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# NEWS RELEASE

Attn: Education Desk  
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## **SAN BERNARDINO UNIFIED PROVIDES EDUCATIONAL OPTIONS FOR STUDENTS; DEADLINE IS FEBRUARY 5**

The Friday, February 5 deadline is fast approaching to apply to enroll your child in one of the San Bernardino City Unified School District's voluntary magnet programs.

Magnet programs provide students with unique educational opportunities that may not be available at their home school. Interested parents may apply to enroll their child at a magnet school for the 2010-2011 school year to take advantage of these programs.

**Anton** and **Palm Avenue Elementary Schools** both offer the Fine Arts Magnet Program. All students at these schools are exposed to music, dance, and other visual arts through an artist-in-residence program. Professional artists hold grade-appropriate workshops during the school day that support the educational curriculum. For example, students may learn and perform folk dances from cultures they study in social studies.

Several schools offer Dual Immersion (English/Spanish) Programs for native English speakers and native Spanish speakers. In these classes, students are taught in English for part of the day and Spanish for part of the day so all students are exposed to their native language and a second language while learning the state standards. The goal is for students to become bilingual and biliterate in English and Spanish. This program is available at **Bonnie Oehl, Belvedere,** and **Hillside Elementary Schools**. Students who successfully completed the Dual Immersion Program at the elementary level may apply to continue their bilingual instruction at **Arrowview Middle School**.

English learners may benefit from the HILT (High Intensity Language Training) Program offered at **Belvedere** and **Arrowhead Elementary Schools**. The program is designed to help English-language learners become proficient in English as quickly as possible. Participating

students attend regular classes but are also provided with additional reading/language arts instruction. Arrowhead's program is equipped to assist native speakers of Vietnamese, Chinese, Tagalog, or Khmer.

**North Park Elementary School** offers a full-day kindergarten program, with the goal of developing the child academically, physically, and socially. Parents must apply for this program by February 5, but students will not be eligible to enter the program until after the first parent-teacher conference.

African-American families may be interested in SANKOFA (Students Acquiring New Knowledge Optimizing Future Accomplishments), a research-based teaching method that affirms and values African-American culture, historical perspectives, and learning styles. SANKOFA students are taught state standards, and the program is open to all students, regardless of their cultural background. SANKOFA is offered at **Rio Vista Elementary School** and **Martin Luther King Jr. Middle School**.

Other District Magnet Programs include the Creative & Performing Arts Program at **Salinas Elementary School**, environmental education programs at **Kimbark** and **North Verdemon Elementary Schools**, and the University Demonstration School program conducted in partnership with California State University, San Bernardino and offered at Hillside Elementary School.

*School Options* brochures, which contain a complete list and details of all available Magnet and Advanced Learner Programs, were mailed to parents in January. Additional brochures are available in both English and Spanish at **Enrollment and Placement Services**, located at 140 Carousel Mall, lower level, in San Bernardino. Or, you may call Enrollment and Placement Services at (909) 891-1000 for more information. Parents who need information in Cambodian/Khmer, Arabic, or Vietnamese should call the **English Learner Programs Department** at (909) 891-1013.

Completed Magnet Program applications must be returned to Enrollment and Placement Services no later than 4:30 p.m. on Friday, February 5. A separate application must be completed for each child seeking to enroll in a Magnet Program. If there are more applicants than space available, a drawing of all eligible applicants will be held February 22 at 5:30 p.m. at the Board of Education building, 777 North F Street in San Bernardino.

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