

For Immediate Release

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District Expands Magnet Offerings for 2009-10 School Year

Comprehensive Magnet Information and Registration Available at November 1st Magnet Fair at Pittsburgh Frick

PITTSBURGH October 29, 2008 –Children of Pittsburgh who enroll in the Pittsburgh Public Schools can take advantage of excellent neighborhood schools, magnet schools and programs and upon graduation may be eligible to receive scholarships through *The Pittsburgh Promise*. On Saturday, November 1, 2008 parents seeking information about Pittsburgh Public Schools magnet programs are encouraged to attend the District's Magnet Information Fair *Pursue Your Passion. Pick Your Program. Prepare for the Promise*. The fair will take place from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. at Pittsburgh Frick 6-9 which is located at 107 Thackeray Street in Oakland. Magnet options in the Pittsburgh Public Schools include schools/programs that provide a specific education model, such as the Montessori Method, or a theme-based program focusing on a student's specific talents or interests.

Representatives from magnet schools, programs and early childhood centers will be available to answer questions regarding the many options and offerings available in the Pittsburgh Public Schools. This year students and families are able to apply to three magnet options in order of preference. Applications can be completed and submitted at the Magnet Fair. Students who enroll in a magnet program are expected to remain in the program for at least one school year and must maintain satisfactory attendance, citizenship and academic progress. Magnet applications for Pittsburgh CAPA 6-12 must be submitted to the District by November 21, 2008. All other magnet applications must be submitted no later than Friday, December 12, 2008. For complete information on magnet registration or to apply to a magnet school or program please visit the District's website at www.pps.k12.pa.us.

New Secondary Offerings

This year, secondary options for families have been expanded to include three new theme-based magnet schools and a new magnet program:

- ***The new University Prep 6-12 School*** opened this year in partnership with the University of Pittsburgh. Located in the Hill District at the Milliones facility, University Prep 6-12 serves students from the communities formerly served by Pittsburgh Schenley. In addition to these communities, the District will accept 1/3 of the students from applications throughout the City. The school opened this school year with a 9th grade class. Next Fall the school will grow to include a cohort of grades 6-8, and by 2012 the school will be a 6-12 school.
- ***A new, state-of-the-art Science and Technology Academy 6-12 School*** opening in 2009-2010 at the Frick facility centrally located in Oakland. Enrollment for the new magnet school will be limited to 250 students, grades 6-9, the first year through a weighted lottery. Upon completion of the 9th grade, students of the new school can focus on one of four areas of concentration; Environmental Sciences, Life Sciences, Engineering Sciences, and Computer Sciences.
- ***A 6-12 International Baccalaureate School***, focused on language and culture, to open in 2009-2010 at the Reizenstein facility in Shadyside. Pittsburgh Frick IB/IS students in grades 6, 7, and 9 will become part of the new school.

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Page 2- District Expands Magnet Offerings for 2009-10 School Year

Pittsburgh Frick IB/IS 8th grade students interested in entering the IB Programme in the 9th grade must reapply. The school will open with grades 6-10 and a capacity for 750 students. As grades 11 and 12 are added over time, the total student population will grow to 1,050.

- **A Business and Finance and Information magnet program** to open at Pittsburgh Carrick High School for the start of 2009-10 school year. Students in this magnet can choose between three programs of study; Business Information Technology, Finance Technology and Information Technology.

Currently the District offers 30 magnet options across the region served by the Pittsburgh Public Schools. The chart below summarizes the available magnet schools and programs by geographic region and grade configuration.

Pittsburgh Public Schools Magnet Offerings for the 2009-10 School Year			
Region			
Grade Levels	East	South/West	Central/North
K-5	Dilworth PreK-5 (Traditional) Fulton PreK-5 (French Emphasis) Liberty PreK-5 (Spanish Emphasis) Linden K-5 (German Emphasis)	Phillips K-5 (Spanish Emphasis)	Allegheny K-5 (Traditional) Northview PreK-5 (Spanish Emphasis)
K-8	Montessori PreK-8 (Montessori)	Carmalt PreK-8 (Sci -Tech)	Manchester PreK-8 (German Emphasis)
6-8	Sterrett 6-8 (Classical)	Pittsburgh Classical 6-8	Allegheny 6-8 (Traditional) Schiller 6-8 (Classical)
6-12	International Baccalaureate 6-12 (IB)		CAPA 6-12 (arts) Science & Technology 6-12 University Prep 6-12
High School	Allderdice 9-12 (Pre-Engineering) Peabody 9-12 (Robotics) Schenley 11-12 (IB Diploma Programme) Westinghouse 9-12 (Cosmetology)	Brashear 9-12 (Computer Science) Carrick 9-12 (Business & Finance) Langley 9-12 (Teaching)	Oliver 9-12 (JROTC) (Cosmetology) (Law/Public Service) Perry 9-12 (Traditional) (Math & Science)

In addition to visiting the District’s web site at www.pps.k12.pa.us, copies of the District’s guide to options and offerings and magnet applications are available by calling the Parent Hotline at (412) 622-7920.

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