

Community School Districts 28 & 29, Queens, NY – MSAP Abstract

The D28-D29 consortium, an inter-district MSAP initiative serving the contiguous communities of Jamaica and Springfield Gardens (CSD 28) and Queens Village (CSD 29), is requesting MSAP funding in the amount of \$14,999,995, to convert the following four schools into new whole-school magnet school programs: PS 182 (Discovery and Applied Learning), PS 312 (Innovative Leadership and Civic Activism), MS 72 (Multimedia and Performing Arts), MS 332 (Leadership and Exploration), and PS 135 (Exploration through the Arts). By the end of the five-year grant, the five schools will be serving a total of 2,219 students in grades PK-8.

In alignment with NYC Schools Chancellor Banks’s vision to “reimagine the student experience,” each magnet school will develop an innovative, theme-based program that provides rigorous instruction and enrichment activities to all students that are not available in other schools in the participating districts. Supported by a robust set of partnerships, the magnet themes will be infused into core subject curricula through the development of interdisciplinary curricula to provide enhanced, rigorous, and engaging learning opportunities for all students.

The D28-D29 magnet program has four overarching objectives:

- To reduce MGI among Black/African American students in three of the magnet schools (PS 312, MS 72, and MS 332), reduce MGI among Hispanic students in one magnet school (PS 182), prevent MGI among Asian students in one of the magnet schools (PS 135), and reduce MGI among Black/African American students at a feeder to PS 135 (PS 15).
- To ensure that all students attending the magnet schools meet challenging academic standards and are on track to be college- and career-ready.
- To ensure that all students attending the magnet schools benefit from the magnet’s educational offerings and have equal opportunities to gain magnet theme-specific value-added skills and knowledge.
- To build the capacity within the magnet schools to provide rigorous, theme- and evidence-based instructional programs that will help promote choice and diversity.