



# Math, Science, Technology (MST) Magnet Program

## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

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### What is a Magnet Program?

A Magnet Program offers a specialized course of study and related experiences not normally available at a student's neighborhood resides school.

### What does MST mean?

Math, Science and Technology

### JCPS has three middle schools with MST Magnet Programs. How do I know if Meyzeek is my "MST" school?

Meyzeek, Farnsley and Newburg are all MST schools. Your address determines your MST middle school. To find out which MST school serves your address, call the JCPS Demographics Office (502-485-3050).

### What Application Requirements must a student submit to be considered for admission to the MST Magnet Program?

**Academic Transcript:** a transcript of grades prior to the current school year, or at a minimum, a copy of the report card from the previous year **and** the report card from the current school year showing the 1<sup>st</sup> semester grades. A 3.2 grade point average is recommended.

**Test Results:** KCCT results and/or results of standardized testing that is no more than 1½ years old. (Example: CTBS, California Achievement Test, Stanford, Iowa Test of Basic Skills, etc.)

**Essay:** (writing sample): *Why I Want to be a Part of a MST Magnet Program*

**Teacher & Community Recommendations**

**Attendance:** 96% or better is recommended

### Where do I obtain an application for the MST Magnet Program?

Applications are available in *Choices: The Guide to JCPS Middle Schools* and at all public elementary and middle schools. They also can be downloaded from the Optional, Magnet and Advance Programs Offices at <http://www.jcpsky.net/Departments/OptMagAdvProg/index.html>.

### Does my child have to be in the Advance Program to be accepted?

No. The MST Magnet Program is available to all students meeting the Entrance Qualifications, be they in the comprehensive, honors, advance program, or receiving special education services.

### How many openings are there for 6th grade MST students?

There are approximately 150-180 spaces for incoming 6th graders. The number of Magnet openings depends upon the number of resides students projected to attend Meyzeek.

### Is the MST Magnet Program only open to incoming 6th grade students?

No. Students currently in 6th and 7th grade may apply as well as 5th grade students. Space for 7th and 8th graders is limited to the number of students who leave Meyzeek during their 6<sup>th</sup> or 7<sup>th</sup> grade years.

## Can I tour Meyzeek during the school day?

Tours are available to families who are unable to attend the Magnet Open House or those who are undecided after visiting our Open House. To reserve a space on a tour, call Meyzeek (485-8299) for available dates. All tours begin promptly at 8:00 and last 75 - 90 minutes.

## How do I apply for Meyzeek's MST program?

All interested students must submit a completed JCPS application listing the MST Magnet Program as the first choice to:

Jefferson County Public Schools  
Optional, Magnet, and Advance Programs  
PO Box 34020  
Louisville, KY 40232

## What happens next? Is there more information to provide?

The Optional, Magnet, and Advance Programs Office will process your application and notify Meyzeek that you have applied. Meyzeek will then mail you a school-specific application.

## What deadlines are important to me?

January 7, 2011 - Application must be submitted to the Optional, Magnet, and Advance Programs Office.  
February 18, 2011 - School-specific application materials must be into Meyzeek by 4:00 p.m.

## What happens if there are more applicants than spaces available?

Students applying to the MST Magnet Program are placed randomly on a list generated by JCPS. Meyzeek scores all support materials submitted. Students who **do not** meet the entrance qualifications are marked off the list. If, after screening the applications, there are more qualified students than there are openings in the Magnet Program, then the order of the random list is used to determine who enrolls in the MST Magnet Program and who is placed on the waiting list.

## Do any students have guaranteed entrance into Meyzeek's MST Magnet Program?

Fifth grade students who are in the MST program at Brandeis, Young, or Wheatley Elementary Schools and meet entrance qualifications for the MST Magnet Program are accepted automatically. The number of students accepted via this avenue is usually between 20-25 students.

## Do my child's chances of acceptance increase if I apply early?

No. Anyone who applies before the deadline in January has the same opportunity to be accepted into the MST Magnet Program.

## Do siblings get preference over other students applying?

No. All students have the same chance of being accepted (except for qualified Brandeis, Young, and Wheatley students).

## If my child is accepted to Meyzeek, will they be guaranteed acceptance at duPont Manual High School?

Students accepted to Meyzeek's MST Magnet Program have an opportunity to apply for early admission to the Math/Science/Technology Program at Manual, but they must meet Manual's MST selection criteria.

## **What if Meyzeek is not my child's MST school? Is there any other way to enroll my child at Meyzeek?**

JCPS Student Transfer applications are available in May for the upcoming school year. Those are available through the Office of Student Services (485-3340). If a transfer is granted, the student will enroll at Meyzeek as a transfer student - not as a Magnet student. The student's academic level will determine the class and services to which he/she is assigned.

## **How is a middle school organized differently than an elementary school?**

All students are organized into teams comprised of four teachers and 116 - 120 students. The students have a common Related Arts period and the academic teachers have a common planning period. This planning period is used for parent conferences, cross-curricular activities and team meetings. All Meyzeek students have a 20 minute supervised lunch period that is shared with the members of their team.

## **Can my child take both music and a foreign language?**

All students take one Related Art class, but those who are reading above grade level have an opportunity to enroll in a second. Our Related Art offerings are: Band, Orchestra, Art, Foreign Language (Spanish or French), Robotics and Physical Education. (Meyzeek is one of the only middle schools in Jefferson County to offer full-year classes in Foreign Language.)

## **How can I ease my child's anxieties about beginning middle school?**

To make the transition from elementary school to middle school smooth, we have initiated the Buddy System. Incoming sixth graders list four "buddies" with whom they would like to be in class. We will do everything we can to ensure that each sixth grader is scheduled into academic classes with at least one of their "buddies." We have found it to be a great comfort to sixth graders when they see that one familiar face sitting in the desk next to them.

## **How can I stay connected at Meyzeek?**

Subscribe to Meyzeek's Daily E-mail List. The daily announcements are sent to all subscribers every morning. You'll never be "out of the loop" because you can read the announcements that our students hear everyday. Go to [www.meyzeek.org](http://www.meyzeek.org) to subscribe; you can unsubscribe at any time.

## **How can I get involved at Meyzeek?**

Meyzeek has a very active PTSA that is eager to "plug" new parents into our school programs. For an insider's look at our PTSA, click the "For Parents" button at [www.meyzeek.org](http://www.meyzeek.org)

## **Is it really cool to be smart at Meyzeek?**

Yes! It really is.

## **Who do I contact if I have more questions?**

Please contact Ms. Kelly Haile, Meyzeek's Magnet Program Coordinator, via phone at (502) 485-8299 or via e-mail at [kelly.haile@jefferson.kyschools.us](mailto:kelly.haile@jefferson.kyschools.us).