

Los Angeles Unified School District

OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS

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For Immediate Release

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JANUARY 9 IS DEADLINE FOR 2009-2010 MAGNET, PERMITS WITH TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC SCHOOL CHOICE APPLICATION

(Los Angeles—January 5, 2009)—This **Friday, January 9, 2009** is the deadline to submit the 2009-2010 Choices Application for the Magnet, Permits With Transportation (PWT), or Public School Choice programs. The application must be postmarked or received in the District’s Student Integration Services (Magnet) Office by 5 p.m.

Since 1977, Magnet and Permits With Transportation (PWT) have been the District’s two main options for students seeking integrated educational experiences. The programs grew out of a California Supreme Court order in 1976, which required the LAUSD to take steps to “alleviate the harms of racial isolation.”

The LAUSD court-ordered Magnet program is the largest such effort in the nation, with more than 53,700 students. Due to its excellent reputation over the past 31 years, as many as 65,000 applications are received each year for an estimated 16,000 openings.

Magnet programs provide opportunities for students to pursue an academic interest in a special environment for learning. Magnet school specialties range from math/science/technology and architecture/digital arts to the performing arts, humanities, medical/biological or environmental sciences, music, law/police studies and others, including programs for gifted/high ability and highly gifted students. With the addition of 11 new Magnet Programs for the 2009-2010 school year, there are now 173 LAUSD Magnet schools and centers. District-paid transportation is provided for Magnet students if they reside outside a two-mile radius or outside the Magnet school attendance boundary, whichever is farther.

Permits With Transportation (PWT), which also provides District-paid transportation, offers another opportunity for voluntary integration. Students applying from a specific “sending” school area in the LAUSD may be assigned by the District for integration

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purposes to a specific “receiving” school with available classroom space. School assignments are determined using the criteria of classroom space, integration requirements and transportation patterns. There are currently 2,400 students enrolled in the PWT program.

The federal legislation in the *No Child Left Behind Act of 2001* requires all school districts in the nation to provide Public School Choice (PSC) as one of the educational options for parents of students attending Program Improvement schools. PSC offers students enrolled in a school identified as PI or an At-Risk for Program Improvement (PI) or a PI school listed in the CHOICES brochure an opportunity to attend a non-PI school. District-paid transportation is provided for students participating in the PSC program.

Full information about the District’s Court-Ordered voluntary integration programs, Magnet and PWT, and the federally mandated PSC Program, can be found in the CHOICES 2009-2010 brochure or at <http://echoices.lausd.net>. The brochure also contains an application for these programs and a postage-paid return envelope.

CHOICES brochures may be picked up at any LAUSD school, Los Angeles City Public Library, or the Student Integration Services Office at LAUSD headquarters, 333 S. Beaudry Ave., 16th Floor, in downtown Los Angeles.

Please refer questions regarding:
Magnet Program: (213) 241-4177
PWT Program: (213) 241-6572
PSC Program: (213) 241-6990

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