

**MAGNET TRANSPORTATION
PROPOSED CHANGES FOR 2009-2010 SCHOOL YEAR**

REMINDER TO PARENTS: The following **DISCLAIMER** appeared in the **2009-2010 Magnet Program Catalog** and all other mass mailings and information provided to parents concerning magnet programs.

Duval County's entire Transportation System is currently under review. Due to anticipated shortfalls in the budget, the same level of service that has traditionally been provided for both neighborhood and magnet students may not be possible for the 2009-2010 school year. When considering school choice options, parents should be aware that the cutbacks or elimination of some bus service is possible.

UPDATE FOR PARENTS: The review of the Transportation System has been completed. Final recommendations were **voted on** by the **Duval County School Board on April 7, 2009** following a Public Hearing at the same meeting.

The following transportation changes will impact magnet schools and students:

- For elementary magnet students, the distance between a bus stop and home will change from one (1) mile to one and one-half (1 ½) miles; or, an elementary magnet student may have to walk (or be transported by the parent) up to two (2) miles to the neighborhood school for a stop.
- “Express Routes” will replace morning and afternoon direct routes into neighborhoods for non-dedicated middle and high school magnet programs **and** for middle and high school dedicated magnet schools in the afternoon. “Express Route” stops will be at or near schools. The nearest school may be more than one and one-half (1 ½) miles away from home.
- Stops for after-school activity buses for middle and high school magnet students will be at or near schools or locations in the community.

To access transportation to magnet schools, after April 7, 2009:

- Download an *Application for Magnet Bus Stop* from www.magnetprograms.com.
- Call 390-2082, 390-2144 or 858-6200 to request a faxed *Application for Magnet Bus Stop*
- **Submit the form by June 5, 2009.** Fax to DCPS Transportation Department at 858-6214 or mail to DCPS Transportation Department, 129 King St., Jacksonville, FL 32204

To stay informed about magnet transportation, parents have access to the following opportunities:

- ✓ A detailed Question & Answer will be posted on www.magnetprograms.org and www.duvalschools.org immediately following the April 7, 2009 meeting of the Duval County School Board.
- ✓ Routes and stops will be posted on www.duvalschools.org in late July.
- ✓ A Call Center will be available to provide bus stop information two weeks before school starts on August 24. Parents may call 381-RIDE.
- ✓ Call Center staff will contact parents of newly accepted magnet students who apply for a bus stop to give them bus stop information.
- ✓ Updated information, as necessary, will be posted on www.magnetprograms.com and www.duvalchoice.com.

