



## A STRATEGIC ROADMAP

### LOCAL

#### SNAPSHOT OF MAGNET SCHOOLS<sup>1</sup>

The Five Pillars of Magnet School Success

- Diversity
- Innovative Curriculum & Professional Development
- Academic Excellence
- Leadership
- Family & Community Partnerships

### STATE

#### MODEL STATE INTEGRATION POLICIES<sup>2</sup>

An Act to Support Magnet Schools<sup>2</sup>

- “Given the benefits of magnet schools, it is important to provide support for the establishment and operation of high-quality magnet schools.”

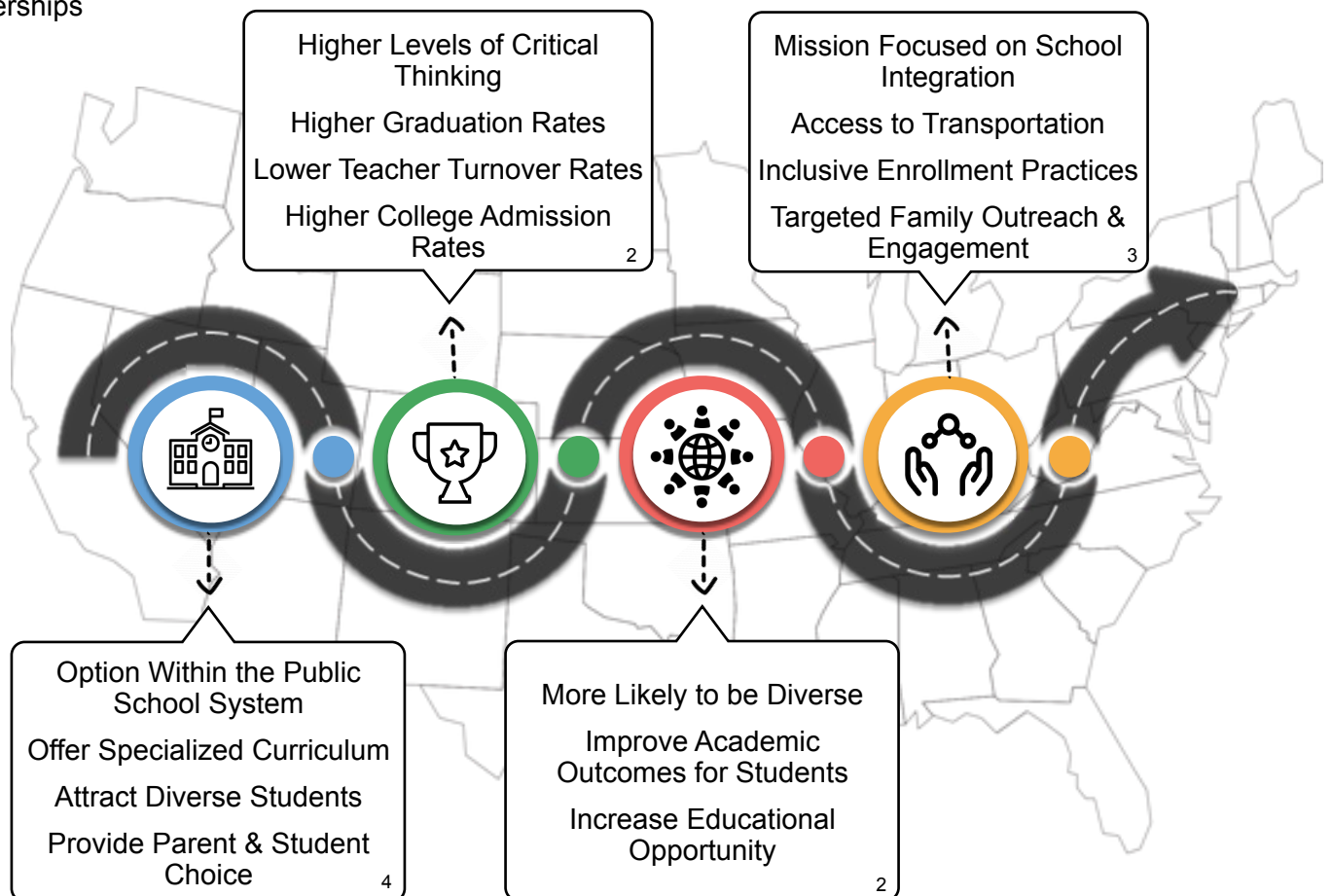
### FEDERAL

#### SCHOOL INTEGRATION PRIORITIES FOR BIDEN / HARRIS ADMINISTRATION<sup>3</sup>

Strengthen Support & Accountability for Magnet Schools<sup>3</sup>

- Increase MSAP funding
- Provide sustainable funding for existing magnets that are successfully achieving racial and socioeconomic integration goals

OPPORTUNITIES OF MAGNET SCHOOLS



*Magnet programs provide an innovative means to achieve racial integration and resolve educational inequities while also providing options for historically marginalized and underserved students, families, and communities of color.*

# WHAT IS A MAGNET SCHOOL?

Magnet schools:

- Administered by local public school districts;
- Have a specialized curriculum or theme;
- Attract students from different racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic backgrounds;
- Provide parents with choices for their child’s education within the public school system.<sup>1</sup>

# MAGNET SCHOOL FUNDING

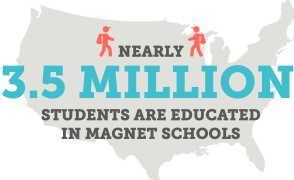
Finding resources to operate specialized theme-based magnet programs can be a challenge for school districts. Magnet schools are generally funded with local dollars, and a small number of states provide additional support. The federal government also plays a role by awarding competitive grants through the Magnet Schools Assistance Program.<sup>1</sup>

Magnet schools need continued support at the federal, state and local levels. With sustained – and increased – funding, they can continue to provide high-quality public education to more students.<sup>1</sup>

# THE SCHOOL CHOICE CONTINUUM

## FAST FACTS


### About Magnet Schools<sup>1</sup>



**3.5 MILLION**  
STUDENTS ARE EDUCATED  
IN MAGNET SCHOOLS






**1 OUT OF 15**  
PUBLIC SCHOOL  
STUDENTS  
ATTENDS A MAGNET

**3 OUT OF 4**  
USE LOTTERY OR NON-  
ACADEMIC ADMISSION



**4,340**  
MAGNET SCHOOLS

### COMMON MAGNET THEMES

-  STEM RELATED 30%
-  VISUAL, PERFORMING ARTS 16%
-  INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE (IB) 12%
-  GIFTED AND TALENTED 8%
-  FOREIGN / WORLD LANGUAGES 7%

	Public Schools	Magnet Schools	Charter Schools	Private Schools	Homeschools
<b>Publicly funded?</b>	Yes: Local, state, and federal funding sources	Yes: Local, state, and federal funding sources	Yes: Local, state, and federal funding sources	Yes: Voucher programs vary by state; subsidized by tax policy	Yes: Voucher programs vary by state; subsidized by tax policy
<b>Privately funded?</b>	Varies by school, depending on private donations. Can vary considerably, with donations of \$0 to \$200K+	Varies by school, depending on private donations. Can vary considerably, with donations of \$0 to \$200K+	Varies by school, depending on private donations and resource-shifting from charter management companies. Can vary considerably, with donations up to \$1M+	Tuition and donation based	Self-funded
<b>Who operates and provides oversight?</b>	State board, local school district administration and publicly elected school board	State board, local school district administration and publicly elected school board	Charter authorizer, Independent board	Varies by school	Varies by state
<b>Are teachers and administrators licensed?</b>	Yes	Yes	Requirements Vary	Requirements Vary	Requirements Vary
<b>Can they be for-profit?</b>	No	No	Yes	Yes	N/A
<b>Is there an application process?</b>	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Varies: Most states require notification

1. Magnet Schools of America. (2017). A snapshot of magnet schools in america. Washington, DC. <https://drive.google.com/file/d/11iIQjxyXctM4SH1n5yQpGizMsi11ygrZ/view?usp=sharing>  
 2. The National Coalition on School Diversity. (May 2020). Model state school integration policies. Policy Brief 11. [https://school-diversity.org/wp-content/uploads/NCSDPB11\\_Final.pdf](https://school-diversity.org/wp-content/uploads/NCSDPB11_Final.pdf)  
 3. The National Coalition on School Diversity. (January 2021). School integration priorities for a Biden/Harris administration. Policy Brief 12. [https://school-diversity.org/wp-content/uploads/NCSDPB12\\_Final.pdf](https://school-diversity.org/wp-content/uploads/NCSDPB12_Final.pdf)  
 4. Nelson, A. H. (2016). Magnet schools: Existing literature, research gaps, and prioritized needs. UNC Charlotte Urban Institute. <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1kEPkFQM6tsPkt5KyEsJRtw8bmAupjCbD/view?usp=sharing>