create more schools like it.

646 The magnet school program is a very good program. The sad thing is we are told that Wake County Public Schools are parents choice but myself as well of several of my co-workers applied for magnet schools for our children and non of us got into a magnet program. It is really not parents choice.

647 I think it is wonderful to provide these opportunities to the community. I hope they can continue with good quality and logical admission policies.

648 Magnet programs are a great way for kids to share their gifts and talents.

649 Magnet programs are vital to our distract. Students need a chance to express themselves in what they are good at! Not every students' strength is math, reading, or writing... it may be art or dance or drama or music!

650 I think the high school enloe makes the magnet system undesireable.the school is too far away for those of us who live in north Raleigh.There should be another a magnet high school option.The new school choice program leaves the magnet families feeling stuck with no base school to return to. High school has many after school activities and also many kids begin to drive,for this reason a high school that is a 35 min. drive is unsafe and not practical.The parents I have spoken to think things are worse with the school choice program.there is still alot of money wasted on busing and if a new family moves into the neighborhood they can only get into the school that has space avbl.There has to be a better way of doing things.this system will make wake county undesireable to new people moving to the area.

651 For once... IF IT AIN'T BROKE, STOP TRYING TO FIX IT!!!!!!

652 I believe that the programs should be most concerned with serving as many children as possible and not catering to loud, outspoken parents who are unwilling to support more cost effective options such as year round schools and delayed start times. The schools should take a stand and either put these options in effect or demand an increased budget.

653 All schools should offer components of magnet curriculum. It should not be geared specifically for diversity reason. We live in a diverse world already. Take the money you put into Magnets and add certain standards at all school or school in low performing areas such as Garner.

654 Please continue the program and expand where appropriate

655 I think your magnet program has become a joke. There are so many schools in Wake county that are not "diverse" I.e. fox Road....has anyone from corporate headquarters ever been to Fox Road? Well, it is certainly not diverse. So to use the magnet program as an excuse to throw money at schools that would probably function fine due to parent support and already diverse areas. I think wake should REALLY examine how money is allocated to schools? Why do you spend more money on schools that are functioning well and limit money to schools with programs that are failing. Fox road is a fine example of just one of the schools that could be better served with the 30 iPads per grade that you are giving to schools that are already scoring well. Don't even get me started on how iPads are beneficial to children with special needs Esp. Autism. The entire magnet program needs to be reassessed both financially and academically.

656 We need more magnet schools and they should be more easily accessible to all students. Most of the schools are in lower performing nodes and students from higher performing nodes have to travel longer distances to get there which can be a hardship for the students and their families.

657 The Gifted and Talented program is truly a blessing. The inclusiveness and philosophy that all children have gifts and talents is one that should be held throughout the system.

- 658 My daughter goes to Farmington Woods Elementary through magnet program. She loves her teacher & the school. When we compare her to a regular base school student she is far ahead in all aspects. The credit should go to excellent teachers & the principle of the school. The school was ranked 1st in the country for Magnet Program for 2011 year. I would love to keep this school in Tier 1 Magnet program & have a connecting Middle Magnet. This will help the current & future Magnet students.
- 659 I have enjoyed the diversity of the kids and the many electives and sports offered that my oldest daughter has been engaged in since 1st grade. I wished that my middle daughter could have gotten into a magnet from the start of elementary, but I will not move her from her surroundings of friends and teachers. I will try when she goes to middle school.
- 660 Magnet programs are great. But needs more focus regarding physical education on a daily basis. Also can have school gardens and kids can grow their veggis and learn to eat healthier food.
- 661 I would like for students of Magnet elementary schools to have the option to feed into similar Magnet middle and high schools as they progress through schooling.
- 662 My children received excellent education in the system's magnet schools (Wiley, Ligon, Enloe).
- 663 Magnet programs are vital to the growth and development of a large, highly populated school system. They encourage and develop important societal expectations of tolerance and community while allowing students to develop in rich academic settings.
- 664 As a 55-year-old 21-year WCPSS parent, I cannot tell you how increasingly dismayed I have become over the years - most recently with the Republican-led school board. What a waste!
- 665 The magnet program is an important and valuable part of the Wake County School System. The current assignment plan has been a debacle and needs to be fixed forthwith.

666 My child has attended two magnet schools as neighborhood schools. Magnet schools benefit those of us who aren't enrolled as magnet students, as well as the students who come to the school as magnet attendees. I believe it is important for Wake County to maintain a strong system of Magnet schools as a way to provide enrichment opportunities to our students and to help keep all of our schools strong.

667 I think Magnet Schools are a huge part of why Wake County Schools are so great!

668 Although I support the choice to have magnet programs located in low-income areas, I think WCPSS should look at some programs in other areas of the County. Families who live in North Raleigh/Wake Forest area make huge sacrifices to have their children attend a magnet school. Long commute times can limit participation in after-school and evening activities. It can also be more difficult to interact with school friends/families.

669 I like magnet program

670 It is a shame that schools can not offer a class because it is part of the magnet curriculum. For example, at Leesville High, they can't offer certain photography or creative writing classes because they are part of Enloe's Magnet status. Rather than providing for all students, it limits options for many.

671 nil

672 Magnet schools offer an incredible wealth of diversity; not only in terms of students, but also in terms of programs. Wake County should continue to maximize these programs. Our family made a choice to attend very diverse schools because we believe that our entire community is better served when ALL students have equal opportunities to learn and grow.

673 We love the magnet program!!! Our child has been exposed to so many different types of children. She is able to participate in so many exciting courses she wouldn't in a traditional elementary school. We don't mind traveling 30 minutes to attend a fabulous school like Washington. We value the strong Arts programs. The Art, Music, Dance, and Drama are some of the best in the county!!!!

- 674 Based on the high demand for downtown seats and limited number of spots I hope "healthy" schools will lose their magnet status and funding. Schools like Wiley and Underwood without title one populations and failing test scores should not be using funds needed in other schools.
- 675 I think magnet programs are an integral part of this school district. They should be supported and celebrated.
- 676 improved academic achievement; diverse student enrollments; innovative curriculum; specialized teaching staff. Generally speaking, the more intentional parents are about selecting a school, the more involved they are in the education process. Greater parental involvement strengthens schools. Magnets are opt-in programs for families outside of the normal zone, so they tend to have a higher proportion of intentional families than a standard public school. I could go on.
- 677 Magnet schools define and promote academic success in collaborative format whereby children are encouraged to challenge themselves. Teachers are also enthusiastic to teach and be creative with sharing knowledge. Magnet schools prepare our children for the global society and marketplace we live in.
- 678 My children benefit greatly from the Magnet Program, not only are getting an amazing education and also being saturated with The Arts, language and technology. They have so much confidence, I know this comes from their Magnet School Experiences
- 679 I'm not interested in sending my children to Magnet schools b/c of their locations, for the most part. I wish there were more magnet programs throughout the county, not just for diversity.

680 The programs are nice, but really far away from my home. My children would have to ride a bus for well over an hour to attend any one of them. My children are interested in several of the magnet programs, but so far have been unable to get in. It seems like they are only designed to accommodate certain students in certain areas - the rest of us have a slim-to-none chance of getting our children into the schools as they fill up quickly and none of them are in our base areas.

681 Magnet programs are great. Please provide similar quality of education in neighborhood schools. While I like the concept, and have joined my child in the magnet program, I am not sure how my family will handle the long commute for the child. Anything to help there would be awesome.

682 I wish you would take programs that are very popular with a long wait list and replicate that program in another area of wake county. There are some programs that I would love to see my children attend but they are just too far from home

683 We've been on a waiting list for East Garner for proximity. B/C I live in Garner my IB option for MS was East Millbrook. I think this is completely ridiculous. I was told it's b/c EGMS is my proximity choice it couldn't also be my IB choice. That is ludicrous! I was not about to apply for Millbrook and then be fed to another HS in Raleigh when I have great IB schools right here in Garner. I thought the focus was neighborhood schools, but I'm not seeing that to truly be the case. You tell us we have a choice, I don't think we really do. I am very disappointed in the Wake County school system right now. For next year, I will have children on different schedules now because we didn't have East Garner, < 5 miles from me as our IB choice. By the time we could apply for schedule option, there's a waiting list. Nice....real nice. Honestly, I'm so upset about it if we could sell our house, we'd move out of this county. I think the board took a wonderful thing and totally messed it up! When will you offer a survey on the whole application of "choice" process???

- 684 The Magnet program does a great job of marketing itself and getting people interested. Too bad you can't actually get into one.
- 685 I was very proud of the recognition Wake County received for its magnet program. Its goals were well-intentioned and served many logical purposes.
- 686 In 2008, my daughter was at Powell GT Elem. when they told her she could not go to Ligon & Carnage with her classmates because of Zone realignment. She went to Zebulon GT Middle only after I requested a transfer from the board. Then with the new assignment plan, she was told that BECAUSE she attends Zebulon GT Middle, she would not be given a preassigned position at Enloe GT High. She was told she could not continue on the magnet pathway she was on since 2nd grade! Now I am looking at another transition with an upcoming 5th grader at Zebulon GT Elementary. His feeder pattern puts him into Zebulon GT Middle, which is a magnet dead end in the current assignment plan. If the whole reason why our nodes were changed to send us to Zebulon schools was to make them DRAW magnets, then why are we being put into dead end pathways? If anything it is pushing us away from Zebulon!
- 687 Quit messing up the magnet programs and the schools in general, chuckleheads. Go back to the previous districting system--you know, the one where people could actually know what school district they lived in.
- 688 We like Farmington Woods because our kids are learning Spanish, they are knowing other cultures, learning the IB Attitudes, etc. All these things are going to help our kids in the future.
- 689 Magnets have Not been accessible to my children. We have been denied due to underenrollment at our base.
- 690 I think it's great that impoverished children as well as average children are getting enrichment that normally would have only gone to private school children. Thank you. I hope this will help fewer children fall through the cracks.

- 691 I question the validity of the new choice based program. I have indicated on ONE choice for my child since the first selection . We have been number one on the wait list and have not moved. It is not a choice if you do not get what you choose and follow the rules implemented.
- 692 The location of the magnet schools make them unattractive. Most schools are located close to downtown Raleigh and many students have to ride 30 min-1hr buses to get to the schools. I would like to see more diversity in the site selection of future magnet schools.
- 693 Again, I don't feel the magnet program is fair to other schools. Just because we live in North Raleigh, our suburbs schools should be able to have the wonderful classes that the downtown schools go to. I am not bussing (or driving) my child downtown for a magnet. Do away with magnets! Keep all schools excellent!
- 694 ADHD & ADD kids could thrive with a school geared towards them. Bar / standing height tables. Sit on balance balls, stools or stand! More breaks between classes. Small class size. A lot of hands on learning.
- 695 Wish the Magnet programs were spread out in the district. There are kids who can't participate due to the bus times. Or Enhance the facilities at local area schools
- 696 I think the electives at magnet schools have a lot to be desired. I am pulling my child out of the magnet school because I do not think they benefited from the magnet program much at all. Nothing much was offered that cannot be found in a regular middle school and with no sports/band etc. I think my child missed out. I did not notice any expanded educational opportunities at all to be honest. I had high expectation that my child got into Centennial, but was disappointed and what he got out of it.
- 697 Please keep the model intact (as it was 2 years back)
- 698 I would like to see the foreign language aspect develop to show the importance of learning and understanding cultures. Include off-site activities to develop the love of actually speaking the language fluently.

- 699 Magnet programs should have an equitable lottery system to get in. It should serve a HIGH POVERTY base, NOT an affluent base.
- 700 The foreign language program need to be more developed to increase interest in culture and for student to become fluent.
- 701 I'd like a program that has year round with language immersion and is available through K-12
- 702 I do not feel that children should have to follow a feeder pattern for magnets. My child in elementary (she's at Adams, which is not her assigned base school but the year-round option) would love to go to Martin Middle but if we applied and she made it in there, we would like the option of her being able to go to Cary High (her base school and her feeder pattern school if she went from Adams to East Cary Middle).
- 703 I think the different programs are necessary to address the needs of students whose needs aren't being met at their base school(s). Though it may be difficult to get in to the school of one's choice, we feel very fortunate to have the opportunity to attend an AG Basics school in particular
- 704 The WCPSS magnet program should be preserved with the current level or enhanced bussing.
- 705 We had to stop going to a magnet school b/c the drive was killing us! But we miss the program immensely, and I think the elementary schools need it drastically in Wake Forest! Please expand some up here! :)
- 706 Magnet schools also offer parents school choice and help to meet the needs of our children. In addition to balancing diversity and poverty, they help WCPSS compete with the growing number of charter schools
- 707 Please keep the magnet program strong and continue to use it for student diversity to avoid high poverty schools. It is an exemplary program which has helped many a poor student move up in the world.
- 708 This program has enhance my children's education along with giving them the exposure to those that might not have as much. Washington has done an excellent job at making everyone feel like an equal part of the community.

- 709 I live in downtown Raleigh at considerable expense to ensure our base school is one of Wake County's fantastic magnet schools. Please let us continue to attend these schools.
- 710 GT Elementary Magnet schools should have a GT options for Middle school too.
- 711 Our grandchildren have attended Conn in Elementary and now are both at Ligon. I am a life long teacher and am amazed at the quality classes, teachers, and experiences they have both had at these two amazing schools. PLEEESE keeep the Magnet!
- 712 We need more magnets to foster excellence !
- 713 Avoid too many mandatory changes by allowing a transition period for existing students.
- 714 The Magnet Programs are an attractive component of WCPSS. They have been a driving force in the revitalization of downtown.
- 715 My children are not currently school age but I hope that we have a strong magnet program in 2014.
- 716 Magnet Schools are in large part the reason for the successful education system in Wake County. They serve to bring specialized programs for families to select/choose from for what best suits their child's learning needs and environment. It is important to keep a balanced number of magnet and neighborhood (proximity) students in the magnet schools in order to diversify what each type of child brings to the school from the many different areas of wake county. Please keep the magnet programs in Wake County!
- 717 they should be equally available to all residents within a reasonable distance of home, so parents can remain involved.
- 718 I would like to see year round magnet schools offered.
- 719 I feel strongly that in order to prepare our children globally, Wake County must continue to take stides to offer these services and opporunities.
- 720 Thank you

- 721 Parents need to be aware of the school and area they choose to live in. Proper allocation to ensure all schools offer the same instruction quality and facilities regardless of income or location is a better way to measure "fairness" More community involvement in struggling areas and interaction (communications) would create more ideal than moving people around. People tend to congregate with others they feel comfortable with. This is a natural migration. Magnet programs focusing on areas that will lead student to find jobs in today's market should be the focus. Isn't the objective to prepare students to be able to be self-supportive? Special needs and other students should be brought together. This is a good use of funding and creates comfort zone for the students. Instructional standards and procedures to ensure milestones are met on standards appear to be lacking compared to some other school districts we have had our children attend. Technology appears to be lacking. This is an overall funding issue that is hard to address. Making better use by partnering with the higher institutions is one way the district could help deal with increased student
- 722 I would love to see the magnet programs offered in more locations throughout the county. I feel more of the southern Wake families like ours would apply to the magnet schools if they were located closer to our area. I think it is great that the magnet schools offer enriched opportunities for their students (for example, string music programs), however I don't think that they should be offered to magnet students only in other parts of the county and not to all students, or at least to all areas of the county. (for example, middle schools down in our southern wake county area only offer band programs and our elementary schools offer very limited elective opportunities).
- 723 I wish there were more middle and high school magnet feeder choices

- 724 Note - I live in downtown Raleigh and am in the Hunter Elementary Base area. I feel the WCPSS Magnet programs are essential to the continued access to quality educational opportunities for all students in our county. We are a great county in large part because WCPSS has been so good for so long. Magnets are a critical component of this!
- 725 I believe more schools should have access to the Magnet Program. Limiting to a few schools is not an even and effective use of tax payer funded education.
- 726 We have loved the museum magnet at Brooks. It has be so great to watch children have these educational and lifetime experiences that they may not have had if it were not for the magnet program.
- 727 I am a Boy Scout leader and a proud Sanderson graduate 1983, Wake Tech 1988. The High School kids I see are amazing. Teach the kids and leave politics out of it.
- 728 The magnet schools have a lot to offer but they must continue to support and challenge the smart, hard-working, and well disciplined students as hard as they work to teach those students who need extra attention and help. The magnet programs provide students with the opportunity to explore music, languages, and academic pursuits through classes that are not available in the local neighborhood schools.

729 New assignment plan is a joke. Far too many \$\$ to be spent on busing initially and long term as well. Money could be better spent to improve programs, rehire teachers, etc. N'hood schools....how does having several schools available to choose from promote neighborhood cohesion? Long term problems will result by creating popular overcrowded schools and under enrolled schools with high poverty levels, a recipe for failure. Property values will be affected as well depending on whether one lives in an area of desirable schools vs undesirable choices. If I had young children now I would not move out of my "popular" neighborhood for fear of losing my spot in a good school. Not exactly good news for real estate market as it slows down the turnover of homes further reducing sales and prices. Go back to the "old" plan, fix what you can and move on. People who move to high growth areas should understand that it is difficult for the school system to keep up with construction needs. If you want to move to these high growth areas then you have to suck it up with the overcrowding or lengthier commutes.

730 More opportunity for those who live in downtown Raleigh. It is a fast growing family community.

731 I grew up in Raleigh and attended magnet schools. I feel that it was an invaluable experience that I hope students will continue to benefit from.

732 I attended Washington Elementary, Ligon Middle, and Enloe High. I can't imagine a better experience for any child than a magnet school experience and education.

733 We love the magnet program and from the time our son has been attending Poe his development has been outstanding it to mention the unique interactions and mentoring opportunities that he has got. In fact as an educational and technology innovator I cannot see a better system that inculcates 21st century workforce skills in our next generations as these unique programs do. These should be propagated even wider and any cutting back including scaling down on busing will really adversely affect our county, state and Nation itself at large in the long run!

- 734 Would like these special magnet school programs to be introduced in local public schools so that if am unable to send my child to magnet school, my child is able to participate in those if qualified. This would help improve education system immensely and would benefit all students.
- 735 We love the magnet program and would have chosen to go to private school if we did not have that option.
- 736 at 11 & 13 both of our girls are award winning writers, artists, actors, great at math and they can draw better then I could out of design school. They are confident and they relate well socially, although they started out very shy. They are products of the current Wake County School Magnet Program. Thank you WCPSS for a job well done. Ryan and Suzanne DeWitt, Raleigh, NC.
- 737 We have experienced three different magnet elementary schools. Each has been wonderful!!!
- 738 My children have received a wonderful education with the magnet schools. They attended Fuller, Ligon and Enloe. The wide variety of electives in the arts and educational are very important. My son is a well balanced senior who is not only a National Merit Finalist and captain on the computer science team, but also a lead actor. Also having such a diverse school has made them more aware of cultural and ethnic differences between people.
- 739 We have been extraordinarily pleased with Smith Elementary where our daughter attends. Our youngest will start at Smith in the autumn. The magnet program is crucial to Wake County and has enabled our daughter to develop a broad and rich sense of community that transcends racial, economic and geographic boundaries. The faculty and administration of Smith have created an incredible community spirit despite the differences these boundaries suggest.

740 The magnet program not only provides a wealth of academic choice, but has been a major force in keeping inner city schools not only open, but desirable. Last year in Charlotte, they were closing downtown schools amid much civil unrest and calls of racism. In Raleigh, we have more applicants than we can seat. I am concerned that magnets are becoming the whipping boy for some, without looking at the whole picture. I am also disturbed by the simplistic nature of this survey, which seems designed to draw sharp lines instead of exploring more nuanced views.

741 This should be two separate question "Reduce high concentrations of poverty and support diversity" Politic should not play on our kids education.

742 The school magnet programs were the main reason we considered moving to Wake County 8 years ago. Without them, it is doubtful we would have moved here, as private school was not an option, and we desired both early foreign language (our child came out of a language immersion preschool) and AG/gifted education. The location of our desired magnet programs also figured prominently in our decision as to where to live within Wake County. Once in place, magnet programs need to remain at the same school, as much as possible, and be moved only with a long (several years) warning. Many of us make decisions where to live based on the program of our choice, and need to depend that the program will remain--to the degree possible--at the same location. I realize that programs must move at some point, on occasion, as they become "too" successful, drawing too many students to one school, but wish that instead of moving the program, a second program, at a different location, could be established. For example, our son attend JY Joyner's IB magnet, but the IB program left our closest middle school, Daniels, before he reached middle school age. Our IB son now resides at Millbrook Middle, which

743 Without focused magnet programs the specific offerings would be watered down and not viable. For example, Athens HS has multiple AP class but ONLY offer them if there is interest - without enough students that are focused on AP the classes don't happen.

- 744 Our family has found that magnet schools promise great things (i.e. fantastic electives), but are quite weak in implementation. Yes they have a chess class, but no instruction is provided on chess. Or the curriculum in Grey Matter is actually watching movies or playing computer games. While we like the magnet program on paper, we have been very disappointed in the overall quality of the elective instruction in practice.
- 745 The magnet program is a BOON to our county ~ offering children options to things that would be out of reach for many students. It is a travesty that Wake County has shut down many magnets ('demagnetized') saying that school doesn't 'fit the bill' for what the magnet does only to turn that school into EXACTLY one that fits the demographics the next year!
- 746 My first child will start in 2013. Please offer full language immersion (not just electives) where children are learning grade content (math, science, etc. ) in the target language. It would be wonderful to have this in both elementary & middle school so there is continuity, or create some k-8 schools
- 747 I serve two magnet schools currently as the school social worker. I find their programs uniquely attractive to parents and students. They offer excellent educational opportunities including diversity!
- 748 I would support the magnet program but think that magnet "seats" should not be taking the place of neighborhood seats. We live near downtown and are concerned that as the number of families in the downtown area grows, there is not enough space for them in the downtown schools because too many of those seats are designated as magnet seats and are therefore given to other children throughout Wake County. I think the magnet program should continue but the location of magnet schools or the allocation of available seats to the magnet program needs to be adjusted.
- 749 without such magnet programs, lots of gifted students would be left bored in school, and some of these bored students would seriously disturb the school environments by making all sort of troubles. We would also lose these gifted students

- 750 The programs offered through our neighborhood school have been invaluable to not only my children but to the kids who wouldn't otherwise have access to the arts and the academic enrichment that those arts provide.
- 751 The leadership program at AB Combs looks fantastic but demand is so high for so few seats many families did not apply. Please consider replicating it elsewhere, such as in the eastern part of the county. Many families would apply, even from western Wake. The Museum program at Brooks was also very interesting but unless parents visit the school, I don't know that they would appreciate it. That could be another program to replicate in the eastern part of the county.
- 752 Integrating based on income was a GREAT idea that should NOT have been abandoned!!! We should also move toward a full system of year-round schools. We MUST exploit our existing resources to the fullest, and we MUST once again strive to offer a high-quality education to all our children, regardless of a family's status. We have permitted narrow-minded bigotry to destroy a fairly successful, nationally-recognized system.
- 753 The magnet program in Wake County public schools has been an overwhelming success, and many schools have received national recognition for their quality curriculums. It would decrease the overall strength of the WCPSS to remove the magnet programs from parent choice.
- 754 Magnet programs set Wake County apart from most other counties in the state and other school districts in the nation. They are extremely important and valuable. While specific magnet offerings may be revisited to ensure we are providing students with the most valuable resources available today, they should NOT be discontinued. Thank you.
- 755 Restore the pre-Teabag system that ranked so highly in national reviews. If rural whites don't want their children bused to support such a system, try to reduce those travel times and distances.
- 756 Very important program.

- 757 I believe Douglas needs a new administrator.
- 758 Magnet programs are great. But the commute for kids to get to these program (AG) is awful (two hours commute each day). Why cannot they locate in Cary where a lot of Cary kids taking long school bus rides?
- 759 I know for a fact that the magnet programs have kept MANY family in WCPSS who would have otherwise gone to private schools. PLEASE KEEP OUR MAGNET SCHOOLS!
- 760 I relocated my family to Raleigh from the D.C. area for the educational opportunities that Wake County offers for my child. I work from home, so have location options. I chose Raleigh for its magnet programs and was fortunate to get into the magnet of our choice. These schools are invaluable!
- 761 I think that my children have benefited tremendously by attending a magnet school. Our magnet teaches to the multiple intelligences levels and because of that my kids are succeeding. I think it is important that there is diversity among their peers. They are enabled to learn though hands on teaching which they would not receive at non-magnet schools. This school offers a science lab which is not in many elementary schools. The extra funding that is given to the school is very well used to benefit the students. I feel that Raleigh is a better place because we have the option to choose a magnet school.
- 762 We are THRILLED with Douglas and the magnet program as a whole. Please continue to aid and support this excellent academic programs.
- 763 Love the magnet program and do think it is short sighted to drop using it to provide for diversity.
- 764 LOVE our Montessori Magnet! Wish there were more public montessori choices and maybe a montessori middle school!!

- 765 Stop creating huge discrepancies in what kids can learn in school. Lufkin Road MS has Chinese. Apex MS does not. Lufkin Road has Jr. Natl. Honor Society. Apex MS does not. You're teasing people with the suggestion that they can go to these other places but, really, of the many, many applicants to Martin MS that I know, only 1 got in.
- 766 My family has been involved with the magnet program for 13 years. Although the schools have been about 12 miles from our home, it has not only been a wonderful learning experience, it has been wonderful that my children have been able to meet and become friends with peers from many other cultures.
- 767 Wake's magnet programs are one of our district's major strengths!
- 768 My daughter's experience at Wiley has been stellar. In addition to great staff/teachers and a strong core curriculum, I believe she has benefited greatly from the international/language program, as well as the diversity (kids from all over the world). We gave up a spot at an elementary school that is quite coveted by many parents, and I couldn't be more pleased with our ~~decision~~
- 769 The school system should go to vouchers so parents can choose the school we want our children to attend
- 770 We have had a fantastic experience with our daughter going to the Carnage magnet school!
- 771 The magnet program serves a vital purpose to alleviate crowding in some areas of the county, and to make use of older facilities that would be expensive to replace. The magnet program is the only way the system has left to try to avoid racially and socio-economically isolated schools which have been proven over and over again to fail their students.

772 My oldest child is only 18 months so I haven't had to deal with this process yet, however I will in the future. He currently attends a bilingual montessori preschool. One thing that I'm not sure I really understand is the gifted and talented and academically gifted magnet schools. Are those programs not already available in the regular schools? Also as a child in kindergarten wouldn't you have to be tested before you could enter that school? My husband and I are both very intelligent with advanced degrees and would naturally suspect our children to be as well but what would be done with a child who didn't test accordingly and was in an AG or GT magnet school? Would just an average kid then feel dumb in that school? I think those programs are best left to the non-magnet traditional programs, as they aren't really specialized programs in my opinion, but should be part of every school. I would definitely like to see a Spanish immersion elementary school, if that were an option I would probably choose it for my son, otherwise we may be considering the charter school options.

773 I think you have made a HUGE mistake with JYJ magnet feeder patterns. These children should NOT feed to East Millbrook, they should feed to Daniels/ Broughton. This is a tremendous disservice to our magnet families.

774 Children in my family have (but do not currently) attended A.B. Combs, Hunter Elementary, Ligon Middle, and Willian G. Enloe High. Magnet schools not only provide an incredible academic foundation but also an extremely unique and valuable perspective and skillset around diversity and community.

775 Magnets are the original school "choice" and should not be sacrificed to the current thinking, which seems to leave magnet students at the back of the line -- or ineligible for options in later grades

776 Not all children need the same education. Magnet programs allow children the best education for each child. We need more support for magnet programs.

777 I wish that I had a close by year round alernative.

778 Please do not make decisions that harm our wonderful magnet schools and programs. I am very concerned about the changes to the Wake school assignment plan in recent years, and encourage you to make decisions that benefit ALL of our students, parents, teachers and staff, not only those who are extra involved (and informed about all the changes) or those who live in higher income neighborhoods.

779 We love the magnet programs here. When I tell family/friends outside of Wake County about them, they are very impressed and indicate their desire to have access to such programs in their own districts.

780 I think it is unfortunate that this process didn't occur prior to developing the school choice plan. Students have been given a feeder plan that may be disrupted by altering which school are identified as magnet. It seems that this process could add more chaos into what has already been a chaotic experience. I would also hope that the amount of money spent at a school would be taken into consideration. For instance, some schools have been renovated to accommodate the magnet program currently at a school. To move such a program could meet that a facility is not longer fully utilized.

781 Wonderful elective programs.

782 I like magnet programs because it provides more diverse class options that can tailor to a student's interest.

783 Great programs, more of these!

784 Transportation has been a serious weakness of WCPSS magnet program. Many school children spend hours and hours on the bus which takes away the critical activity time that they need at their age for health growth.

- 785 Parents should have the choice to apply to magnet schools for different academic opportunities and programs. Diluting the magnet resources such that they are distributed equally amongst 100+ schools provides no real benefit as the level of resources aren't enough to fund enhanced programming in all neighborhood schools. Moreover, families in the magnet program would lose programs they applied for and in some instances sacrifice to attend. The decision to change the percentage of seats allocated to magnets caused detriment to neighborhood families when they weren't enough neighborhood seats remaining. However, without the magnet program, would families apply to public school? The solution is to modify the percentage of seats set aside, not to wholesale remove the magnet program. Finally, many parents work in Raleigh and magnets allow parents to volunteer and participate in school during the day. Removing the programs to equally distribute geographically around the County would be a detriment to parents who commute to Raleigh for work.
- 786 Southwestern Wake County is growing and needs options that don't force us into larger populated areas. We currently need to drive so far to get our children into a magnet school that it's too much of a hardship on working parents. Magnet schools should be less about meeting racial and economic quotas and more about better ways to educate ALL of our children.
- 787 I would love to see more magnet program offerings in the Cary/Apex area to promote diversity through foreign languages and enhanced curriculum offerings.
- 788 The quality levels of magnet schools of the same type are uneven. For example, the theatre program at Ligon is much more sophisticated than the one at Carnage. There should be team discussions of like programs across schools in the district to trade best practices.
- 789 I love it! I think it would be a travesty if we lost it! It the past, it has contributed to Wake County's diversity

- 790 Magnets are vital to the continued success of WCPSS and the growth of Wake County. Downtown Raleigh schools (and neighborhoods) will wither without a strong magnet program. Magnets are essential to ensuring Raleigh and all of Wake County continue to be places where people want to live and companies want to do business. Any reduction of the magnet program would have far-reaching and lasting effects on the liveability of Raleigh.
- 791 they are a very important spoke in the WCPSS education wheel and the wheel is only as strong as its spokes
- 792 Feels like we have a hole to pull ourselves out of after the board shenanigans of the past few years...
- 793 Given the typical public education factory model, it seems to me that magnetic schools provide something exceptionally valuable to our children's education and later participation in our society
- 794 My child currently attends Exploris, but attended Wiley Elementary and had a wonderful experience
- 795 I am not a parent of a current student but am a Wake County taxpayer who believes in the Magnet Program. I would like to see the Program continued. When my children were in school, they attended Lacy, Martin, and Cardinal Gibbons for high school. Neither Lacy or Martin were Magnet Schools at the time.

- 796 Magnet programs should only be offered in schools located in high poverty areas, or in schools where the poverty rate is significantly higher than the poverty rate of the school's surrounding area. I oppose the objective of providing expanded educational opportunities (other than at high poverty schools) because these opportunities are available to only a select few. Resources should instead be used to provide better opportunities for all students. I also oppose the objective of maximizing use of school facilities because under-enrolled schools are typically the ones that have a poverty rate higher than the surrounding neighborhood. Therefore, having the objective of reducing high concentrations of poverty will automatically result in overall better utilization of facilities. Having a magnet program at schools such as Martin Middle School - located in an affluent area where homes often list for \$500k or more - is a waste of taxpayer money and unfair to other middle schools located close by where poverty levels are higher and fewer electives are offered. Martin Middle School certainly does not meet the first magnet objective of reducing high concentrations of poverty, and it does not meet
- 797 My family has been very well served by WCPSS magnet programs.
- 798 I do not currently have children enrolled in the WCPSS. My two children attended Lacy and Martin as base students.
- 799 Our children have attended several magnet schools. All were excellent experiences which we would choose for them again. We valued the varied course offerings, the diverse student body, and goal of the magnet program of creating strong schools in areas that would otherwise be poorly served.
- 800 Please reassess which schools need magnet programs. I think its vital to maintain the magnet programs in Downtown Raleigh to ensure diversity, but some schools (Wiley, Underwood, Joyner) have a thriving community that already support them

801 My daughter goes to Martin Middle School and has had an unbelievable experience. She has blossomed in middle school and doesn't want to leave. The fast pace schedule, the high expectations for academics but especially the wonderful variety of electives has created a superior atmosphere. Basics are very strong and she has explored music, art and is showing interest in technical theater - something she never would have been exposed to in a traditional school. It is a tough schedule for teachers but they work hard and make it work and the results are that the kids and parents are in awe of the result. Our magnet schools are the best thing in the county. Please do not move them or change them - if anything add more! The magnet program positively affects EVERY student at Martin from every economic group.

802 Many of my friends from eastern Wake County have expressed frustration that some magnet schools are located in areas that are wealthy (Underwood, Olds, Wiley, Joyner). I get that the reason the Magnets were created originally was to save downtown Raleigh schools, but I think the dynamic has changed now. Perhaps schools in wealthier neighborhoods no longer need their magnet status and schools in outlying parts of the county could receive that status.

803 This program has a lot of opportunities for those in it and the goal should be to keep these special programs while increasing the options at all schools.

804 I appreciate the opportunity provided to my children at the magnet schools. However, over all I am concerned that we are concentrating too much on the no child left behind and in doing so we are not paying attention to the average and above average children to develop them and pull out the best from them.

805 We have been extremely pleased with Underwood and Martin. Two of our children have attended both for their elementary and middle school years. A third is moving up through Underwood, and we hope she will be able to continue the program at Martin. Underwood is a half hour from our home, and Martin nearly as far. We've felt that the quality of the teachers, staff, and program and the diversity our children experience there have been worth the extra distance. We would have been very happy for our children to attend Enloe, but for other reasons it has not been the best fit so far.

806 I strongly support the magnet program in Wake County. Though my children attend schools that require a long bus ride, we feel the opportunities for them to be challenged and motivated are worth the effort.

807 We moved to Raleigh for diversity and magnet programs for our son, who should attend AB Combs in 2 years. We will be very disappointed if the magnet program is effected.

808 Build capacity for effective instruction with concerted efforts focused on professional development for teachers and administrators in Magnet schools. Furthermore, continuity of school mission, vision and pedagogy within each Magnet program must be established on a continuum from Elementary through High School for lasting impact and desirability.

809 We are very pleased with the GT/AG Basics program at Carnage and are happy that our daughter (and son in a couple of years) have the opportunity to enhance their educational experience.

810 Resources need to be fairly distributed throughout the county. Martin is in a very central location allowing for students to be efficiently transported to take advantage of enrichment programs in the arts while serving the same to the socio economically disadvantaged in the area. Overall, the magnet program has been a successful flagship educational model which should not be abandoned.

811 In most areas, admissions to magnets are based on academic achievement. In Wake County admission is based on the color of the student's skin and family income.

- 812 The Magnet Programs are wonderful because they provide expanded learning opportunities, expose children to other cultures and foster a learning environment that makes children enthusiastic about learning!
- 813 All students should have access to the same classes. Kids who are lucky enough to win a spot and kids who have parents who know someone, should not be the only ones to get programs. Magnets and chapters are a parents way to get the government to pay for a private education. If you don't agree, just look at the kinds of kids that populate those classes. Those schools only serve to leave the others a "dumping ground.". The system needs to even out F and R numbers first. Some schools have 8% and some have 63%.
- 814 My wife and I do not have children in WCPSS. We're retired and have 2 daughters, both public school educated in other states. We understand the importance of and support public education. We're even willing to pay higher taxes to insure quality public education in Wake County
- 815 Language immersion is high on our family's wish list.
- 816 Magnet programs provide WCPSS with an opportunity to provide choice programs to families while also helping control the number of Title 1 schools.
- 817 magnet programs have proven to be effective and have won national recognition - I don't understand the rationale for undermining successful programs
- 818 I strongly support magnet schools - both my children have had such good experiences in the magnet program. We love the programming and diversity that magnet schools provide.

819 Our children have attended different magnet magnet themes at different levels. The ability to switch at each level (ES/MS/HS), or leave the magnet program, without the current type of assignment penalty is important, since you don't know in K how well a program may match a child. Also some of the magnet feeders do not seem to be aligned as well as others. The contributions of the magnet population to the school community - if it is a community- need to be considered. In our experience some schools do better at making the entire school feel like one community - not magnet vs base- than others, so that all can achieve. Typically this has been more true in ES - maybe because the kids don't know or more is on the parents at that level or maybe it was just the schools we were in.

820 We are impressed by Enloe and are thrilled by what it has brought to our east Raleigh community. I only wish there were sidewalks on New Bern Avenue so that the students could walk safely to school-- especially on those dark mornings in winter.

821 Magnet schools MUST be held accountable for ensuring EVERY child succeeds. Need zero tolerance for high concentrations of low performing students.

822 My son currently attends Ligon Magnet Middle and has a 45 minute bus ride. But it is so worth it to us so that he is in an AG class with his peers and has teachers that are able to challenge his abilities and keep school interesting for him. We love Ligon and the teachers our son has had so far and are so thankful for this opportunity that the magnet program is providing for our family.

- 823 If you are going to do away with "base" schools, I think it would be good offer parents as they transition from one level to the next (e.g. -middle to high), their magnet "feed" or a school close to their home, rather than making them apply with less chance of getting in. For example, we are at Martin, but I know my child doesn't want the path to Enloe. We will have to enter the lottery system because we have no other school. I just want more assurance that my child can get in a school close to home if they choose to leave the magnet when they leave a level.
- 824 The program gave my two sons opportunity to try different courses so that they can concentrate on whatever they are interested later in high school.
- 825 I love the fact that they are challenging my child to think. He is not longer bored at school.
- 826 When someone suggested that I move my kids out of their base school and into a magnet school...at first I hesitated and felt they were getting a fine education right where they were. That was until I toured the Gifted and Talented program at Underwood Elementary. My children have blossomed and grew...discovering gifts and talents they had that would have never presented themselves in a traditional school. Diversity was important...because that's the way the world is. What a wonderful experience and fantastic education magnet programs are....and something that should be continued for the betterment of our society, country and the world.
- 827 More magnet programs should be located further West in Cary and Apex.
- 828 Martin Middle has been a great school for such positive experiences & great knowledge of a vast number of arts. My daughter has learned so much that will continue to help her strive towards a successful future.
- 829 Strong schools = strong communities. Magnet programs offer diversity and variety of programming offer students the opportunity to find their strengths. If we dream big, we can find ways to offer great programs at each and every Wake school

830 Get rid of the magnet schools with ill-defined themes (e.g., Leadership, Creative Arts and Sciences). Get rid of the meaningless term "Gifted and Talented" and change all the GT magnets into more straightforward and necessary AG magnets. Make students pass a test to attend the AG middle and high schools. Increase the total number of magnet schools, but only use well-defined themes that meet a clear need: academically gifted, Montessori, IB, language immersion. Get rid of magnet schools that are in well-to-do neighborhoods (Martin Middle and Underwood Elementary, to name two). Those neighborhoods don't need magnet schools to attract involved families. Make SE Raleigh High another AG high school, and you'll instantly solve their underenrollment problem and Enloe's overcrowding problem. This county needs more AG schools at all levels.

831 The magnet programs at Underwood Elementary and Martin Middle School are outstanding!

832 I attended Enloe High School as a magnet student and my sister attended Ligon Middle School and Enloe High School as a magnet student. Now my children attend Douglas Elementary School as magnet students and my daughter will attend Ligon Middle School as a magnet student. We love the magnet programs in Wake County schools.

833 We have truly enjoyed being in the magnet program. It is a gift to wake county residents to have this option. It would truly be heartbreaking if the program was dismantled.

- 834 I've been one of the lucky ones to have both children participate in the magnet program. It's been a lifesaver for both of them. Before being admitted to Wiley in 3rd grade, my son sit in a corner by himself reading a book until "there were enough other kids at his level for a reading group". That wasn't until Feb, and they never told us. Without magnet periods available for review, they were teaching to the lowest level and letting the others teach themselves. Cary has some of the lowest performing schools in the system but no one seems to notice them, or the kids assigned to them. NOt all of us in Cary live on Davis Drive or in Preston. The difference, apart from the opportunities for languages, AG courses, and exposure to more programs, magnet programs mix up the kids in the school, not just on grade level, but throughout the school. My kids knew and were known by 75% of the teachers at their schools, rather than just the 4 who taught their grades. The students in magnet schools are far and away given more independence and encouraged in leadership and peer assistance activities. There's just a better sense of attunement to the needs of ALL the
- 835 As a former General Manager and President for companies in the area, the AG and Science/Tech programs in the district have been particularly important for recruiting high level professionals to the area!
- 836 A wide variety of programs is a real draw. With the birth rate now tipping, diversity is key-- please maintain. Magnet schools help ensure opportunity for all.
- 837 I am very glad that Wake County decided to continue with the magnet programs. I strongly feel that the kids who study in magnet schools have lot more exposure to diversity and appreciation for other cultures. World is becoming a very small place and we should prepare our students to appreciate and understand other cultures and their learning styles to be able to compete in the global market with other countries and be successful.

838 I think some magnet schools are not as balanced as other magnet schools. Millbrook's population is almost 70% free and reduced lunch. I also wish our middle school option had a better reputation. Many families left our school this year because they did not want to attend E Millbrook. I hope the county will work hard to make that magnet choice more appealing so that by the time my daughter(a kindergartener) is ready for middle school. I know there have been concerns with the IB program as well as student safety at EMMMS. We also need to make sure new staff members are fully trained and receive support throughout the year. This has been a challenge at our school. There is also so much emphasis on students achievement that sometime I forget I am at a magnet school!

839 The magnet schools provide some of the best learning environments where all kids have the opportunity to excel should they choose to do so. Enloe, in particular, is inviting to a wide range of different students, and is special in its diversity and the strong positive message that acceptance of this diversity brings to the students. The current program is doing a great service to the community.

840 I feel very strongly that the magnet program in Wake County is a strength, and should not be dismantled. Thanks for the opportunity to voice my opinion.

841 They are one of the reasons that my family decided to move to Raleigh. We started out at our neighborhood school, but my kids' needs for AG programming weren't being met. The magnet schools have done an excellent job of challenging my children

842 Joyner is a phenomenal school and has had totally exceeded our expectations. It's emphasis on internationalism, globalism, and putting spanish culture in the forefront has created a truly diverse and ethnically enriched community. Fantastic school on every level and the board would be fools to touch it.

- 843 Please be mindful of what has happened in Charlotte over the last 10-12 years since they stopped busing for diversity. Their magnets were harmed and some of the 10 schools they recently closed were once magnet schools. Don't let that happen to WCPSS.
- 844 I am the parent of a rising kindergartener and was very frustrated with the magnet selection process. I took at least 3 days off of work to participate in tours and open houses and feel that I was misled by the system with respect to the actual chance I had of getting into a magnet school (Wendell is our choice selection). I do not think parents should be allowed to rank more than 3 magnet schools. Also, I am extremely frustrated that my child, who is high performing, did not meet any magnet priority criteria b/c we live in a "low-performing node."
- 845 My 6 yr old that attends JY Joyner is Autistic. Due to their IB program she has become very high functioning on the Autism Spectrum. Incredible program. My 12 yr old attends Daniels Middle. Although they lost their Magnet Status they are still an awesome school.
- 846 We as a society cannot afford for education to be available at a high standard only to those who can afford private schooling.
- 847 My children have attended Conn Elementary, which we can walk to from our home. We have greatly appreciated the expanded offerings of the magnet program there as well as the diversity of the Conn community, and we strongly support the continuation of the magnet program.
- 848 I think parents have been spoiled by the expectation of choice here in Wake Co. It's a shame some schools have arts and phys. ed. and others don't, but I understand the need to make schools in poorer areas attractive to more affluent parents who are able to hunt down every possible advantage for their children.
- 849 I think that magnet programs are crucial for low income families in that they can offer programs that the families might not have access to otherwise. My children have truly enjoyed the magnet program.

850 We have had a great experience with the use of the magnet programs. Our kids have really thrived in this environment. The diversity and the challenging programs are what we support and like the most.

851 I think magnet schools should be located in areas in which the base school has high concentrations of poor students. I feel that a student should NOT be guaranteed a magnet seat for his entire school experience. I think students should all have to reapply with each school change. Why should someone entering a magnet school in elementary be allowed to use the magnet system his entire school year. Instead let some other students use it for middle school or high school. Magnet schools offer many programs not available at traditional schools. Why should one student get to experience the magnet benefits his entire 13 years. Give other students a chance by making all students reapply for a magnet seat whenever there is a school change (elementary vs middle vs high).

852 The magnet program has been a great opportunity for students to have increased opportunities such as more materials, field trips, higher quality teachers, and most of all increased parental support. I am thankful my children have been in magnet schools. It is what made me choose Wake County for our school district.

853 The magnet program is not only an asset to the school system but it is and has been for decades, a model for other school systems to revitalize, strengthen and improve their school systems and the quality of education offered to the students

854 Support magnet program!

855 While magnet programs attract students that help provide economic and cultural/ethnic diversity, it does create a challenge since some students are capable of handling advanced offerings which match the magnet program and some students are not able to take advantage of the offerings since they have been identified with additional educational needs which must be addressed during the time of the magnet class offerings.

- 856 We look forward to continued use of the program to better serve all families, to make best use of county resources, and to provide environments capable of supporting students in the best way possible.
- 857 I would like to see more elective options offered at all elementary and middle schools.
- 858 If your child is in the magnet program, it is wonderful. However, there are many parts of Wake County where children have very little chance of attending a magnet school. The magnet schools are wonderful and they offer more opportunities. If you expand the program, you make everyone happy.
- 859 The magnet program allows all students to explore, build and share their gifts. Some excel in the arts, others academics, etc. I miss WF elementary magnet program. If it was a magnet I would have chosen it this year!
- 860 I tried to send in an application for the magnet program this last year but it said that I would forfeit my kid's spot in his current school. Of course I did not submit the application since it was highly unlikely that he would get in. Please change this policy of losing a spot. Parents should have the freedom to apply without consequences.
- 861 We are upset that we are "stuck" in the magnet pathway, unable to return to traditional school choices without being lowest on the totem pole. This would have changed our decision to enter the magnet school program in the first place had we known we might not be guaranteed a spot at our neighborhood school!
- 862 The magnet program has made a huge difference in our daughters' lives. My oldest started Kindergarten as a painfully shy, introverted child. Through her involvement in theater at the elementary school level and two performances on the "big stage" in Pieces of Gold, she has come out of her shell and is now a social and extroverted 13 year old. I strongly believe that for very creative kids that the arts opportunities that the GT magnets offer can change lives.

- 863 Since online assignments have been introduced to most middle school students...Ex. Prezi, Edmodo, why not make it available to all as early as 4th grade. therefore it wouldn't be such a hard transition upon entering middle schools. I have seen some elementary magnet programs already using it but not all. Its the small steps that count cause they can lead to better confidence and bigger expectations which lead to bigger steps.
- 864 A school/program is only as good as its teachers. It doesn't matter what the course material is...if it doesn't have a good teacher delivering the message, it will not have the same impact! Although I STRONGLY support the magnet school program, I have been just as pleased with my non-magnet high school because of the excellent instructors and administrators.
- 865 We must avoid creating elite "private academies" within the public system. The magnet system has allowed differentiated academic programs available to "all" and largely avoided the "country day elitism" label. It was worth the distance (and age of facility) to get the specialized program. Making magnet programs available in the suburbs will likely create dramatically different perceptions of very similar schools. At some point facility equity will become a primary school choice factor. If I can get program X in a 10 year old facility close to my home and in a 60 year old facility 35 minutes away, which one will I choose? Balancing access, efficient and effectiveness is key to system success.
- 866 Wake County must maintain robust magnet programs.
- 867 While encouraging learning at their quicker pace, the AG Basics model also allows smart kids to be with their peers without the social stigma of being smarter than everyone else. The GT Model promotes exploration of various subjects and interests, even at an early age. Our family went through Fuller, Carnage and Enloe, and appreciate the opportunities provided!
- 868 We like the GT Magnet program and the various electives it offers to the kids.

- 869 Since the school board voted out busing for diversity purposes, Magnet schools are the only way to provide much needed opportunities to low income families.
- 870 I believe that the Magnet programs are a key to the past success and reputation of the WCPSS and should continue and even expand to achieve the goals in Q. #1
- 871 My eldest is finishing up her Junior year at Southeast Raleigh Magnet HS, and she has been a "magnet-kid" since day 1 of Kindergarten. We have thoroughly appreciated the quality of education that she has received at the Magnet schools she has attended. Thank you so much for these opportunities! Although I fully realize the reasoning behind the current placement of Wake County magnet schools, I do sincerely wish that there were more of them available on the Western side of Wake County.
- 872 I fully support the magnet program and believe they are a crucial component to successful schools for ALL children in Wake county. I agree that transportation has only gotten more complicated as the county grown and we continue to offer magnet and choice schools but I think additional creative approaches are still available. For instance, the express buses should be looked at more carefully as it could be effective to get more kids from downtown to North and West Raleigh from their middle school and high schools quickly and then have them join a different bus at an express location, cutting down the time they are sitting on buses waiting for 75 buses to get through a bus loop.
- 873 The IB program has been excellent for my son and I was glad we had that option for him throughout his primary education.
- 874 Magnet schools are very important in immersing our children in diverse cultures. This is something they experience through daily interactions, something they cannot simply read or watch.
- 875 Please do not discontinue the magnet programs or modify them too much. Take care of teachers and provide them support so that they do not leave the profession.

876 Please appreciate how long it has taken the magnet schools to develop into healthy schools, and don't take any action that would implode them. I am concerned that the choice plan will negatively impact the magnet program unless you are diligent in supporting magnet schools and maintaining the socio-economic diversity within each school. Also, a number of students ride the buses to their neighborhoods, and this is critical for the success of the program (we have a number of international students in our program, who are cared for after school by grandparents that do not drive). The AG/GT magnet program is a wonderful program, and should definitely be maintained.

877 I believe the magnet programs have provided a great deal of oppotunities for students across this county. We need to commend this department and schools for the great work they have done over the years. These programs have been around longer that some people have been residence of Wake Co.

878 Huge supporter of Magnet concept! Thank you for taking time to survey citizens of Wake Co!

879 If you keep the magnet program but gut the transportation to magnet schools, you will kill the magnet program. Please ensure that all transportation needs are adequately funded.

880 The magnet model was working well in Wake County to achieve countywide support for and balance of the public schools. The achievement gap is a real problem, but it can be addressed through the current magnet model. The best thing about magent schools, though, if you go and visit them, is the excitement about learning that the children exude. Take a tour of Hunter or Ligon. these kids are real, enthusiastic ambassadors for learning. Their affect is in marked contrast to the desultory, going-through-the-motions tours that you get at some traditional schools. Please don't force all families into that box. Please do not take these varied, challenging and advanced courses away from our children who are currently receiving them.

- 881 The magnet program was a selling point that I could use to attract talented professionals to my high-tech small business. I hope the current board can undo damage caused by their predecessors so that I can resume speaking with pride about our school system.
- 882 My children have recently graduated and are in college. In addition to the AG and Arts exposure, the magnet program taught them more about effectively working with others from different cultures and socio-economic backgrounds.
- 883 Fire Beth Cochran for her failed leadership at Enloe. Enloe has fallen off the list of the best high schools in America based on her failed leadership. She refused to recognize academic excellence because the students in the bottom third of the class may suffer some self esteem issues. The result is a flight of the motivated students to schools that value academic excellence like Raleigh Charter. She should not hold an administrative position in WCPSS unless you make her a principal at a Renaissance school.
- 884 Magnets were conceived to keep segregation from being a glaring problem. Folks can choose to go there, but the trade-off is travel and time. It has worked for years. Those who live far away and choose to move in to high density new-growth areas, do so with the knowledge that they are in areas where tons of kids are moving in at a high rate. Thus, new schools for them! We go to schools in the magnet program in southeast Raleigh that has 80 year old buildings... But we wouldn't trade it for the world - My kids have friends of all ethnic and religious backgrounds. It's not about as much diversity however, as it is to keep segregation from taking us back 40 years. PLEASE don't let this happen.

- 885 The transportation is a big mess. There is no excuse for children to be on the bus for 2hrs a day. Since parents are "opting" to send the children to magnet school, express busing should be encouraged. If longer travels cannot be avoided, consider opening schools later than neighborhood schools. Principals, parents and teachers need to be given lot more flexibility in how they administer a magnet school. Think of offering a contract (4-6 years term) like the way a University offers/attracts a Football OR Basketball coach.
- 886 The special education program at East Millbrook Middle School is horrible. They do not integrate with the rest of the school, which is stunning because the school has an excellent music program that is not offered to the AU III students.
- 887 The magnet programs have been extremely successful for our family. Please address the start time and adjust to all magnet schools starting at 8 am or later to maximize academic success.
- 888 The magnet system has been a wonderful experience for my child and others in our surrounding neighborhoods, particularly since funding has been cut at our base schools and many of the programs, classes and teachers have been eliminated or reduced there. Magnet programs are great but additional funding to support base schools is really needed.

- 889 The magnet program has made all the difference in our children's education. The GT and AG programs have together impacted the worldview of our children with the exposure they've offered. Band, foreign language, chemistry (in elementary!) and architecture classes were invaluable. Additionally, diversity is still an important priority in this country/state/city/county--economically, culturally and racially. It is not just a poor/rich/black/white issue. All children in a society benefit when they develop socially, academically and personally, in the company of the many types of people they will encounter in life. At our school we had middle class children friends with other middle class children who were of culture's they'd not yet been introduced. They became friends with children from other parts of the area and exchanged visits and learned about each others families and their mores. In a school of their immediate neighbors they may not have had the benefit of that kind of exposure. Thus it is important to offer those specialized programs in areas where the overlapping of race, culture,etc. can occur. Simply attending magnet in one's own
- 890 Martin has been an excellent alternative for my child. She has gotten to meet students from around the county that she wouldn't have otherwise. The teaching staff has seen a bit more turnover than I'd like to see, but I don't know if it was higher at MMS than in other WCPSS schools, or is just a reflection of the low-pay, hard-work expectation currently in place. Magnet schools give kids an opportunity to explore so many new areas that they would not be exposed to at a traditional school. They offer an enriching experience that I would hate to lose.

891 The magnet program is what makes Wake County schools so attractive. Parents can choose the school that is right, academically and socially, for their child. The benefits for magnet students are attractive (special programs, exposure to social diversity, exposure to economic diversity) the benefits to the base students are also apparent. Magnet parents volunteer their time and resources to improve education for ALL students. These inner city schools may otherwise have very limited resources (time and money from parent resources). In the end, parent resources are better distributed throughout Wake Co since non-magnet schools will naturally have their own group of parent volunteers but the inner city schools would have to go without.

892 The choice of magnet should be expanded to any child and not based on where you live so the parent can match the magnet school that fits their child's need the best

893 The value of exposing children to diversity can not be measured in a standardized test. Not only do low income students benefit from this, but high income students also benefit. My daughter has made friends with numerous people who she would otherwise not have met. I wish that I had a diverse school when I was growing up.

894 While I have never participated in magnet programs, I think they provide an important option for some families.

895 Need more AG Basics programs.

896 I highly value the Magnet program at Joyner and support all Magnet programs.

897 The magnet programs are especially helpful for AG children. I think the county would struggle to meet AG instructional criteria without these options.

- 898 I believe if the new choice assignment plan is here to stay (which I believe needs some tweaks), then I think it potentially impacts how the magnet program dovetails into it. While I think promoting socio-economic diversity via the choice plan and magnets is very important, I have concerns about access. We live in North Raleigh in a high wealth node. While I could have applied to Martin for my rising 6th grader, it would have been tough to get her there given the distance, start time, and bus schedule. I think Martin and other magnet school programs are great, and I wish that that creative teaching (especially all the electives) could be more widely available, including in North Raleigh. I actually grew up in Raleigh many years ago, and attended Martin, when it wasn't a magnet. I question why a school like Martin has a magnet program when it sits in a high wealth area, and in the central portion of North Raleigh we don't have a magnet program. All and all, I wish they were more widely available to promote diversity and best utilize the facilities, however, I think the third objective of expanded education opportunities should be made available to all, regardless of the income level of the area.
- 899 Our magnet programs have not only provided expanded educational opportunities to families who desire them, but have also offered a voluntary system to ease over crowding in both high poverty areas and affluent areas. Please preserve what has worked so well with this program and which has offered wonderful opportunities in the classroom for a diverse student population.
- 900 As I talk to other parents in our school district, it seems that magnet parents are frequently the most satisfied. While our base school has good scores on paper and a good reputation, I know many families who feel their children are not well-served by our local school. They are withdrawing their children to pay for private education or even homeschooling them if they don't have the means to provide a private education. I am familiar with these children and feel most of them would be well-served by our magnet school (Washinton Elementary)...I am so grateful we have the opportunity to attend.

901 Please continue to support our magnet program.

902 We have two children who have been going into magnet schools from kindergarten. We see a significant difference in their growth as compared to kids from non-magnet schools - in the areas of electives offering, learning, challenges offered, focus on AG. We have also seen that the homework is different and challenging and kids are asked to think more and work harder - which we feel is appropriate as we are observing that kids have the capacity to take on the challenges and in return grow. Magnet program do bring in the element of healthy competition among the peers and we believe this makes them better prepared for the real-world.

903 My oldest graduated from Enloe last year, my youngest is a sophomore there. They also attended Underwood Elementary and Ligon Middle. The programs at all three schools have been exactly what my sons needed to feel challenged and to excel academically, to express themselves artistically, and to be exposed to students from across a wide range of cultural, economic and ethnic backgrounds. I am extremely grateful for the high quality of public education offered at these and other Wake County schools. I believe that a strong public school system is essential to a strong community.

904 In the past, I think the magnet system has achieved the goals stated above and therefore created a positive environment for both teachers and students to be successful. I'm concerned that with the new approach to student placement, parents will not participate in the magnet system for fear of boxing themselves into less optimal schools later in their children's school career. It's foreseeable that the magnet system will then unravel and what's made wake county schools so exceptional will be lost and families will suffer! There seems to be great irony in the new "choice-based" system when the opportunity for success offered by the magnet system is in effect taken away through confusion in the present and a discouraging path into the future. I support the magnet system and fear for its future!

905 These programs need to continue to provide the choices and services needed for our students to realize their full potential, in addition to being a great way to fully utilize existing school facilities. But remember, if "magnet" options are put into ALL schools, then magnets will no longer be "magnate"

906 I would like to see all wake county schools provide equal opportunities for students. some elem schools offer only basic extensions such as art, music, and p.e. while others offer spanish, orchestra, math/science discovery, etc. While i understand all schools wouldn't have identical programs they should still be equally shared. If that were the case then there would be no need to manipulate the issue of poverty and diversity. all students would have equally wonderful schools. Then i could see the magnet schools having specialized programs like the ones you have listed above. The schools that are not magnets should be made equal first of all. then parents would have the choice of specialization with a magnet. Vocational high schools should be a high priority. all students are not cut out to be on the college track nor should they all be.

907 We need to keep the magnet program strong. Magnets should have extra gifted programs.

908 I love the magnet school program and the curriculum that it offers our children.

909 I think the effort to increase the percentage of magnet students at Poe would do a lot to support the Montessori program there.

910 I have done this survey twice because I heard that it was not working properly when it first came out. Hope that doesn't create a problem. Thanks!

911 Our magnet programs are the main reason we continue to have 'healthy schools'. These schools allow children of all backgrounds to work as equals and provide opportunities that some of these children would never experience otherwise.

912 magnet programs are a great way to engage students

- 913 Our Wake County magnet programs provide excellent opportunities for students to explore a variety of educational opportunities. These opportunities are unique to our Wake County students and should be preserved. The at risk students who make up the historic "base" population of most magnet schools benefit tremendously from this exposure (as do the "magnet" students -- that is obviously why there is high demand to send children to these schools). As a practical matter, however, the magnet students are more likely to have a family background which would support enhanced learning opportunities privately. It is a tremendous credit to our County and our community that we are providing opportunities for these "base" students who would not be as likely to otherwise be exposed.
- 914 I believe the WCPSS magnet program has been the key to the success of our school system and the economic vitality of our city. It has ensured that all Wake County children attend healthy schools with good teachers. Please preserve the magnet program.
- 915 It should be noted that since I'm in favor of magnet schools, I'm in favor of using them to meet the goals established by the federal government such that funding for these schools can be obtained and maintained. On a different note, this is a terrible survey -- a question about what I think would be attractive to other people is being used. Why not ask what would be attractive to me? That would provide real data, instead of speculation.
- 916 Magnets are crucial to providing a diversified and flexible learning environment. If we try to apply a one size fits all approach, we will lose many highly talented, exceptional children. For example, without access to a Magnet school for gifted and talented, I would have enrolled my sons in a private school.

- 917 I have been a parent of the Magnet program for five years now and have been thrilled with the opportunity it has afforded my children. I willing drive 20+ minutes each way to take my children to school and appreciate the choice I have to stay a Magnet family!
- 918 We have 2 children who go to AB Combs Elementary. I could not speak more highly of the program or the school - we absolutely love it. The leadership model is preparing my children for the world that they will find ahead of them. The staff teaches leadership concepts to every grade level at Combs, and the students benefit tremendously from it. Great program!
- 919 please continue and possibly expand the award winning magnet programs. children, families, businesses, and the whole community have benefitted and will continue to benefit from the existence of the programs. It has given multitudes of underprivileged young people a chance to experience something they would not have had access to without the magnet school experience.
- 920 Being a resident of Eastern Wake County, I am concerned that our only magnet choices are in Zebulon. This is counterproductive, when most all residents commute to Raleigh for work. I would keep my children in our community if the gifted and talented programs were in Knightdale schools, rather than Zebulon. Instead, I went with their current school, Underwood, and that track rather than supporting the Eastern Wake County area. I do not feel the magnets are placed in the proper areas to make the biggest impact.
- 921 While our children have aged out of the public school system, my husband and I are strong supporters of the magnet school system. As residents of Mordecai, we understand the benefit of keeping schools in our area diverse by bringing in children from other areas. Our neighborhood relies on strong, diverse schools to make sure that we can attract new people to Mordecai.
- 922 a waste of both resources and talented educators

- 923 I think the magnet programs are wonderful and have been very happy at Brooks. I would like to see more magnet schools and more choices especially at the middle school level. It will be difficult for us to continue on to Moore Square as it is on a different schedule and is so far for us to travel.
- 924 I am in strong support of the magnet program. Brooks would not be the school it is today if the magnet program had not been put in place.
- 925 I think the magnet program is an asset to the Wake County public school system.
- 926 The magnet program has been a great one for Wake County, helping to build inner city schools that might otherwise have languished. I fully support the program as it is now and believe it has been a wonderful program for the county's kids and an effective use of our tax dollars.
- 927 I feel that the magnet program is vital to both Wake county and Downtown/SE Raleigh. I do think some schools should be reassesd (Wiley, Underwood) as they have thriving community that supports them, where as other Downtown/SE Raleigh schools could benefit from becoming magnets
- 928 I am very frustrated with the lack of Magnet seats at Enloe. My younger child will "feed" in but unfortunately my rising 9th grader is waitlisted.
- 929 Diversity in the schools is an important part of a quality education. We love the diversity at Enloe and do not want that to change. It also offers a wide variety of wonderful courses, which we also hope will stay

930 My first grader has had a wonderful experience at Fuller Elementary so far. I hope that the increased enrollment due to the new student assignment plan does not negatively impact the school next year in the way that I fear that it will. You cannot maintain this type of program with too many children per class. This is a wonderful program in which my child is thriving. I hope that my two younger children have the opportunity to experience what my first grader has been for the past two years. This school is excellent in striving to make sure that EVERY CHILD in the school learns to his or her best ability. This school is a wonderful example of magnet schools at their best.

931 Please keep the magnet schools and the choices they promote. Feeding magnet school children into a feeder pattern erodes those choices and I don't believe that is how magnets should work, especially since family/children's needs change over time. Keep the magnet programs strong since they obviously work so well.

932 We have had the most amazing experience this year! We could not be more happy with Underwood and it's amazing staff and parents.

933 We have been thrilled with the programs at underwood and overall impressed with the magnet programs available. I am hopeful that the school-choice program does not affect the magnet programs in an adverse way.

934 We have been at Joyner Elementary for one year and absolutely love it! Wouldn't change a thing. Thanks.

935 Too much emphasis is put on magnet schools and not enough on all of the non-magnet schools. Why does one child deserve to go to a magnet and another not? Why does that even exist in our school system? I understand that the focus is on bringing diversity and balancing schools, but the school system has taken it too far.

936 Please note that the Farmington Woods Elementary school was named the #1 magnet in the country. It has a very strong leadership, staff, parent and student community which is made stronger through the rigors and diversity offered by the IB Programme. Many parents, myself included, are heart sick to not have a more local IB choice for their children in middle school. The current offering for an IB middle school is so far a distance that it makes it very difficult for parents to choose to bus their children so far from home to continue their IB education. Our family will not be continuing the IB route into middle school. We are sad and disgusted that we no longer have Daniels as an option, and hope that the school system takes into re/consideration the "paths" set up by magnets with respect to the grand plan for offering diverse, challenging curriculum to the students of Wake County.

937 I believe the WCPSS magnet program has been the key to the success of our school system and the economic vitality of our city. It has ensured that all Wake County children attend healthy schools with good teachers. Please preserve the magnet program.

938 Magnet programs are fantastic and I hope they continue to be a priority in the Wake County Public School System.

939 I do not have a child in the Wake County Public Schools but am very concerned about the education that my tax dollars support. Magnet Programs have played a vital role in keeping WCPSS strong.

940 My daughter was #312 on the waitlist for Martin Middle the year she was a rising 6th grader (2008). After touring the school, I couldn't help but wonder why Martin had a vast list of electives and Lufkin (where my daughter ended up attending) had band and "The Wheel". Why can't we spread out the money and opportunities so that all schools have a few more electives and there isn't such a contrast between the "haves" and the "have nots". I support the magnet program for its goal of diversity, but I think it is a real shame that only a small percentage of our students will ever get to benefit by attending one of the highly popular magnet schools. And with the new feeder patterns, the general public has an even slimmer chance of attending a school like Martin unless they were fortunate enough to get in a feeder elementary school. Make all of our schools great - not just the magnets!

941 I truly value the staff and program at Martin Middle and hope that you will not remove the magnet program from Martin. It is a great program and I am thrilled at the choices these students are offered with this program and can only hope that numerous students decide their life career while attending this fabulous school.

942 After touring our base school prior to the magnet application process last year, we were extremely discouraged and began looking at private schools. We were thrilled to get into Underwood and could not be more happy with our experience  
there

943 The magnet program is an important part of the educational opportunities at WCPSS. I strongly support continuing the magnet program for all of the goals mentioned above! Including diversity, specialized opportunities and maximizing facility usage.

944 the original purpose that magnets served is the purpose they should continue to serve.

945 If the district does not commit to the objectives of magnet programs as they exist, over time, the programs will be diluted, and will not be attractive.....ultimately resulting in the demise of the positive effects of WCPSS magnets. Our downtown magnets that have thrived over the past almost 30 years will return to schools of high poverty, and we all know what the research says about that, don't we???? Let's hope our superintendent and other decision makers know.

946 Our family is so glad to have these options. We are raising our son bi-lingual, and think it is imperative that he have language education on a daily basis. None of his proximity school offered foreign languages, so we were pleased to have the options of several magnet schools to choose from where he could take Spanish (although only two offer it daily).

947 I fully support the magnet system/programs in Wake County. I think this approach has proven to be highly successful I would very much like to see it continue and be strengthened. In our eight years at Olds, we have observed as the school transitioned from a magnet school to a non-magnet. While Olds is still strong due to strong leadership, I do believe the school was stronger with the magnet program. Beyond strengthening any specific school, I think the magnet programs in general strengthens the entire system.

948 The magnet programs are some of the best in the nation. They should not be weakened. They should be expanded to offer the same opportunities to folks outside of Raleigh without us having to travel so far.

949 My daughter is in the 3rd grade. Every year we have tried the "lottery" to get into the magnet program at Underwood. We finally were selected this year - I loved the fact of signing in online to find out the results vs. waiting for a letter. I thought I misread it and had to log in. I can honestly say I am amazed at the staff at Underwood and all of the educational advantages my daughter has this year over previous years. Parents are much more engaged because they want to be there. The technology is years above her previous school. The school promotes family involvement and serves all families. My daughter has been able to try different electives and perform in front of students and parents. This school is truly making a difference.

950 We will no longer be attending Poe Montessori due to bullying and other discipline problems that continue to affect my children. And, I find it hard to believe that the main bully in my child's class is the security guard's child. Not enough has been done to modify the child's and the WCPSS's employee's behavior.

951 The magnet program in WCPSS is being put at risk by the current student assignment plan. We believe that a strategic retreat from the current plan and back to a variation of the wonderful system that was in place is the only answer.

952 Our son attends Ligon Middle School and has been in the magnet program since kindergarten. It's a sacrifice for our family, however it has been worth it. Karl enjoys the electives he's been able to take at Ligon (German, Chess, Robotics, etc) and we like that he's exposed to a diverse student body which reflects what he will encounter in life. We also feel like we are in a small way supporting a community that would likely have a poor local school choice otherwise.

- 953 We bus our girls almost an hour each way because the magnet school offered ability based instruction. This is something we supported even with a child that was in the lower performing class as that class size was smaller and she received more one on one attention. Where our oldest was double AG and in a larger class size which worked fine and the kids did move faster through the concepts.
- 954 I could not find Broughton High on the list above. ? Along with Daniels Broughton is the other school that my children attend. Though we did not opt for the magnet program for our children I feel it is good to have a wide variety of choices for those that seek them.
- 955 the GT magnet program at Underwood has help my child to flourish into a well rounded student.
- 956 They should recieve more funding for their specialized areas. For example, as family of an Enloe Music student they literally have no money because of lack of funding. Just because the students' families aren't as rich as Panther Creek, Cary, and Green Hope, doesn't mean their students should have disadvantages. Afterall it is an arts school for a reason! Also at Enloe, the IB Program should recieve more funding. There are so many oppurtunities taken away from this program just because of the lack of funding. Same goes for schools like Southeast, Garner, Ligon, Carnage, and Hunter. I have heard of numerous issues with their special 'attractive' programs as well. In general, magnet schools deserve much more funding by the county than non-magnet schools. The lack of this is significantly taking away the beauty of the county's magnet program.
- 957 We have been in the magnet system for 20+ years - 6 of our children attend(ed) Washington. Several have ADD or LD or both. This school serves(ed" their needs in a superior fashion - they attended electives to help them rather than being publicly pulled out of language, math, or science core studies to help them with ld/add issues as is the policy of non-magnet Wake County public schools - dumb, dumb, dumb!

958 My daughter has attended Carnage Middle School is in 8th grade and she has been a straight A student all 3 years. She has a diverse group of friends and we as her parents have been thrilled with her education. She will attend Enloe in the fall and hope her experience will be just as great!

959 We are quite worried about losing the academic strength of the downtown magnets. Over the last three years, we have seen a loss of strong leadership at Hunter ES and a concomitant departure of strong teachers. Uncertainty about the future of the WCPSS magnet programs also contributed/contributes to teacher anxiety. We are worried that the new feeder patterns are decreasing the number of magnet seats available in downtown magnets. It seems that the continuing erosion of resources appears to be leading to a loss of access to differentiated learning experiences. As a result, fewer parents have the level of excitement about their magnet experience as I have seen several years ago. We are very happy with our magnet experiences so far (currently one child at Hunter ES, one at Ligon MS). It is our hope that the downtown magnets remain strong/return to their old strength so that other families can enjoy an experience similar to ours. To maintain/rebuild such strength will require strong leadership inside of the schools, strong teachers, as well as revisiting feeder patterns. Of course, a commitment from the School Board for a strong magnet program will

960 The original purpose of the magnet program is ideal. Do not diversify the programs to all areas or take money to fund other programs at traditional schools. Keep the programs fresh and rigorous.

961 Diversity and choice of special curriculum are important. Reduce achievement gap by requiring summer school for underachievers taught by 'master' teachers.

962 The program was working just fine until the new choice plan decided to make a mess of it all.

- 963 Although my children have all now graduated from WCPSS, I feel that the efforts of the school board over the last two years have been a disaster for Raleigh and Wake county. I hope we are on to better leadership again. I hope that people wake up to John Hop-a-job Tedesco before he wreaks any more havoc in yet another job. Election to anonymity would be too good for the fool.
- 964 Magnet programs are extremely important and serve as an incentive to diversify schools--allowing individuals the choice to benefit, while helping eliminate concentrations of poverty and socio-economic clusters.
- 965 The magnet programs (esp the ag basic schools) have been absolutely integral in the education of my children - not only have they been challenged in their academic classes, but they have been able to explore their creative sides thru great art programs. Additionally - having so many like minded kids together - has allowed for the creation of a community which my AG kids (each identified with strong need) have found welcoming and challenging - this more so at carnage and enloe then at martin. It has been wonderful for my "nerdy" kids to be able to attend schools where it is not only cool to be smart - but is encouraged in every way by every member of the school staff.
- 966 My three children attended Underwood Elementary, Ligon and Carroll Middle, and Enloe and Sanderson High Schools. The primary focus of the WCPSS should be to go back to providing the best possible education to all students, including magnet programs for all those who apply, instead of just the 40% that were accepted this year. Avoiding high concentrations of poverty and achieving maximum diversity in our schools is absolutely critical to providing the best environment for all Wake County children to receive the best education possible.
- 967 We love the magnet program and feel it really offers something special that regular programming does'nt. We feel lucky to be part of it and was so happy to have it as a choice!

968 We love the magnet program. We agree with the goals of the program and think they have served the county well in achieving those goals. We love Wiley, its international studies concentration and especially the diverse international language offerings! It is an exceptional school. The magnet program is an exceptional model.

969 Exposes the students to new experiences they would otherwise not experience.

970 We love the magnet programs and both my children have thrived with these programs!

971 There are few AG Basic Magnets, leaving most of the AG children receiving little to no AG services.

972 Please, please review comments above written in questions # 4 & #5. There are still a number of children attending magnet schools, hoping to be able to succeed, but are still having difficulties. The only option left for these particular children are private schools or homeschooling. More and more children are being homeschooled and attending private schools due to unmet needs at WCPSS public and magnet schools.

973 Hunter Elementary has been a wonderful example of what a magnet really should be. A humble school in a challenged neighborhood has attracted students from all over the county, provides fantastic programs, and brings resources of parent time and energy, teacher support, and financial assistance to a group of base students that would otherwise be without as much support. All students are able to learn and grow in a diverse environment, and all benefit from the mixing of resources. However, choices made in recent years have not continued to strengthen the programs available to magnet students, and I am concerned that they may leave the school, undoing the exciting progress that has been made there. Please support strengthening these strong programs!

974 My son made friends with children from all backgrounds, races in the magnet program....friendships he would not have had the opportunity otherwise. It gave a better understanding and a broader sense of our world. It is a wonderful, time-tested model.

975 My older son attended Enloe and received incredible instruction in Music and Audio Technology. Based on work he did there he was accepted at the California Institute for the Arts, one of the most difficult arts schools in the country to be accepted into. He just graduated with a degree in Music Composition. I credit his time at Enloe with some of his successes. He would have been LOST in high school if it weren't for the ability to choose subjects of interest to

976 The magnet programs are the best part of my kids' school day. Although computer literate, we are not a particularly tech-savvy household, and I appreciate the exposure to new technologies that we can not provide at home.

977 I think the intent of #1 is excellent, but I think many of the magnets no longer fulfill this (e.g. Brooks and Farmington Woods). There is very little diversity of race and socioeconomic class at Brooks and others magnet schools I'm aware of.

978 We feel so fortunate that our daughter attends Washington Elementary through the magnet program. She is finishing 1st grade and has had a great experience these past two years. In fact, she doesn't want summer vacation to start because she is going to miss her teachers. We appreciate the diversity of the school, which has helped open up the world to our daughter. Having friends from such a diversity of backgrounds helps reinforce our message to her that everyone is different and to embrace our differences. We have also been very happy with the diversity of electives offered to challenge her and expose her to new things. We are glad she is able to take Spanish now to provide a good foundation early so she can continue Spanish throughout her school years. All of the teachers and staff at Washington that we've met have such enthusiasm and commitment to education, the school is a very positive and welcoming environment. Please continue to support the magnet program. It is such an asset to our community. We hope that our younger daughter will have the same opportunity to attend Washington magnet in a few years when she starts school.

979 i don't like how this survey is set up...anybody can answer this as many times as they would like....that's not a survey.

980 We have loved the magnet program, not only for the wonderful teachers and course offerings, but for the ability to expose children to the fact that not everyone is as fortunate as they are. It has served as a huge motivation for my child to work hard

981 We left Durham for Raleigh in June 2011 because of the strength of the Wake County public school system, especially the magnet program. We chose to live downtown 2 blocks from Conn Elementary because of the documented strength of its magnet program and its focus on Science & Technology (my husband and I are science college professors). We also value the diversity-focus of the magnet program because my husband is latino and our children are bilingual. Our daughter is two and we have a son on the way. If the magnet program ceased to serve the downtown neighborhoods, we would be encouraged to move elsewhere. Please keep the magnet program - it attracts educated people to downtown Raleigh and helps continue the revitalization of the area.

982 My daughter entered the magnet program at Bugg Elementary when she was in the first grade. We had applied and was accepted after I'd had her in a traditional school. There was a clear cut difference in the way the curriculum was taught as well as the staff attitudes towards teaching concepts in a different way. It made such a difference back then and now that she's in middle school. We will be leaving the magnet program next year in high school in order to attend a high school in our neighborhood. I just wanted to say that the programs do make a difference.

983 We feel very strongly that diversity in economics and race is important, enough so that we drive long distances to get to our school. I certainly hope that we can keep our Magnet schools and keep them strong to maintain this diversity.

- 984 Magnet schools are important (for the specialty programs), but no more important to my family than high quality neighborhood schools, especially for the lower grades. Elementary and Middle Schools should have the balance of arts, athletics, science, GT, etc.
- 985 I would like to see a magnet school closer to Morrisville.
- 986 My daughter has thrived at Poe Montessori. The program may be stronger if all children that attend the school are selecting it (versus being assigned) since it is a unique offering. If a family does not understand the montessori program or if a child starts in later years (3rd or up), it may be a challenge for them to adjust.
- 987 It would be nice to see some magnet programs available outside of Raleigh and closer or within schools located in Cary and Morrisville, I have four children and having them in a school closer to home is much easier for me when I need to attend their activities and participate in class room Math and Reading centers, I am a working Mom therefore time is limited and traveling to Raleigh would eat up time or I would have to take off half a day from work.
- 988 I believe the WCPSS magnet programs are a great asset to this county and serve both a magnet population and a base population. I believe there is a diverse offering of focuses and it allows the parents and students to take advantage of a learning environment where the children thrive the most. It saddens me to think that there is a misperception of some magnet schools as being in a class of "Have's" vs. "Have-not's" solely based on parental involvement and administrative support. I truly think it would be beneficial to reveal some facts about funding across Magnet schools to bring light to the issue that just because a Magnet performs, doesn't mean it's because WCPSS threw money their way! Please keep the Magnet program in Wake County!!

989 It has been an outstanding program for both of our children. They have developed leadership skills and team working capabilities whilst being pushed academically, to strive achievement in the most rigorous curriculum and other scientific/growth opportunities, which are not present in our base High School.

990 The presence of magnet programs in a community of schools should not be an issue. The school board needs to address whatever problems exist in the schools and not continue to highlight assignment issues. If the school board listened to parents and served students, we would not hear about assignment and magnets repeatedly. Move on and move up.

991 Please do not dismantle the magnet programs. The recent "selection" process likely gave a good indicator of which schools may need additional resources to make them desirable. Use this data along with testing, teacher retention, parent satisfaction and class size to support placing magnets where they are currently needed.

992 Test scores have shown that economically disadvantaged kids are doing worse in the magnets than at the nonmagnet schools, AND test lower than the state average. Why are my tax dollars paying for this? Even just a small few of these course offerings placed at the nonmagnet county schools would be so beneficial to our kids. My academically gifted child gets

NOTHING. WHY?  
993 WCPSS needs to address system-wide offering foreign languages in elementary schools and diversifying the foreign languages offered in middle schools.

994 The busing options for the magnet program were poor. My kids had to be in transit for 2.5 hours a day to attend the magnet program. This resulted in our decision to return to our local proximity school.

- 995 We feel so fortunate to have had the opportunity for our children to be a part of the magnet program. They would not have had the enrichment and exposure to different subjects had they been going to a traditional school. Through this experience we have tapped into talents our children have, that otherwise we may have never known.
- 996 I do not like the new two team format of Ligon and Carnage. It has brought down the work ethic of the AG students. They are emulating the poor behaviors of the GT students they see in the mixed classes for those students who are only identified AG in one area then placed in a GT class when they should be better clustered together for the teachers to properly serve their educational needs.
- 997 Explore ways to bring some programs like orchestra out to other schools in the area even if they aren't magnet programs.
- 998 The selection process for magnet schools needs to be more open; currently there is no clear explanation of basis for selection of students into magnet school. There needs to be more AG magnet slots available; too many AG students are being underserved in regular schools and these students end up on waitlist of AG magnets.
- 999 You should be able to get college credit for classes in high school magnet programs.
- 1000 My child is at Douglas and got into that school as a magnet student. Now, with reassignment, Douglas is a proximity choice. I feel we should be able to change his status from magnet to proximity. Douglas proximity feeder pattern works better for us (Carroll and Sanderson are very close to our house) than magnet feeder pattern (E. Millbrook and Millbrook are quite far).
- 1001 Magnets are great!! My kids have been able to experience so many exciting and enriching activities that would not have been offered in a 'traditional school' such as: 1.acting 2.greater variety of pe choices to include dance 3. band and orchestra,c... 4. multitude of AG offerings 5. theatre 6. art 7. literature/math classes offered as electives that enrich the standard courses of study

- 1002 We have been very pleased with our son's first year at Carnage Magnet M/S. He is getting the academic rigor that he needs, and the fine arts department is excellent. I just wish he didn't have to arrive at school 45 min. prior to when they start their school day.
- 1003 I taught school at a private school in TN. I am amazed at the public education that my child is receiving at J. Y. Joyner. It was our "base" school and I could not have chosen a better one. The magnet program is so thought out in every area of the classrooms. My children love learning Spanish every day. The focus on the community and Haiti is also a true life lesson.
- 1004 Eliminate the priority for those residing in high performing nodes for magnet selection. This is an unfair priority and particularly discriminates against those kids in medium performing nodes. We have no priority anywhere. Those in low performing nodes at least have a priority for the regional choice schools.
- 1005 I do feel that all Wake County school students should have access to the amazing education my daughter is getting at Farmington Woods. Great PTA that can help fund things the county can't. All students deserve this.

- 1006 I think the offerings are fantastic. I believe they should be available to all kids. Offering a magnet program to low income areas to increase the higher income population in those schools and therefore increase diversity has not proven effective in improving scores in any of the schools in the county. I would like to see increased offerings among all areas of the county, and among all schools. The responsibility for improving academic performance needs to finally fall back to the responsibility of parents, where it should have been in the first place. Spend your resources on school / community liaisons that help parents in all communities learn all of the ways they can be active in their kids' school and education. Teach parents and kids the value of education. Teach them how to impress upon their kids that they value education, homework, performance, etc. Then it's up to them. The magnet offerings should not be exclusive to a segment of the population who currently doesn't take responsibility for themselves to have their kids do well in school to begin with. Offering more diverse subjects and choices to families who can't even be bothered with the core subjects
- 1007 Pl pur more fund with state of the art facilities
- 1008 From my perspective, Conn has singularly failed to live up to it's original premise that it would offer more technology and exposure to a second language. There appears to be no oversight on whether a magnet school is meeting the needs of children assigned to the school for the magnet programs
- 1009 My child is eager to learn, but the children she is in class with do not respect the teachers and consisting distract from the learning environment. It would be nice if WCPSS would create a guideline on acceptable behavior and support teachers in removing kids that are preventing others from learning. My child often comments that the teachers punish all students because of a few that are disrespectful. Our children need to value education.
- 1010 Open a new or change and existing school to offer magnet program. Its not fair to have to travel 15-20 miles to take advantage of Magnet programs.

- 1011 Please consider more magnet schools in Apex, Cary, Morrisville and West Cary where more of the academically gifted population resides  
anvwav
- 1012 I was born and raised right here in Raleigh, NC - and attended Wake County Public Schools. My children are currently enrolled in private school because I have lost faith in the WCPSS.
- 1013 My children have been involved in WCPSS Magnet schools for 10 years...our family loves the magnet program and feel that our children are so prepared for their next level of schooling and will be more than adequately prepared for their futures because of the diverse and high quality education they receive from their magnet schools.
- 1014 I think that magnet schools should be disbanded and that charter schools should increase to take the place of the magnets schools that are a consortium of pubic and private funds.
- 1015 I have friends whose children are actually afraid of people who are of different races because they don't really have any in their schools! My children are receiving exceptional educational opportunities, and becoming very, very accustomed to people who are different. That ability is critical if our children are going to compete in the global economy. I would like the magnet program to remain strong, and diversity is critical to that effort. Anything less destroys the program.
- 1016 We were finally granted the opportunity to attend a magnet school this year. we have really enjoyed this year and my child was able to adjust easily to the new environment. Great principals and teachers really make a difference at the schools

- 1017 Linked to the choice objective, Magnet schools should offer programs that expand the choices for parents in terms of education. I think there is a broad range of options within the magnet schools. I have elected to not attend magnet schools because I favor neighborhood schools over the magnet programs. I think it also offers good quality education for low income families that most likely their parents would not seek out this type of education. I was raised in Wake Co and had the benefit of attending Martin/Ligon. It was my base school.
- 1018 My kids are magnet kids and I understand the importance of bringing in good magnet kids to help the school out. Just look at how the area around Joyner has changed for the better.
- 1019 magnet schools are good, but we don't think it is fair for students as they were not offered to all students. This is public school system, and it should be offered at all schools; so students will have equal chances to attend those programs instead of not being able to because of they were not assigned to magnet schools (even they applied for it). We are asking the board to take this into consideration, equal chances to all students regardless races, economic status, school proximity...
- 1020 I think the magnet schools create a sense of entitlement and a scale of perfection that is impossible to meet because not everyone can go. I think it is just continuing a trend of entitlement and it causes strife within our students and communities

- 1021 I am not a supporter of the magnet program here in Wake County for a variety of reasons, particularly now that assignments aren't based on balancing the economically disadvantaged student population in all the schools. The two main ones are that 1) selection system does not allow all families who want to participate the ability to attend magnet schools; and 2) the inequality in the level of education in magnet versus nonmagnet schools. My children have not had the opportunity to attend magnet schools because we have not been selected in the "lottery" after multiple applications. This has resulted in my oldest attending a middle school that did not allow him to continue his elementary Spanish (which he had in his base elementary school to which we also applied and did not get magnet status). In elementary school I am just looking for a good foundation for my child and to begin to observe his interests and areas of excellence. It is middle and high school in which I would want him to be able to take advantage of more specialized programs. However in Wake County if you don't start in elementary school, there appears to be limited options for getting it is a good programs.
- 1022 it is a good programs.
- 1023 As a previous parent of Poe Montessori, the focus on the school has drifted from Montessori. The resources were limited for the kids with high needs (at no fault of the school, but rather the board changes) and the ability for the school to retain the highly qualified teachers was nearly impossible once the board made changes that clearly impacted schools in high poverty areas. It is a shame what has become of the school that could have been minimized with a little attention from the school system and commitment to the staff and families.
- 1024 I couldn't be happier with all of the magnet programs. The IB/Spanish language fits my child's needs. But I also can't think of a more positive way to bring money & resources in to a school in a way that benefits lower-income children and higher-income students alike.

- 1025 It is becoming very difficult to understand the difference between a true magnet school and other "speciality" schools popping up across Wake County. Please stay true to the "magnet concept" and true to the original objectives. Families are becoming more and more confused about their options and unsure of the difference between magnet and other "themed" schools. My child attends Conn and we love it! He thoroughly enjoys the magnet theme components- including technology and the active learning PBL modules. I can't believe how much he has already learned from the "Expert Speakers" and on the "Excursions"! He has also experienced several video conferences and works regularly with iTouches and iPads to enhance his learning. We are very happy with our experiences with Magnet Programs and hope that WCPSS stays true to the original objectives and continues to support all existing magnet schools.
- 1026 Fred Olds Elementary is missing from the list.
- 1027 Whichever schools is producing successful students are the ones that need to be replicated, regardless of magnet status. Find what works and replicate it -- its that simple, even if it means piecing it together from multiple locations.
- 1028 Magnet schools are great, but we need to also make sure that there are enough proximity slots for downtown students
- 1029 Middle school assignments should not be affected by whether or not a student is in a magnet elementary school.
- 1030 We love them, schools are very diverse like the world we live in. This is very good for the kids, as they can learn to tolerate others who do not have same economic or cultural background as themselves
- 1031 Great programs. Wish to be offered in more high schools.
- 1032 I wish programs that are found to be successful at magnets could also be incorporated into non-magnets.

- 1033 I attended magnet schools for my k-12 schooling and I credit Hunter, Ligon and Enloe with preparing my to apply for and be accepted by top-ranked colleges and universities. I currently attend Davidson college and am in the top 10% of my class
- 1034 my asperger's son found his place in the universe when we switched to a stem magnet. Thank you!
- 1035 Very pleased to live in a district that offers magnet programs and very pleased with the program offered at Washington Elementary!!
- 1036 Electives are highly appreciated. Instead of using loose leaf papers, students should have assigned notebooks for each subject. some courses will require multiple notebooks. Loose leaf papers easily get lost/misplaced and take a lot of time/skills to organize and maintain. School curriculum/library should focus more on non-fiction than fiction books.
- 1037 The magnet program is one of the only good things about WCPSS. I moved here a few years ago and still believe your school board to be an utter mess. I should know, my mother is a principal and I grew up watching how they operate. Hopefully with the incoming changes the board will become respectable again instead of a joke. At no point should the state of disarray of a school board overshadow kids educational needs
- 1038 I really enjoy seeing children from very diverse backgrounds learning in areas that they may not have been exposed to before. I feel like the magnet program opens minds to all of the possibilities that are before them.
- 1039 Please open up another IB in Cary or central downtown Raleigh, Garner and North Raleigh are not good options at all for us. So no real benefit of attending IB in elementary if we can't continue it into middle in central Raleigh and high school in central Raleigh.

1040 Magnet schools continue to serve the purpose they were designed to serve. Neighborhoods are greatly benefitted by the quality of education and diversity that magnet schools attract (principals, teachers, innovative science and technology) and great support from neighborhood and magnet families. Building magnets builds strong communities everywhere.....

1041 Our experience with Douglas Elementary these past 4 years has been so positive. The teachers determine each child's learning style and teach them that way. The arts are on an equal footing with academics. Imagine if every elementary school had 4 full time arts teachers and the arts were infused in all academics and vice versa...

1042 I don't have any preference wit Magnet.

Traditional school is the best choice for me.

1043 Although, I support the Magnet programs, I don't undertand why the Magnet program can't be offered at all the schools or at least some part of it. A lot of time is spent saying my child will get AG services but I see no differences then any other child not getting AG services. Also,there is a lot of 'down time' spent on disruptive behavior of other classmates in class! Did WCPSS ever think about an alternitive behavior school for these types of kids? It is a waste of valuable educational time for both students and teachers to deal with such terrible behavior! It seems that ALC is not working!!! Think about that...

1044 I no longer have children in WCPSS. Regarding the magnet program: This program is a true asset to WCPSS. Magnet schools have become the victim of their own success. Please maintain the magnet schools. Also, try tweaking the problems that exist within WCPSS rather than throwing the baby out with the bathwater. Overall, WCPSS is an excellent school system with a dedicated staff, who have excelled under exponential growth in a very short period of time.

- 1045 My 3 children each attended Hunter Elementary School. My middle child especially benefited from the differentiated levels of teaching. He was able to get the remedial help he needed in reading while he was still challenged in the top math classes. All three of my children took art classes and have explored a wide variety of subjects that they would not have been exposed to. PLEASE keep the magnet programs in place. They are one of the things that make Wake county a desirable place to live.
- 1046 We are very pleased with our decision to send our son, a rising 1st grader, to Douglas Elementary. Dr. Spivey has built a dynamic team that fosters a nurturing, but challenging school. Everyone from his teachers to the office staff have supported and taken an interest in making sure his 1st year of school was a successful one. Thank you, WCPSS for keeping the magnet program going!
- 1047 The uncertainty of the future of magnet schools is extremely unfair. Having to make an uninformed choice in the school assignment plan caused our family a lot of angst. We did not have all of the information we needed to make a decision that we could feel comfortable with. In the end, we chose to leave the magnet school because of the uncertainty. It angers me that we had to do so because of an asymmetry of information.
- 1048 WCPSS magnet programs are great options for families who are interested in providing their kids with high quality diverse/broad education.
- 1049 My daughter has been diagnosed with social anxiety and Underwood staff (Principal, guidance counselor, teachers) have been outstanding in meeting with me and her therapist to develop a plan and then to put it into play in the classroom. She has just blossomed this year. The drama electives have brought her out of her shell and the arts electives have helped improve her fine finger dexterity which was behind her classmates. My daughter is adopted and is biracial and one of the reasons we chose Underwood was for the diversity in the magnet schools.

1050 I am so appreciative of the opportunity my daughter has to experience all that is offered at her magnet school. Thank you for being a school district that finds ways to offer these opportunities.

1051 As a charter member of the magnet program in the early 1980's, I cannot imagine the WCPSS without a strong magnet system. The reduction in concentration of poverty and increases in diversity that the magnet schools bring to our communities are so valuable. While many parents and families do not want their children to have a long commute to school, we as magnet parents eagerly embrace the increased distances so that our children can attend schools with a diverse student population, excellent academics, and opportunities for enrichment learning. With the new choice assignment policy, I am terribly concerned about how the magnets are going to be affected. It is my hope that current and future school boards continue to support the magnet program, and not dilute its effectiveness. Our magnets have been a successful model for many other school districts across the country, and it is necessary that we continue with a program that has been beneficial to Wake County students and families.

- 1052 I understand that special effort is giving to assist children without the means (educational, parental, or financial) of other children. But, sometimes it seems too much emphasis is placed on "all or none" concept. Everyone must work hard for opportunities and reward should go to those who work for it and excel at it, and not "just given" not to make them not feel bad or leave them out. I agree with giving everyone an opportunity to participate, but some students aren't cut out to certain activities. My 4 foot 10 inch son would never do well as a defensive lineman on the football team or even make the team, but I don't demand the football team not to exist because he can't play. The studious students should be able to have clubs and activities opportunities also, especially if the families are supporting them without any financial contribution from the school. And, on this survey, more than 3 schools should be allowed to be selected. My children have been through numerous schools that shapes the input and is valuable.
- 1053 I like having the opportunity to find a school with a unique program that fits my son's style of learning better than a traditional style of teaching. I would like to see this school be able to move away from the the state approved curriculum to be able to fit the children better.
- 1054 Children learn at so many different levels. The ability to excel in one area often times catapults a child's learning in another subject. It also helps develop self-esteem and confidence in many children that struggle in other areas. Personally, we love the magnet school here in Zebulon. The opportunity for our children to learn music, art and dance at this level in addition to excellent academics makes it our first choice. The magnet school in Zebulon allows my children the exposure of richness and diversity, without the magnet school we would struggle to provide such exposure.
- 1055 Magnet schools make the Wake County Public School system innovative and attractive. More effort should be put into further developing them rather than cutting them back.

- 1056 I LOVE the program offered at Farmington Woods. The school is the reason why we bought our house in that area. It has been successful for many years. The teachers are dedicated. The students are exposed to many events going on in the "real" world. They have such a great diverse population as well. We are so pleased with the opportunity for our children to attend Farmington Woods.
- 1057 I appreciate the courseware, curriculum and services Brooks Elementary School offers my son. I wouldn't change a thing about the academic offerings and community involvement.
- 1058 It should be spent mainly on schools with students who are trying to get a good education and not be wasted.
- 1059 We have enjoyed the Magnet Program. Somehow we need to get more time for core subjects. I would like to see more immersion programs for the languages
- 1060 all 3 of my teens attended Enloe HS as well as Carnegie MS. They are WELL prepared for college with fabulous options. Would not want it any other way
- 1061 My children have been the magnet program since 2005. I am concerned that the program at Hunter isn't what it once was because they let the challenged population get too high. If we are spending most of our time disciplining students it makes it difficult to concentrate on academics or the wonderful arts programs.
- 1062 The magnet programs are strong, and I'd like to see them continue and expand.
- 1063 My child was educated through the WCPSS a number of years ago, when bussing for diversity was in place. She received an excellent education that prepared her well for a successful college and graduate school experience. I'm still concerned that the WCPSS continue to provide the nationally-renowned educational opportunities for our young people so that our communities will be enhanced by an informed and thinking citizenry.

- 1064 I have been pleased to see the many different programs that the magnet programs provide the students. It has been great to see the "Ah ha" moment in my children regarding something they learned in a core subject but saw how it worked/ saw it in action, while in a magnet elective.
- 1065 Have enjoyed our years at Ligon and Enloe. Our base schools were not attractive to us and the magnets offered an option. If the magnets had not been available, I am not sure my family would have moved to Raleigh. For those of us looking for an alternative to the base schools, these schools were and are very attractive and provide the diversity in student population that is important to us.
- 1066 Magnet programs are essential to WCPSS! Moving away from the "bottom line," and thinking more about the needs of the children, I can also offer first hand evidence of the power of magnet programs to dissolve socioeconomic and racial barriers. You need only to attend Underwood's Artspleasure or Pieces of Gold to witness the equalizing power of the arts in elementary education. These shared experiences provide the opportunity for the establishment of relationships among diverse groups of students who are normally quite segregated. When examining the new standards for teachers and considering the goal of creating an environment where children collaborate, learn from each other, and work to solve problems independent of adults, I see these opportunities as crucial. And then there are also the obvious benefits of children participating in elective course offerings that enhance their learning in ways not measured by standardized testing, ways that are more closely aligned with the new Common Core and less similar to skills that lead to excellent scores on bubble sheet tests.

- 1067 We appreciate that Wake County offers a magnet program and that our children were able to apply and were accepted into the program. Our school encourages academically gifted students in a unique learning environment. It is okay to be smart in middle school! Students do not get teased for excelling - in fact it is quite the opposite. Our neighborhood school was overcrowded and not doing a good enough job with accelerated kids. Thank goodness we found a better fit! Our hope for WCPSS is that they continue to support and fund the objectives of the magnet programs in order for them to thrive.
- 1068 It felt, when we were looking at magnet programs, that so many of them were designed to help a low-performing school have a semi-new life. Not that it was addressing the needs of a low-performing school, but a cover up of the issues.
- 1069 Same comment as above. The opportunities and innovative learning that goes on in magnet schools should be offered in all schools. If the gap is lessening in the magnet schools, why not look at bringing the philosophy to all schools, whereby lessening the achievement gap. There are so many students in the regular, traditional schools that would benefit greatly from innovative ideas, exciting classes, and opportunities for learning.
- 1070 The magnet program is one of the best things WCPSS has going for it and ultimately saves the county money by keeping under-enrolled schools full and reducing over-crowding elsewhere.
- 1071 Great program...keep the diversity! Hire teachers and keep the ones "who make a difference" by "paying more". Get rid of teaching tenures. Base pay on teaching performance based on parent/peer reviews, not on test scores and tenures.
- 1072 Consider putting the magnet schools on a modified school calendar year as another incentive for parents to enroll in magnet.
- 1073 We feel privileged to have been a part of the magnet program in Wake County and feel it has contributed greatly to our children's educational experiences.

1074 I'm impressed with the number of schools, but a little concerned about the selection process, and it's stability.

1075 Very pleased with Wendell Elementary.

1076 No children in the public schools currently, however, my children attended Underwood, Ligon and Enloe.

1077 We love LMS and the WCPSS magnet programs!

1078 We have been so pleased with the magnet program this year.

1079 We have loved our experience in the magnet programs, especially Washington. We started our oldest son there in second grade to find a better fit for his learning style than where he'd previously been. All three of our boys have thrived there and have benefited from the customized individual learning opportunities provided through the electives and AG clustering. As a PTA member and frequent volunteer in the classroom, I have observed the benefit that children of all levels and backgrounds receive from the personalized attention and specialization provided by the GT model. I have also been witness to the benefit of the academic and social support given by peers and faculty to students from the base population who might not receive an adequate level of support at home for varying reasons. In addition, the benefit of a peer population which is culturally and economically diverse is immeasurable. It has been a wonderful atmosphere in which to foster cultural awareness and acceptance of all people as well as an opportunity for all the students to learn from their peers. For these and many other reasons, I believe the magnet programs are a vital part of our school system.

1080 We love Wiley. We love the diversity of the community and the opportunities for language development and the emphasis on valuing different cultures and traditions there.

- 1081 Parents will always drive the distance for a quality education - note those in Wake who send their child to Durham Academy or live in Holly Springs or Wake Forest to send their child Raleigh Charter HS. Magnets have helped WCPSS achieve its reputation and countered the have/have nots schools created by the tremendous growth of the last decade and a half. Parents want stability and quality - the opposite of what the new student assignment plan offers. The magnets become a beacon for the middle class to keep their children in the public schools - essential for a strong community.
- 1082 My child is a "base" student at Martin Middle. I think it is important to offer different programs and opportunities via electives at each school to make it an enticing place to learn. I don't think it's right to segregate the AG Basics program at a few schools and not allow all schools to group their AG students together for their core classes of which they qualify for AG services. My child is in a heterogeneous language arts class and is not challenged to her level of ability, in my opinion. Differentiation shouldn't mean the teachers have to make 30 lesson plans for each class. Each school should have advanced and regular level classes for core subjects.
- 1083 Magnet schools offer coursework that can not be effectively offered county wide. They provide a setting for students to delve more deeply into courses of interest. All WCPSS students should have equal access to these schools.
- 1084 We like the idea of magnet schools. However, since magnet programs are designed to bring in students from anywhere in the district--the commute can be fairly long. Therefore, we think magnet schools should start later. As it is currently, a 7:25 start time can mean a 6am bus pick up. That's tough to manage.

1085 As a parent, I believe my son, Robert Wright and Moses have benefited greatly from the magnet program. My son, Robert is a senior and benefited greatly from being apart of a diverse classroom/ school setting that has prepared him to attend NC State University. He was nominated for the NC State Chancellor Scholarship, invited to attend Summer Start, invited to stay in the Impact Leadership Village at NC State. My son learned to appreciate people and their different backgrounds while he developed lifelong friends from students all across Wake County. Finally, because of WCPSS Magnet Program and Wake's Diversity Policy, he is now prepared to meet students from around the world while waiting to meet his roommate from China. Thank you WCPSS!

1086 My children got a fantastic education in the magnet program, and now my grandchildren are benefiting in the same way. They love school at Fuller and are so excited about learning.

1087 My children's magnet experience has been exceptional so far. Please continue these worthwhile programs.

1088 We are strong supporters of the magnet program as a critical component of maintaining a high quality, healthy school system and minimizing the divide between advantaged and disadvantaged neighborhood schools. The availability of programs unique to the magnet schools encourages enrollment from all areas of the county; the program offerings must remain unique to the magnet schools to make them a viable tool to elevate otherwise high-poverty neighborhood schools.

1089 My children have had an IB curriculum at Farmington Woods IB/PYP and my daughter, now an 7th grader followed the IB program to East Garner MMS. This has been an excellent program for all students, encouraging excellence and a choice to champion diversity like our world holds. We have especially appreciated the opportunity to start a foreign language early and the opport. to continue it. EGMMS also offered advanced math and many fine arts courses. We would love to continue the IB program, but have found the "express" bus to be anything but (90+min each way) and regretfully will likely give up on the program for HS due to transportation woes. As it stands newly now, FWE students are patterned for West Cary MS, with no advanced language opportunities. With so many elementary and middle schools in Cary, and with additional seats open, it would be wonderful if Farmington Woods IB/magnet enrollment were expanded and a MS magnet program - IB, GT, AG would be added more locally. FW and EGMMS are exemplary schools, showing in a microcosm how good Wake County can be.

1090 My son, William Denton, has had a wonderful experience at magnet schools first at Underwood and Martin Middle. He's had high quality teachers and the chance to take challenging academic courses. We appreciate the opportunities that Wake County schools have given to our son.

1091 The magnet program has been very good for our children. They have grown and learned about the world around them through coached projects and further extensions in the AIG program.

1092 It is wonderful to allow students the opportunity to be involved with a technology-rich and internationally-minded school like East Garner Magnet Middle.

1093 Great opportunities for some.

1094 I feel the diversity is good for all who attend. The money given by the government will only continue if we keep these programs in place. Special classes offered in these schools makes it a desirable place for our children to attend, with parent support.

1095 Our family has attended a variety of WCPSS schools...traditional base, year round, magnet, all of which we enjoyed. My kids did not blossom though, until they attended magnet schools...it was at the magnet schools that they found their academic and social peers. They really appreciated the diversity....the more diverse the student population, the more variety of friends, the more everyone feels accepted and comfortable. In the magnet schools, my kids have not felt any peer pressure to conform or to be someone they're not, in order to fit in. If not for WCPSS's magnet program and the diversity and specialized programs it offers/provides, our family would not have remained in the Wake County Public School System.

1096 They are awesome!!!

1097 Magnets build communities that are more broad and inclusive than neighborhoods. They tear down the 'walls' imposed by household location, economic status, culture and race. They are a huge benefit to our children who will live in an ever shrinking global community of diverse peoples.

1098 Magnet programs need to be expanded in schools away from downtown Raleigh. Magnet school (especially in NW Raleigh) would be highly sought after and attended. We need more AG and GT schools

1099 I believe the magnet program is too focused on high end learners and should also be used to develop the gifts and abilities of children who have styles of learning that are not rewarded or recognized by traditional educational methods.

1100 Magnets have become more of a popularity contest than an edge to students. I think that opportunity should be fairly available to every neighborhood schools. If you are going to give a school a STEM distinction, why not back it up with \$ for apps. and Smart Boards in EVERY classroom

1101 i think this is great for children future and wcpss does a great job

1102 Too much emphasis on the bottom 25% of students in Wake County. More emphasis needs to be placed on the top 25% to make sure they are in an safe, modern place conducive for accelerated learning

1103 Wake County's Magnet School Program was created to encourage diversity (ie. voluntarily)

1104 I am gravely concerned over the loss of the IB Magnet program at Broughton. The magnet students/families have been a tremendous asset to the school. I help tutor at risk students. This year we have many more at risk students and half the number of parents able to volunteer. We are sinking

1105 Keep it up!

1106 My daughter attended one of the first Raleigh downtown magnet schools and later graduated from Broughton HS. She obtained her Bachelors degree from UNCG, worked several years in store security, and later in Hispanic customer relations for BCBS Florida (She studied Spanish throughout her educational career). She now works with a company that creates bilingual and multilingual websites for large service-oriented companies. She was active in athletics and the arts during high school, playing for the Broughton HS soccer team and various club teams, and dancing with the Carolina Spirit show choir. Socially she was exposed to racial and cultural diversity that has served her well over the years. Although she is now in her late 30s, happily married to a rocket scientist (really!), she is fluent and comfortable with African-American, Hispanic-American and Asian-American social environments. I credit the quality and diversity of educational opportunities provided by the Wake County school system in the 1980s and 90s for encouraging her to broaden and develop her natural abilities. I would hate to see the Wake County schools back away from the sort of high quality broad scope

- 1107 I don't think that the magnet program has to have only one purpose. I do think that it has to have goals/purposes that guide the selection of magnet school locations, funding, and programs. If it is decided that one purpose is for some magnet schools to be used to retain diversity in schools that would otherwise be overwhelmingly filled with low income students, then the schools have to ensure that opportunities and high quality education is provided to students from the base neighborhood. Otherwise, the school should begin to see a decrease/elimination of its magnet program and a return to the school as a neighborhood school (or to a model which focuses on improving the performance of low-income students (e.g. Renaissance School) which would then also receive extra funding/programming to help the neighborhood student population). I think it is ridiculous and unethical that magnet schools like Enloe and Martin get extra programming and funding for being a diversity magnet but fail their low-income and minority students so overwhelmingly. These schools need to show greater commitment to educating all their students or lose some of their programming (e.g. some Enloe programs to SF).
- 1108 Poe Montessori should be allowed to function as a Montessori school and group kids 4-5-6 years together, and age 7-8-9 together, with the Montessori curriculum. Montessori is a wonderful system for many children that are advanced in some subjects and average or even delayed in others to learn at their own pace without stigma or special educational services. If the public school system had more Montessori schools using all the parts of the Montessori system, there would be a tremendous savings in special education services.
- 1109 We tried to get our son into a magnet school for Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd grade without success. At this point, we opted to keep our son where he is because we don't want to introduce him to a new school the same year he will be starting 3rd grade.

1110 Conn is our base school, but we are grateful beneficiaries of its magnet offerings. My son and his peers--whose resources vary greatly, from financially comfortable to disadvantaged--are prospering there. We would have sought a magnet program had we not already been assigned to one. I'm a Raleigh native and part of the first generation to benefit from magnet schools, and I would hate to see these great programs get dismantled due to budget troubles or philosophical arguments about neighborhood schools.

1111 I do not currently have a child enrolled. I had two children and two nephews who attended Wake Forest Elementary, Middle and High schools and a nephew in Durant elementary and middle. I was also a teacher in the Montessori magnet school for nearly a decade. The children in my family benefited from the elective choices available and from the year-round option at Durant. During my teaching career, I participated first hand in the diverse nature of the curriculum and the student population at Poe. The biggest stumbling block at Poe Montessori, while I was there, was the continual tightening of outside curriculum requirements which gradually intruded upon and often even excluded the Montessori curriculum sequencing and materials. In addition, the underlying principles of the Montessori method were not well suited to the mechanistic, linear, test-orientation of WCPSS standards and requirements. If Magnet programs are to be offered which differ substantially in their basic principles and methods from the "traditional" curriculum, they need to be allowed to follow an alternate path. If it is determined that allowing such deviations is not in the best interests of WCPSS, then don't offer Magnet programs which

1112 I think the WCPSS magnet programs and the diversity no-neighborhood-schools programs are wonderful things. I also believe that with the great amount of arts classes and Advanced Placement classes being offered in all schools, especially magnet high schools, traditional scheduling, versus block scheduling, is the way to go.

- 1113 I am an alum of a magnet program in Wake County and it has had a huge impact on my perspective on the world-- going to school with motivated and diverse peers made a huge difference. I think WCPSS's magnet program has contributed considerably to the county's economic growth
- 1114 We must protect the magnet program. It is what helps make the Wake County school system strong.
- 1115 Beverly Clark allowed one of the best High school examples of Magnet schools to begin to fail after she voted to remove the Magnet status. It took 20 to make a great school. Broughton should be back to just another mediocre high school in about 10 years. Will the distric ever study history!
- 1116 In an ideal world, WCPSS would be able to offer the full range of magnet programs to every child who is interested. However, the realities of tight budgets and limited resources means that the magnet program can't reach every child -- there simply can't be enough seats. This fact is unfortunate, but is NOT a reason to dismantle or water-down the strengths of the magnet program
- 1117 I don't understand Question 7. Is this survey only for parents?
- 1118 Wake County does a poor job placing these programs within areas of most need of expanded opportunities. We entered the district from out of state 1 year ago. There was NO, NONE support or assistance to explain the magnet program or ANY other programs availaable. There seems to be very limited availability in the East Wake County side of the district.
- 1119 Our child attends Emloe High School
- 1120 The WCPSS magnet program was one of the first programs in Wake County Schools to receive national recognition. It has influenced education to a high standard in all geographical sections of this diverse county and should be returned to its original objectives.

- 1121 The magnet program gives parents an opportunity to find a program that works well for their child. My oldest son went to Daniels while it was still a magnet. My youngest son is currently at Martin. As a parent, I appreciate the enthusiasm the staff of these schools has for their special programs and for education in general. My children have loved going to these schools. My only wish is that every school/student could have the advantage of the unique opportunities offered in the magnet schools.
- 1122 My son has made great progress in Kindergarten at Zebulon Elementary. The electives offered have provided him with experiences that he otherwise wouldn't have been able to participate in.
- 1123 The Magnet program is crucial to the strength of the Wake County program. We need to strengthen not weaken it!
- 1124 I feel that my child received an excellent education at both magnet schools.
- 1125 More STEM schools for upper income families. No busing rich kids to poor schools/neighborhoods and vice-versa
- 1126 my kids went to Hunter, Fred Olds & Enloe as participants in the magnet program (& rode buses to do so!)
- 1127 WCPSS magnet programs are the best in the US. They will be impossible to maintain if populations are not balanced and if comparisons are made between them and higher parent-subsidized suburban schools.
- 1128 My children are all grown up now, but they all attended magnet schools while growing up (Hunter, Ligon, Enloe) and benefitted tremendously from them.
- 1129 Outstanding program.
- 1130 No children in school now, but interested in the continuation of a good Wake County System.
- 1131 Wake County's way of providing magnet programs is much more democratic than the way most systems do.
- 1132 Our daughter has had a great middle school experience at E Millbrook and we attribute a large part of that to the Magnet programs offered there. We certainly hope that there won't be any lessening of the Magnet programs offered at E Millbrook as our son begins sixth grade next year.

- 1133 The high quality, global education my son has been receiving at Farmington Woods(#1 IB PYP Magnet school in the country) far surpasses any other elementary school programs in the area in our opinion. In a society that is clearly global and becoming more so, the IB program is right on target with the world and the future. We feel the IB Magnet middle and elementary schools that would follow from Farmington Woods IB program should be situated closer to Cary... East Garner is too far and stifles the ability for our child to be able to complete his education via the IB Magnet program. To preserve the IB Magnet program, parents should not have to drive several towns away or put their child on a bus for over 1 hour to get to school.
- 1134 We LOVE the Montessori magnet school. It has provided our child with outstanding educational, social and leadership training. In addition to academic skills, our child has learned to appreciate other learning styles and has gained experience at the peace rose table in conflict resolution and negotiation-- skills he'll take with him wherever he goes in life.
- 1135 I am sorry to say that I have not heard an example where a base-allocated student has benefited as much as magnet student. The students tend to segregate even in magnet school according to where they come from.
- 1136 They are the second highest priority. State ranking VS international ranking is first, math and science is third and voc ed is forth...neighborhood schools is my lowest priority.
- 1137 I think it is important to continue the strong magnet program but to also balance that with the need for children living downtown to have spots available in nearby schools. I was very concerned about children in my neighborhood (Five Points) not getting placed during the selection process because most nearby schools are popular magnet schools. The proportion of magnet seats and neighborhood seats needs to be examined for these schools.

1138 WCPSS needs to challenge the advanced children as well, and not all schools do this - even the magnets. Some magnets do this particularly well (Hunter, Underwood, Ligon, Enloe). Teaching languages early is wonderful for so many reasons and should be available at more schools. Joyner Elementary's marriage of language, culture and IB was wonderful.

1139 I still feel that's it's very difficult to get into a magnet program. We don't live inside the beltline and our node is average performing on standardized tests, so it's hard to qualify to gain admission to a magnet

1140 I think that EVERY school should have the same opportunities available as magnet schools. PERIOD. It disappoints me that i have to apply, travel (taking away from family time,etc) to get a unique education that caters to my childs needs and interests

1141 I feel the magnet program offered at Enloe High School provides exceptional opportunities for youth as I have had experience with that school. I also believe that if magnet programs are to reduce high concentrations of poverty for the school population we should consider that the excellent curriculums provide the economically disadvantaged student an opportunity to obtain skills that will eliminate that poverty. One of the goals of the magnet schools should be to equipt poorer students academically so they will be able to rise above that poverty. For that reason, those economically disadvantaged students who live in the area of a magnet school should be given weighted consideration if the magnet school is in their community to attend that school.

- 1142 We love the magnet program at Douglas Elementary. My kids have done wonderfully there. The teachers and administration are excellent. The students at that school benefit from the staff teaching subjects in different ways to reach students different learning styles. I strongly value Wake County's magnet program and the diverse offerings it has for our students. I feel they are important to offer different educational opportunities to students and to help diversify the student body of schools that would otherwise be mainly low income. As a parent and former teacher I feel reducing high poverty schools is an important aim of the magnet schools in our school system.
- 1143 We love Smith and are so pleased with the IB programme. It really addresses all of the disciplines, not just one narrow focus.
- 1144 All public schools should have an equal education. Students who attend magnet schools are better served by the government.
- 1145 I think year round schools are a great idea for many reasons. I wish there were a year round high school so that kids in the same family could keep the same schedules. Also, your survey wouldn't let me choose the 4 schools my kids attend. It kept telling me I didn't answer question 7 and I did

- 1146 I think the concept of magnet schools is wonderful, as you can see from my answers above. However, I think the magnets have created a system of inequity between the magnets and some of our base schools. The School Board needs to focus now on whether the current magnet schools really need their magnet status to stay healthy (I would propose that several do not, including Underwood, Brooks and Wiley) and look at which schools need that help NOW to attract new students. Please consider Stough Elementary for a magnet program. Stough is a school with a strong academic tradition, good leadership, and great teachers which has been hurt over and over again over the past five or six years by families being reassigned and admitted to magnets. There is nothing in the world wrong with our school that an influx of involved families would not fix. I would suggest you consider giving us the international program now at Wiley, which would dovetail nicely with the Global theme that we are starting to implement, but which was not enough to attract very many new families, or to keep the ones we have lost in the new assignment plan. Please help our school become a School of Excellence again!
- 1147 My child attended Fred Olds (when it was a magnet) and Martin Middle. Both were exceptional experiences for the entire family. As an administrator at NC State I have some extra insight into education and to me both programs were the epitome of what magnet programs were supposed to be (we lived in Morrisville at the time) ie it brought suburban families into "city" schools where the population is more racially and economically diverse.
- 1148 I am disappointed that Needham B. Broughton is no longer a magnet choice option. I think that downtown schools play an important part of the magnet program and that all the inner city schools should be magnet schools, including Broughton. The magnet programs bring diversity into the area and the International Baccalaureate program was well respected nationally. It's a shame that all that hard work to get to that level was appreciated as something to continue.

1149 I believe the magnet program is important for Wake County Schools. I hate that the IB magnet was taken away from Daniels Middle School. It made Daniels a strong, inner-city (in reality, that is what it is) school. It makes no sense to punish a school when it starts to do well. Daniels had many magnet families to offset and balance the FNR families. Now, the FNR numbers are going up substantially, strong neighborhood/Lacy families have been removed, and I am afraid for what may become of Daniels. The same is true for Broughton. Why you have to punish strong schools is beyond me. It seems like you would try to keep strong schools strong and build up the other ones. Don't knock down one to build another up. We are seriously considering taking our 3 children out of the public school system, because you have just destroyed our base school. Excuse me, our feeder-pattern schools. Shame on you.

1150 I wish that Broughton still had the IB program for all.

1151 The magnet program is valuable to all. There needs to be fairness in the application process providing equal opportunities to access. In addition, the programs are particular useful in providing the higher level curriculum for AG students. Keep the program and make it equal access ot all and make it work for all who attend.

1152 IB is a waste of taxpayer dollars.

1153 We are looking to move downtown to be closer to our magnet schools from our north Raleigh neighborhood. It is what makes Wake county schools so successful and the key to making this choice nlan work

1154 My children are thriving at Powell, and I see many at-risk kids who greatly benefit from the great deal of involvement by both the highly-involved "magnet seat" parents AND by the parents who live in Powell's base community. This is a win-win system with an incredibly enriching atmosphere.

1155 Needham Broughton needs to have its IB magnet status reinstated. This successful and popular program needs to be fully funded by WCPSS. The percentage of students who actually receive the diploma far exceeds the national averages. The school system needs to look closely at other programs (ie Garner and Millbrook) to see the level of interest and success. To pull the magnet from that school was ridiculous. When I write my check next year for \$600 for my son to take his IB exams, please check the number of students taking them at other schools for FREE.

1156 It's important for Wake County to maintain a public Montessori program such as Poe.

1157 Again, capping low-income base/feeder students at a magnet school and sending those students to one or two nearby non-magnet schools in order to make room for magnet students is not fair. Magnet programs should only be funded at schools that cannot fill seats to capacity through choice. Magnet programs should not displace proximity neighborhood students to make room for magnet students.

1158 The magnet programs for gifted and Talented and AG Basics have benefited all 3 of my children. The electives have enriched their lives by introducing them to music, arts, science and technology. I also strongly feel my children are better citizens because of the diversity of the schools. Had they attended their base schools, not only would they have been reassigned every year, they likely would have had a school that did not represent a sampling of our county population. It is a privilege for my children to be part of the magnet program. I believe we need to expand the programs ONLY if they continue to offer a diverse economic and geographical mix of students. Otherwise you will be conveniencing the suburban, affluent who feel their children are entitled to a short commute for an education in line with what they paid for their homes and a student body that looks and spends the same way.

1159 Loosing the magnet program has had a negative impact on Broughton. My daughter previously attended magnet schools.

- 1160 I agree that magnet programs should reduce high concentrations of poverty, support diversity and should emphasize specialized programs. However, WCPSS magnet programs seems to be struggling...while some schools have a diverse concentration of students other schools have a much higher level of poverty which is only increasing. Magnet programs tend to focus solid education on a few schools while others struggle due to overcrowding and lack of draw for students.`
- 1161 I don't agree that the country should spend the money to provide transportation to magnet school and I think they are over funded compared to the "regular" schools. I understand that they need more funding but my child did not have an assistant in First and Second grade. I feel that is more important than some of the magnet programs offered. I feel the program is good but has been taken too far. No transportation and a scale back in some schools / areas that are very expensive.
- 1162 The first 3 questions didn't say which option..1,2,.or 3, correspond to whether or not I support any of them. I'd like to say that I fully support each one of them. Thank you
- 1163 We started at Root Elementary when it was a magnet school. We loved the "leadership" aspect of the school and were saddened when it lost it's magnet status. We love Root and are so thankful to be there but do miss the added benefits the magnet status awarded the school. Our oldest child is at Daniel's this year. We are pleased so far but also disappointed in the school losing the magnet status and along with it some of the great educational opportunities it once had as a magnet school. We are very strong supporters of the magnet program to be at as many schools in Wake county as possible.
- 1164 The purpose of magnet schools should not be to provide diversity but to provide unique educational opportunities throughout the county. Programs should be made easily available and convenient to the whole county. Distribute them throughout the county and not just in high poverty, low performing areas.

1165 Our 2 sons have been part of the magnet program since kindergarten (1 is graduating, 1 rising 11th grader). It has been a wonderful experience that I wish all kids had the opportunity to experience. They were exposed to so many more subjects/information than traditional schools. We liked that they changed classes and had different teachers - keeps the day more exciting & interesting and gives kids experience dealing with different personalities of not only teachers but a mixture of different students as well...invaluable for future life situations. We've never understood why the magnet concept can't be used in other schools. When we have asked, it sounds like it can't due to financial reasons. That's a shame for all the people who are not/will not/can't be part of a great program. PS - The schools have not been close to home and/or we've had to deal with Express Bussing, but it's still worth it. We hope you will always continue to offer this opportunity to other students/families.

1166 PLEASE KEEP THEM!!!!!! They are what makes our school system strong and unique!

1167 DO NOT ELIMINATE MAGNET SCHOOLS.

1168 My kids have learned so much with a wide spectrum in the magnet school program, and Im hoping that it will continue. My son is attending Enloe Magnet High school in the fall, and he is looking forward to have new interesting programs. How many teens are looking forward to get back to school?

1169 Both of our children attended magnet schools-- Washington, Carnage, and Centennial. The magnet program has been a great success in Wake County for decades--it has sustained diverse and healthy schools especially in the inner city, and offered excellent academic programs. The achievement gap is a complex problem deeply rooted in socio-economic inequality in our nation, made worse by the last thirty years of poor economic policies. Undermining the magnet program will make educational inequality worse!

- 1170 My children's experiences at Underwood and Martin have been wonderful. I am concerned that my rising 5th graders wouldn't have a chance to attend Martin. Given the expense spent at Martin to renovate the building to support the GT curriculum it would seem ridiculous to remove the magnet status from this school.
- 1171 I feel that the Magnet schools have been one of the best programs of our Wake County public schools system.
- 1172 i would prefer that the magnet programs offered be academic based. i am not exactly sure what the museums and leadership teach
- 1173 Advantages of magnet in our experience: diversity, very involved parents, electives, teacher quality and apparent happiness
- 1174 I liked the option of magnet and choice so that my children, who live with me in Cary, could attend a better school (better for my particular child) AND one nearer to their father, who lives in Raleigh. Divorced parents face a particular problem with this as the child may live with a parent who is not as free to attend school functions, or take children to athletics and the school choice based on address alone does not allow for flexibility. If a two family household has a choice like the magnet system, without changing the child's address (not practical) I would think you would help out a lot of divorced parents.
- 1175 Magnets in general were created to pull kids to previously underutilized schools. If long term growth trends do not support local use of a facility, the band aid approach of moving kids in from farther distances works in the short term but long term it costs us more. We should be creating magnet level/high performing schools everywhere, not just where children need to be attracted to fill seats. Please consider reallocating resources in this manner.
- 1176 WCPSS are #1.

- 1177 One of our children is base at AB Combs and the other is AG Magnet at Ligon. We have been completely satisfied with both of these schools and would like to continue to have the option to attend Combs and Ligon. Being a base student at Combs, we need to keep the magnet program to bring diversity and socio economic balance to the school. Attending Ligon we are given the opportunity to balance out its base population and our AG student is challenged and exposed to wonderful learning opportunities he would not be given at Centennial Middle.
- 1178 I feel that my children's attendance at Magnet Schools has enabled them to excel in studies and gain exposure to many different fields that they would not have otherwise had. I especially think that my 13 year old son does far better at Ligon, where he can take electives that he's interested in, than he would have at a non-Magnet Midle School.
- 1179 The current feeder patterns are of great concern to magnet parents. Please address more choice in this for magnet families.
- 1180 I think careful study needs to happen before a specific program is assigned to a certain school. In our experience the IB program at Millbrook Elementary wasn't a good fit in a school that is also an ESL school. Successful magnets should be duplicated in other areas of the county (after careful study of whether or not the program will work for the area demographic). I'm not sure magnet schools should have a base population anymore. I think opening up more slots for application would create a diverse student body. AND, I'm extremely disappointed with the "Feeder Pattern" development - I feel it was a way to "politically assign" preferred Elementary schools to preferred Middle Schools and then when it came to the feeders into HS it broke down. Politics needs to be removed from the assignment process. In our case, starting at Brooks, going to Moore Square, and then we end up at Southeast? What do we want? Neighborhood schools or diverse schools? I think we need to build community and try to keep neighborhoods together. It's encouraging to read the magnet history that was presented to the board, and since a thorough review needs to

1181 One of the things that attracted us to Wake County was the availability of a wide array of magnet programs. We tried for many years to get our children into magnet programs and were thrilled when both were accepted last year. We have found the magnet experience to be wonderful, and a huge bonus when thinking about staying in this area, or relocating.

1182 I really enjoy the diversity.

1183 We are distressed by the current feeder program for magnet students. We feel that every student in a particular elementary school should be able to attend the same middle school.

1184 I think the magnet program is a great way to improve 'bad' schools, but has a tenancy to create 'good' schools where parents feel entitled to the services of the magnet program. I think Joyner is a great example of a successful magnet program, but also an example of how the program goes wrong. The PTA at Joyner raises more money than it knows what to do with and that is largely thanks to base student parents. Contrast this with Fox road (my base school) which needs to magnet program to reduce it's high concentration of poverty. The school board should implement clear policies for when a school is granted magnet status and when/how it is phased out. We have the tools to improve the balance of our school system, but politics is inhibiting our ability to execute.

1185 My boys have greatly benefited from being magnet students. I believe that Wake County has been able to hire quality teachers because of the choice of so many programs. Although it has been challenging for them to socialize with other children in our immediate neighborhood, I feel it has enriched their knowledge of where other children are in our city, county and the world. I had no such education and resources to help me be challenged and supported had I gone to a magnet school when I was a student I would have enjoyed school so much more. Every parent that has talked to me about being in a magnet has said Yes, it is worth the drive, Yes, We really enjoy it here. Yes, we want the best for our children. We must advocate for our children as they cannot do it for themselves. I love the teachers we have and we have an awesome principle who truly and sincerely cares about our children. I sincerely hope and pray that Wake County will keep the magnet program as it is with maybe a few tweaks. Don't fix it if it isn't broken. The magnet program is not Broken.

1186 The magnet program has been a wonderful resource for our children. The base school was not a good fit for a number of reasons. I really believe the magnet opportunities should continue to be available across that county.

1187 My family has loved the IB program at JY Joyner. However, we are extremely unhappy with Joyner's feeder pattern and feel like Joyner got the SHAFT in the new assignment plan. We question the Board's commitment to the magnet program and believe that decimating the magnet program is an unstated goal of the plan. Just be transparent, please. We're losing all respect for you.

1188 I feel that several current magnet schools no longer meet the requirements for magnet status (such as Underwood) and schools like Stough that are struggling should be considered for a magnet.

1189 I believe the magnet program is very important. It provides parents and students with a choice of studies.

1190 unhappy about school start times for 2012-2013

1191 While we love going to a magnet school, and having the magnet opportunities, we are a neighborhood family (not a magnet family), and we are concerned that as more families move into our neighborhood, they may not be able to have seats at Douglas due to magnet seats being offered. We've seen this happen to some friends closer to downtown who were unable to attend their closest schools (Joyner, Underwood, etc.) due to seats being filled with magnet students. I'm sure you do this already, but a review of which schools should have magnet status and which can fill from the surrounding neighborhoods would be helpful. Thanks!

1192 The feeder programs and schools need to be better aligned with the majority of students in the magnet program at a school. And there still needs to be choices for the magnet families apart from the one feeder choice.

1193 They need to be open to offer more programs about technology.

1194 Our magnet programs are shining stars in our school district. if there are achievement issues among economically disadvantaged students, those need to be addressed at ANY school where gaps exist. But to lay blame on a successful magnet program is like using a sledgehammer to turn a screw. We need to "fine tune" and grow the magnet program to offer families a greater variety of choices for their children.

1195 We need a program that is the basis for etiquette and morals and behavior. our worst experience is the lack of a defined behavior responsibility and consequences for same. Children are rude and disrespectful to each other and the teachers and adults and face NO CONSEQUENCES. Bullies and victims are treated the same. Its very disappointing. Instead of focusing on diversity we should focus on the quality of education being provided and maybe we will create well behaved educated children regardless of their skin color!

1196 The International Baccalaureate programme should be available in almost all high schools. More arts and AG Middle schools

- 1197 It is important to review and make changes to the current feeder program , it should offer more options
- 1198 Do not require or expect magnet students to follow a feeder pattern for a certain magnet theme that may or may not be an appropriate theme at age 11-12 for the same student as it was at age 5-6. In addition, magnet students come from very diverse areas and the location of an elementary school might work for some, but the location of a feeder school is a nightmare - simply too far away. It is not realistic or appropriate to use the same feeder logic for magnet students as for proximity students. Magnet students should be given the option to follow the schools proximity feeder pattern so as to allow the student to have stability. Magnet feeder patterns are a problem!
- 1199 Keep schools like Hunter, Ligon, & Enloe that are true magnets. Some schools have become "healthy" and no longer need a magnet to draw upper middle class to that school.
- 1200 Students who do not get into their magnet selections should get top priority the following year.
- 1201 I would love to see a mentoring program that paired parents with the students and parents from the magnet areas that lack the knowledge and resources needed to help all children succeed
- 1202 Thank you for soliciting parent feedback.
- 1203 I chose SRMHS because of its magnet focus, and I have seen children flourish there. I love the dedication of the staff, the enhanced technology that the school offers, and the project-based (New Tech) program!
- 1204 I think it would benefit Wake County to have a magnet programs for bilingual instruction and Montessori Farm Schools and/or other agricultural ecology programs

1205 We just moved our son to Farmington Woods and he LOVES it! It has turned him around to a very dedicated student who LOVES school! Our daughter had attended West Cary Middle and moved to Martin she absolutely LOVES school now too! we know our children were getting bored at the base schools and see the benefits of the Magnet programs. We really wish however that we were given more notice about the reassignment change. We will literally have to move to Raleigh to get a chance at our son attending Martin. I believe there should have been a "grandfather" clause for the families already in the magnet program.

1206 Be less concerned about awards and sucking parents dry by asking for money each week. Focus more on teaching and providing for the students in the classroom (which they also ask parents to fund "sponsorships" for classmates re: simple class activities) versus fancy trips and whatnot. Ridiculous.

1207 I strongly support the magnet programs in the Wake County Public School System. I think that they should continue and be strongly supported. I disagree with the fact that Farmington Woods was made a tier 3 Magnet school and the students there will not be allowed to attend a magnet middle school. I think that it should either have a magnet feeder pattern (even if it is to another type of magnet school) or the children should be allowed to attend another type of Magnet Middle school. Farmington Woods Elementary was named the top magnet elementary school in the nation by Magnet Schools of America. Farmington Woods deserves to continue as an International Baccalaureate program Magnet School. The children at Farmington Woods deserve this. When we decided to send our son to Farmington Wood one of the reasons we chose the school was because it is an extremely good school. Another reason was that at the time children in Magnet Schools got a preference when applying to a magnet middle or magnet high school. I am very disappointed that that has changed. I am also very disappointed that Farmington Woods does not have a Magnet feeder pattern. I feel that the

1208 Joyner Elementary School is an excellent internationally focused school which regularly provides enrichment activities and Spanish. The principal is knowledgeable, organized, and personable. It is a wonderful school which provides a great peer group for my daughter. Martin Middle School is very well-organized with the most professional teachers I've seen anywhere. The range of electives due to its magnet status is fantastic. And the school is able to offer 3 electives per day instead of the normal 2. I don't think that my son (who has autism and another learning disability) would love school as much if it weren't for the electives. Please keep in mind that magnets can be especially helpful for kids with autism or other learning disabilities due to the possibility of alternative content and delivery.

1209 Magnet programs exposes students to diverse and innovative learning opportunities. This type of learning will enable students to be successful world citizens in future. I am extremely unhappy that Farmington Woods Elementary School does not have a Magnet School Feeder Pattern, inspite of being awarded the best Magnet School in 2011. I believe the students of Farmington Woods deserve to be allowed to attend Magnet Middle School. It is unfair that Farmington Woods has been made a Tier 3 magnet school. The International Baccalaureate magnet program should continue in Farmington Woods.

1210 (1) I would like to see the magnet program expanded in Wake County, perhaps to schools that are currently underenrolled. I think the number of families applying to magnet schools is a clear indication that additional magnet seats would be utilized. Dismantling or down-sizing the magnet program in Wake County would be a HUGE mistake. (2) I think it was a mistake, in the new "choice" assignment plan, to lock families into one magnet feeder pattern. The skills, needs and abilities of students change over time. The magnet theme/program which suits well an elementary student may or may not well serve that same middle school or high school student. (3) I strongly disagree with the policy in the new assignment plan under which a student loses their magnet seat if they enter the proximity "choice" plan. The student should retain their magnet seat until he or she finds out the proximity school to which he/she has been assigned, then be allowed to choose between the 2 schools. This would reflect true "choice."

1211 Magnet programs have been an integral part of balancing school populations and utilizing schools effectively. They should continue to be!

1212 My kids went to base schools and totally missed out on electives, since their dad forced them to be in band. No art, chorus, computer programming - or anything fun at all during 12 years of school. More electives should be available to all students, not just those who travel to magnets.

1213 One concern that I have is the set feeder patterns for magnet schools. When selecting a middle school for my daughter, I did not want to also force her to a specific high school, but that is what happened. You are discouraging parents from applying to magnet schools because of the feeder patterns defined.

1214 I don't like the middle school/ HS feeder program for families who choose magnet schools for their children in elementary school. We as parents choose the three best school that we think would fit our children, hoping to get one of them. Then once they leave elementary school they are funneled into 1 magnet school I'm dreading my kids attending East Millbrook Middle, it doesn't match the high expectations in learning that I've come to expect in my elementary school. I hope by then we will have some other choices. The test scores reflect that only 55-65% of the students can pass the end of grade tests!!!

1215 I love the magnet program. I sent my children to a Spanish immersion preschool so they have some of my families language and culture (I am of Spanish descent on both sides). I was very excited to get into Joyner to continue their Spanish development. The IB program is an excellent program, but I did not choose Joyner for it and nor do I care to continue it in middle school. I am not in favor of a feeder pattern which would make our commute much further (and have to drive for over 3 hours each day to take both my children to and from school.) Forcing a feeder in an ever expanding school district isn't what I chose when I entered Joyner. Had I known I would have made different choices. After my child was already settled at Joyner, it is a tough call to move them again. Let us fall back into a choice program at the same location based as all other families when we move into a new school. That is more reasonable for most working families.

1216 Comparing Magnet schools with the base school choices we had for schools we felt much more comfortable choosing a Magnet school. They seemed overall more organized and more individualized. We really hope that Magnet programs will continue as we would want to send all of our four children down (well, really "up")

that path!  
1217 We are so happy with the WCPSS magnet programs!

- 1218 I would like to see the feeder pattern rules modified so that parents who elect to leave their neighborhood school to go into the magnet program are able to get back into their neighborhood schools for the transition into middle or high school. Right now those neighborhood middle schools are inaccessible to these students, as they have effectively given up their neighborhood rights. It used to be that you could opt out of the magnet program at any time, but with the new process, getting back into your own neighborhood is impossible if the school right next to your house is a desirable and popular school. That is not right.
- 1219 I wish that magnet programs would stop being taken away from schools once the school becomes a successful school! So frustrating being in the WCPSS!!! Glad just one left!!
- 1220 Our family chooses schools by program quality and not by location convenience.
- 1221 LOVE Joyner! Think the program, teachers and principal are excellent. The AG program is pretty good too. Diversity is good. HOWEVER, there is no way my children will go to East Millbrook for middle school. What a poor choice for the feeder pattern. Not only are the scores abysmal, but it just hurts Joyner to have such a poor middle school be the feeder. What about West Millbrook, or a better performing school? You can't take kids from a good performing school and expect parents to accept such a decision. You're doing the elementary school and the students a great disservice. Fix East Millbrook first...not by trying to force students to go there. I have two high-performing AG students. I won't put them in that environment. What happened to Daniels and Broughton?!
- 1222 If under-performing or substandard facility schools need extra funding, provide it. But don't create and fund boutique schools that have limited availability and long travel distances. The AG programs at schools that perform well are useless. One hour a week for AG because there's only one AG teacher for the school? What's the point?

1223 Magnet seats should be given out based on a true lottery. We are not meeting the goal of expanding educational opportunities if we say that people living in certain areas get first crack at the seats. These opportunities should be available to all students on an equal basis. Children are not less deserving of magnet programs because they don't happen to live in the 'right' neighborhood. We need to stop using Group 2 magnets as a bribe to keep affluent families from going to private or charter. Many of these magnets are located in some of the most expensive and affluent areas of the county and are only serving the goal of utilizing facilities. With the rise in population in many of those areas, they aren't fulfilling that objective very well any more.

1224 my children are no longer in schools but they attended Leesville schools

1225 We are so happy at Joyner but are NOT happy about our feeder pattern that changed this year. We are close enough to be proximity but couldn't change. Please reconsider the magnet feeder pattern for Joyner!!! or let us change to Proximity at Joyner. Thank you. Sally Herring 271-7023

1226 Stay with the A/B day schedule!!!!

1227 I think smaller middle schools should be considered as a magnet option.

1228 It would be helpful if magnet students had the same feeder pattern as the base students at their school. For example, the magnet parents at Joyner would love for their kids to go to Daniels & Broughton, just as the base students do.

1229 Thanks to the magnet schools, my kids are getting a great education with the extra specials.

1230 I feel privileged to have the magnet programs available to my kids. It is a wonderful way to expose them to a plethora of engagements and opportunities that will assist them in being better prepared as leaders in the global society.

1231 Green Year-Round Elementary should become a new magnet school.

- 1232 I think it is great that the magnet program can promote diversity and help balance out needs for low performing schools. But I feel that this is done to the detriment of the rest of Wake County students. We should be offering a wider range of language arts, foreign language and science classes in all our middle and high schools.
- 1233 Wake's magnet programs, by encouraging diversity and creating enrichment opportunities, has helped our county avoid many of the ills that beset other school systems around the country. This is one of the reasons that Wake County was lauded in a recent Brookings Institution study. Academic choice, enrichment, and diversity are all very important, so strengthening the magnet system is the right way to go.
- 1234 I do not believe the objective of reducing high concentrations of poverty and supporting diversity are being met. As far as strategically placing programs to maximize the use of school facilities that objective may need revamping there are some magnet schools that are operating at a bare minimum in their concentrated areas due to outdated or a lack of resources
- 1235 The feeder pattern for this magnet school doesn't seem to be in alignment with what the elementary schools has as a magnet.
- 1236 Some of the magnets schools I visited didn't have a clear understanding of what they were about and they weren't able to articulate how they incorporated their focus during the school day and in the curriculum. Some of the electives in the GT basics were not really substantive, but the kids liked them because it gave them a chance to do non-traditional classwork.
- 1237 Your survey results can't be valid because it doesnt indicate anywhere whether 1 or 3 indicates most supportive. Khristi Tomlinson 919-272-3003
- 1238 Separating students so that the school ends up being a "school within a school" should not happen.

1239 While I think the magnet program has offered some great opportunities I also feel it has been very disruptive to neighborhood schools. Too many children are let out of their neighborhood and while it helps the magnet program it has eroded our neighborhood based elementary school. Also the fairness of who is admitted and who is not is questionable as to everyone having an equal education. We do have a child in the magnet program.

1240 These objectives make sense but if resources are limited, we can't afford to hang on to the notion of 'once a magnet, always a magnet' when other schools and parts of town need help meeting any of these three objectives. There are many high poverty and/or under-capacity schools that need magnets. Also, consider limiting the number of programs and making sure that there is one of each type on two or three sides of Wake Count, so everyone has access to all programs. For example, the international program at Wiley is too far away for people who live in North Raleigh. Consider adding a similar program on the north side of town.

1241 Stough meets the three main criteria for implementing a magnet program. Please consider a great candidate for a magnet program!

1242 This school east millbrook is not a very good magnet school. Teachers allow students to take the roll which always end up in mistakes, don't know how many times my daughter was marked absent by a student taking roll instead of a teacher and when I arrive home I get automated messages telling me that my child was marked absent when I know for a fact my child was in school! Always conflicts with students and fights. A vast majority of the staff is inexperience and does not have a clue. For instance, if a student is suspended for fighting, a phone call is made to parents as if that is the final decision and nothing could be done. Being a counseling professional, whatever happened to bringing the parents along with the students whom were fighting for conference to investigate what happen instead of suspending a student and that is final. I don't agree with the notion that both students get suspended even if a student is defending his or herself totally ludicrous! Just too many problems with the Wake County Public School System. I would expect better from a magnet school, but East Millbrook Middle sucks!

1243 I believe Stough Elementary is a great candidate for a magnet school. Due to its location, it has gradually crept to above 40% in F&R lunches, as the wealthier part of its district (e.g. Olde Raleigh) now tends to send their kids to private school, despite Stough showing good EOY test results. Why e.g. Underwood Elementary is a magnet school defies logic as it's placed in a generally wealthy district.

1244 My biggest concern about the magnet program is the procedure for de-magnetization. I believe there are some magnet schools (at least at the elementary level) that no longer need to be magnet schools, due to urban renewal and dramatic improvements in socioeconomic status of the base populations. There should be clear, strict, and unambiguous guidelines for demagnetization, and they should be enforced rigorously. There is a sense that some magnet schools keep their magnet status due to political pressures from families attending the schools. This undermines the value of the magnet program to Wake County as a whole. There is also a sense that some non-magnet schools lose a disproportionately high portion of their middle/upper class base population to magnets (e.g. Stough). Please look into these issues and reassess the magnet program accordingly. Thank you for your time and consideration.

1245 Electives at non-magnet (particularly year-round schools) are lacking both in available options and interest. Many students must take an elective they do not like because of lack of teachers and lack of selection.

1246 The magnet program offered by WCPSS is an excellent program. Not sure what we would have done without it for our two children especially since they have been identified as Academically Gifted. We will move to a different county (like Orange/chapel Hill) if the magnet program is not available in WCPSS anymore. Closing of the magnet program will not bode well for the growth of our community and our place in the global society as we move forward in the 21st century.

- 1247 I am very concerned that the school board is planning to dismantle or weaken the magnet program. My children are academically gifted and my son is taking college level math courses as a sophomore. The local school was very clear, even when he was in kindergarten, that they could not accomodate his needs, so that is why we chose the magnet program. If he cannot continue to be served by Enloe, we will move to a different county. It can hardly serve Wake county well to have a brain drain. Nor can it benefit the local economy to suffer the multiplier effects of having the most talented people leave the county. Please make no mistake, people can and will move out if the current Wake county board succeeds in destroying the magnet program. And please be aware that even your current activities and missteps have had an effect on the local economy. We, for instance, were planning some home improvements, but the Board's seeming insistence on weakening the magnet program has made us decide to postpone the changes indefinitely. That's \$25,000 that would have gone to pay local labor in tough economic times. And that's just our family. We are certainly not the
- 1248 Loved year-round. Too bad we don't have it at high school level. Modified calendar is a great alternative. I think all kids would do better on modified calender with fewer days off and more consolidated breaks, not to mention high school finals before winter break.
- 1249 I am not in favor of being "assigned" magnet choices. I think that if there are several AG schools available, parents should have the option to choose which AG magnet they want to apply to. Being assigned to an AG magnet school that is 30-45 minutes away when there is another AG magnet 10 minutes away does not seem just!!!! (Especially when the neighborhood schools are not nearly as capable of meeting the AG students needs!!!
- 1250 The primary goal of the Magnet Program should be to lure population to an area to prevent high poverty schools, with a high quality program. When we started in 1982 at Ligon we had to make the AG program "worth the ride". Magnets should be judged by what the school would look like if the magnet wasn't there.

1251 Brooks was an excellent choice for my child. We are so pleased!

1252 I am very concerned about the money spent to bus children 20+ miles a day (ONE WAY) and at those very schools the base kids are being "left" behind in terms of academics. It is as if there is a private school for the "rich" and the poor in the school get ignored--not expected to succeed. I encourage the WCPSS to go into the classrooms of the middle and high magnet schools. See how segregated the classes are! It is as if it were the 1960s again. This is not right. The base students are the ones that need more enriching classes and be pushed! We need to stop spending so much money on programs that we have the data that shows over several years is FAILING our economically disadvantaged students!

1253 It makes sense to me that it would be a better use of available classrooms for Stough to be a magnet.

1254 none

1255 This is a fantastic program with national recognition. It should be expanded to more schools as funding allows.

1256 The AG magnet schools are the primary, if not only way, that WCPSS serves the needs of gifted middle school and high school students. Please do not take these wonderful opportunities away from our best students.

1257 Actually I think it is unfair more of the opportunities offered at Magnets have not been at all schools. Language programs being very streamlined in traditional choice schools I opposed and feel more elementary schools should offer the same curriculum as in the magnets

1258 The magnet program or themed schools need to be spread across the county geographically so that suburban sprawl no longer prohibits students from the outer edges of the county from getting a quality education.

1259 It is critical that they remain strong and focused on the locations in the county with the highest socio-economic challenges.

- 1260 I want all kids regardless of race, ability, or income levels to be respected and taught with the best quality education in all the schools. Extensive Magnet programs just prove that your schools are failing.
- 1261 My daughter has been lucky to have been in Hunter, Ligon and now Enloe. She was in the AG Basics program and heavily involved in the arts. The magnet program allowed her to be challenged academically as well as to get to know and become friends with children from all walks of life. We could have enrolled her in a private school but felt that she would benefit from having a diverse group of classmates. One thing to note is that many parents from the suburb whose children attend magnet schools work one-on-one with disadvantaged children. They volunteer many hours at these schools in high-poverty areas, more than would ever be realized as many are not out for any kind of recognition. PTAs bring in a large amount of money to schools that would not have any assistance other than from the government. Parents volunteer their time to help raise the education levels across the board to all children in a magnet school.
- 1262 Magnet schools are special and therefore should be treated as such. A Magnet school should NEVER be used as a "base" school. By allowing a magnet school to be a base school the county has placed students that are driven and want to learn in the same classrooms with students that only seem to want to cause trouble and harass and bully other students. This is an absolute waste for the students of Wake county. In EGGMS alone there are a large number of students that could care less about the opportunities being offered at this Magnet school. They are stealing the opportunity from other students in the county that would love and appreciate these opportunities. In addition, any student that makes it in to a Magnet school should only be allowed to continue in the school as long as they are not causing disruptions to fellow students and their classrooms. Basically, magnet programs should be a privilege - NOT a right. And a privilege that CAN and will be taken away if necessary.

1263 Really happy with our magnet program  
(Underwood elementary)!

1264 The opportunity for my kids to go to school with  
kids in various socio-economic backgrounds has  
been invaluable for all of us in the family.

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