

2024-25 PLAN FOR OUTREACH, MARKETING AND RECRUITMENT FOR MAGNET AND ALE PROGRAMS

This plan describes the outreach and recruitment efforts to be utilized by the District in SY2024-25 and serves as a guide for the District departments that are charged with implementing various aspects of the plan.

I. OUTREACH

A. ALE Outreach

The District will continue to implement the following outreach strategies in the following outreach strategies in SY2024-25.

1. GATE Program Outreach

- Collaborate with the Communications department to review and update the District's GATE website, updating it regularly with outreach information. GATE staff will post additional information about GATE presentations at the Family Resource Centers, on the District's main website and sending parentlinks. Schools will develop promotional videos of their activities and programs to post on the District and department websites.
- Develop, update, and circulate printed material such as flyers, postcards, and rack cards. The GATE department also plans to collaborate with site principals to offer more interactions to families from the school sites.
- Invite area Head Start, PACE, and Early Learning Centers to participate in pre-kindergarten testing and increase focus on early childhood centers from four schools to five.
- Host virtual and in-person parent events, including Family Enrichment Night, parent information sessions, and district-wide GATE open houses, and increase the number of small site-based events, which tend to attract more engaged attendees.
- Provide virtual bilingual workshops of interest and need for families at all four Family Resource Centers (e.g., "Tell Me More" series) using various modes of advertising to increase attendance.

- Host virtually the successful district-wide GATE open houses prior to GATE testing with the support of student services departments, with focused outreach to African American and Hispanic families.
- Provide personalized one-on-one outreach to African American and Hispanic families who do not respond to GATE attendance placement letters.
- Utilize the following outreach strategies, which have contributed to growth in GATE Hispanic enrollment:
 - Invitation to Test mailers sent in Spanish.
 - All community outreach events are attended by a Spanish- speaking GATE Staff Member.
 - Visual presentations are presented with Spanish content to attract Spanish-speaking families.
 - GATE testing announcements are run the week prior to the testing on Spanish radio Tejano.

2. Advanced Academic Courses Outreach

a. International Baccalaureate Programme Outreach

- District IB Coordinator develops, maintains, and distributes all IB recruitment flyers and literature to parents at K-8 and middle schools
- District IB Coordinator attends preregistration events explaining the benefits of the program. Events include Magnet Fair and District-wide registration event.
- IB student leaders along with IB Coordinator meets with incoming 8th graders and students enrolled in English 10 to encourage IB participation
- IB students in the Arabic Society visit feeder middle school students to promote the IB program by providing lessons on Arabic culture and language
- JROTC instructors visit middle school students to share benefits of an IB language in military careers
- Cholla offers open-access IB prep courses in 9th and 10th grades

b. Advanced Placement Courses Outreach

- Send automated messages to all parents of students who show AP potential
- Provide personalized contact from the Student Support Service departments to their students, encouraging them to enroll in AP courses and provide assistance (utilizing AP Potential information from the previous year)
- Provide guidance from school counselors and College and Career Readiness Coordinator about advantages of taking AP courses

c. Dual Credit Outreach

- Strengthen dual credit partnership with Pima Community College and streamline the process for sites eager to increase their dual credit course offerings
- Provide support to increase dual credit offerings at appropriate school sites, including recruiting faculty and increasing student enrollment

d. Advanced and Honors Courses

- Encourage middle schools to increase the availability of Honors courses and to be strategic in the creation of their master schedule so that students can enroll in more than one Honors course
- Provide additional training for Honors teachers to increase student achievement in these courses

3. University High School Outreach

The following strategies with specific outreach to the Student Support Services departments and their students will be used:

- Provide current information about UHS, including testing, test prep, and celebrations, to help qualifying students understand the benefits of enrollment.
- Virtually hold two evening presentations in the spring for families of 7th grade students.
- Invite all Tucson Unified 6th, 7th, and 8th grade African American, Hispanic, Native American and Asian-Pacific Islander and Refugee status students who have a minimum of a 2.5 GPA to attend the Multicultural Scholars Dinner.
- Send ParentLink emails to all families of 7th grade students and make phone calls with information about the events.
- Invite all 8th graders who meet the CogAT criteria to spend a day on campus (Step Up Day) to participate in leadership activities and learn about UHS academic classes, clubs, extracurricular activities, and athletics.
- Expand telephone outreach to 8th graders who have qualified for UHS admissions with attention paid to African American, Hispanic, Native American, Asian-Pacific Islander and Refugee status students.

The UHS Recruitment and Retention Coordinator will utilize the following strategies to support UHS outreach:

- Virtually meet with 6th, 7th, and 8th graders at district middle and K-8 schools twice each year
- Call students and their families who do not accept enrollment, inviting them to special UHS events
- Virtually meet with interested 6th and 7th grade parents and students to introduce them to the opportunities available at UHS

B. Magnet Outreach

Magnet program outreach occurs at both the district and school levels. The central Magnet Department supports these efforts by identifying and securing community engagement opportunities, coordinating district and school participation in local

events, and hosting an annual Magnet Outreach Symposium that connects magnet schools with business, community, and non-profit partners.

The department also provides professional development for site Magnet Coordinators through a partnership with *SchoolMint*, a school marketing consultant, focused on effective strategies for high-impact print and social media outreach, value propositions, and dynamic school tours.

Each magnet school designs and implements outreach activities to support enrollment growth, which are detailed in its annual Magnet School Plan and reviewed quarterly with the Magnet Department. The department collaborates with schools annually to evaluate and refine recruitment strategies as part of the plan review process.

II. MARKETING

A. ALE and Magnet Marketing Campaigns

The Communications department launches campaigns that address the communications, media, and marketing needs of the magnet schools' and ALEs. Campaigns support schools and magnet and ALE programs in meeting integration benchmarks defined in the Unitary Status Plan.

The district will continue to utilize two outreach, marketing, and recruitment campaigns in SY24-25, that are specifically related to Magnet Schools and ALE programs: Priority for Enrollment.

To execute the campaigns, the district created signage, commercials, social media posts, digital ads, geo-marketing, video streaming, and print advertisements. The district also hosted targeted-audience community and Tucson Unified events that require printed materials, announcements, posters, organized workers, layout, and setup and clean up.

1. Priority Enrollment Campaign

The District has designed the Priority Enrollment Campaign to ensure maximum exposure and information dissemination about school choice options during popular community events. These events occur immediately before and during the time period that open enrollment applications are being accepted (November through February). Coordinators or school representatives from each school site facilitate activities, share information about their program and other magnet and ALE programs, and arrange campus tours to increase interest and applications to support improved integration.

One of the most popular citywide recruitment events included as part of the Priority Enrollment Campaign is the District's School Choice Fair which includes Magnet, GATE, and application Schools and is held in November at the Children's Museum Tucson. Families visit with school representatives and can work with the Enrollment Ambassadors to fill out enrollment applications on site or set up tours with the school representative. (details in the narrative)

2. Continuing Enrollment Campaign

The Continuing Enrollment Campaign focuses on targeted student recruitment for schools that are still deficient in enrollment after February. This outreach and recruitment effort begins in late February and continues until school begins in August. In addition to recruitment efforts for campuses needing additional enrollment, the campaign also serves in an informational capacity for all magnet schools and ALE programs.

The Communications department also provides content for the schools and websites on enrollment and program activities that can be shared in school newsletters, social media, and on school websites.

B. Magnet Programs and School Advertising

The messaging focuses on school themes and higher achieving academic expectations for all race and ethnic populations. The plan encourages school tours and the use of open enrollment applications. The goal of these advertising and marketing efforts is to raise awareness among African American and Hispanic students about the Magnet schools and programs to encourage them to explore and enroll in these opportunities. Budget and scheduling availability will determine the specific promotion timeline and content.

1. Advertising

The Communications department will use English and Spanish television, radio, print, geo-marketing, video streaming, social media, and digital advertising to increase the number of students in or out of the District who consider magnet schools.

a. Television

The Priority Enrollment and Continuing Enrollment campaigns will run throughout the year for magnet schools on multiple English and Spanish television stations. This also will include digital advertising on the stations' web pages, video streaming, and YouTube pre-roll.

For magnet schools, 15- and 30-second commercials will highlight school theme, student diversity, and academic achievement. These commercials, in both English and Spanish, will air on corresponding stations.

b. Print

The Communications department will place advertising in local English and Spanish newspapers and magazines to promote both the Priority Enrollment and Continuing Enrollment campaigns for magnet and application programs. The ads will target both the Hispanic and African American populations. Examples of the newspapers and magazines that will be considered are included below.

- Bear Essentials: Promoting Open Enrollment with Magnet Ads and E-Blast messaging in the months of August, October 2024, and March & May in 2025.
- Tucson Local Media via Tucson Weekly and their 4 other Publications: (Explorer News, Marana News, Foothills News, and the Desert Times): "Discover Magnet: themed ad in October, and Magnet Open Enrollment in November.
- Arizona Bilingual Magazine and Website: Magnet Ads in Spanish
February issue: "*Escoge tu Escuela Magnet*" (select your Magnet School), August Issue: Magnet Ad, October issue: Open Enrollment and Magnet Schools Fair, and the November issue: Magnet Open Enrollment Ad. Ads also featured on the Magazine's main webpage on the right side.
- Raising Arizona Kids Magazine: Print ADV – on back cover; featuring our Open Enrollment- Discover our Award-Winning Magnet Schools.

c. Digital

- TV station landing pages and social media: Digital advertising using

geo-targeting² for the Priority and Continuing Enrollment campaigns will focus on areas of Tucson that have a high concentration of African American and Hispanic populations.

- YouTube pre-roll commercials for magnet programs

d. Radio

Produce 15-30 second spots to run on both English and Spanish speaking radio stations, highlighting Magnet and Open Enrollment.

2. Online Presence

The District web team updates the school and District webpages to highlight the programs available in each school, the advantages of the program, and its integration benefits. The Communications team takes and post photos and videos for all Tucson Unified schools, posting on District and school websites and social media outlets, including but not limited to Facebook, X, Instagram, and YouTube

Magnet school-specific: The District updates 30-second videos consisting of school summaries to submit for the Magnet Schools of America Merit Award Applications. These videos are posted on the corresponding magnet school websites to share program achievement opportunities. All Magnet Schools received an updated School video that highlights what is special about their school while visually showing the school, staff, and students

3. Mass Mailing – Mass mailers were not sent in SY24-25 and instead flyers were printed to promote the Magnet and Programs Fair

4. Marketing Materials

The Communications department developed and/or updates marketing materials to support efforts by all magnet programs and schools to attract diverse

² Geo-targeting is the process of providing unique content and/or services to website visitors based on their geographical location. It is used in internet marketing techniques to identify, prioritize, and target users in accordance with their physical location.

populations. These materials include:

- Business cards for new and updated magnet school personnel
- Flyers, posters, postcards, student passports, photographs, frames, bookmarks, magnets, sunglasses, stress balls, pencils, pens, and event booklets, as needed for all listed events
- Reprints of MSA Award Posters for the Magnet Department
- School and department table covers and pull-up banners for events, as needed; and
- Fence signs, fence banners, feather banners and light pole flags highlighting school programs and awards at schools, as needed

C. ALE Programs and Program Advertising

The messaging for ALE programs focuses on high academic achievement, and on engaging and rigorous courses that prepare students for high school and post-secondary education. Advertising and marketing efforts also emphasize events and school tours that offer personal contacts with ALE staff, with a focus on increasing diversity enrollment.

1. Advertising

The goal of these advertising and marketing efforts is to raise awareness among African American and Hispanic students about the ALE programs to encourage them to explore and enroll in these opportunities. Budget and scheduling availability will determine the specific promotion timeline and content.

The District uses English and Spanish social media, and print and digital advertising to encourage students to consider enrolling in various ALE opportunities, with a focus on specific stand-alone programs such as GATE, AP, and other ALE classes.

2. Online Presence

The Communications department will take and post photos and videos for all District schools, websites, and social media outlets, including but not limited to Facebook, X , Instagram, and YouTube.

The District web team will update the school and District webpages to highlight the ALE programs available in each school, the advantages of the program, and benefits of integration. The web team also will place ALE logos on the banners of schools³ and programs identified within the school website program menu.

3. Marketing Materials

The Communications department will develop and update marketing materials for ALE programs as requested by the department. These materials include:

- Flyers, posters, postcards, pencils, pens, and event booklets, as needed for all events listed;
- ALE department pull-up banners;
- School and department table covers for events;
- Fence signs, fence banners, and light pole flags highlighting school programs and awards at schools;

³ Clicking on the ALE logo on the banner links the user to the specific program information.