Frequently Asked Questions

1. **What are the core subjects?** The core subjects in grade 1 is ELA and math. The core subjects in grades 2 - 6 are ELA, math, science, and social studies.

2. **I live in a nearby school district. Will my child be able to enroll in the Magnet Program?** No. School districts are independent entities governed by school board policies. Therefore, only students who reside in the St. James Parish School System can enroll in our Magnet Program.

3. **Can I mail my child’s application and documentation?** No. All applications and required documentation must be hand-delivered to Gramercy Elementary School or to Paulina Elementary School.

4. **I live in St. James Parish. If my child is selected to attend the SJP Magnet Program, will transportation be provided?** Yes. Transportation will be provided for all students enrolled in the Magnet Program.

5. **Why are students required to sign a behavior contract?** Enrolling in our magnet program is a privilege, not a right. As a result, students are expected to adhere to the policies and procedures of the St. James Parish School System and the SJP Magnet Program.

6. **Will students be required to take the state tests in the magnet program?** Yes. Our magnet program is a part of the St. James Parish Public School System; therefore, our students will be required to take all state tests and parish assessments.

Thank you for your interest in the SJP Magnet Program. We look forward to serving you and enriching your child's future.

P. Edward Cancienne, Jr., PHD

www.stjames.k12.la.us
APPLICATION PROCESS

OFFICIAL APPLICATION PERIOD: DECEMBER 13, 2021 – JANUARY 31, 2022

1. Parents will hand-deliver completed applications with proof of residency to Gramercy or Paulina Elementary School within the deadline period. Date stamped receipts will be given.
2. A randomizer will create a random list based on eligibility and diversity defined in the program.
3. Qualifying applicants will be contacted by letter and/or email.
4. Applicants after the application period will be filed in the order received. If a spot becomes available for which there is no waiting list, then the policy will be “first-come, first-served” once academic criteria has been satisfied.

NOTICE: Falsification of information in the application process will not be tolerated. Failure to provide accurate information will result in disqualification of the application.

ACADEMIC CRITERIA

➢ Applicants in grades K-6 should demonstrate on grade level proficiency in ELA and math based on district administered assessments.
➢ Magnet students should maintain a 2.5 Core GPA in order to remain in the program. Students close to the 2.5 Core GPA may be placed on short-term probation.

APPLICATION POOL

Applicants are placed in a pool and prioritized as follows:

➢ Siblings will be given priority for placement. For verification, a birth certificate or legal custody paper may be requested. *Siblings are defined as biological brothers and/or sisters living in the same household and not matriculating to the next building level.
➢ If no magnet seats are available, students’ names will remain in an applicant pool until a pre-determined date or until the following year’s applications open. Applicants are notified as seats become available. Parents/Legal Guardians have 5 days from the time of the notification to accept. After 5 days, the seat is relinquished. For seats open during the school year, response time is one day.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

➢ Any St. James Parish qualifying student (PreK-6) who is interested in opportunities offered by a magnet school program is eligible to apply. All students applying must demonstrate good conduct and maintain academic criteria for continued enrollment into the magnet program. Behavior contracts will be required.
➢ Applicants residing within the district must provide proof of physical address for verification purposes at the time the application is submitted. Acceptable documentation is an electric bill or water/gas bill showing service location. Cable and phone bills of any kind will not be accepted as documentation.

HOW DO I APPLY?

➢ Complete the application (pick up application at Gramercy Elementary School, Paulina Elementary or print from the district’s website www.stjames.k12.la.us)
➢ Hand-deliver completed application with proof of residency and/or other required documentation to GES or PES (see below for required documentation)

SELECTION GUIDELINES

1. Eligible students who have siblings currently enrolled in the Magnet School must apply to attend.
2. Students already accepted as a Magnet Student and wish to remain for the following year will not need to submit an application to remain in the program.
3. If a student leaves the school or declines placement, they will be required to reapply and go through the selection process again.
4. Only one application per student will be accepted each year.
5. All applications become null and void by the end of the first quarter each school year. Applicants on the wait list must reapply each school year.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION

➢ Proof of physical address (electric bill, gas/water bill; NOT cable and phone)
➢ Copy of student’s most recent report card & standardized test (for non-public students only)
➢ Copy of student’s Birth Certificate verifying parents’ names or Legal Guardian papers (only if requested by the school)