Our School

Head Middle Magnet School of Mathematics and Science is a special place where we are teaching students in grades five through eight to critically think, courageously lead, and compassionately serve. We invite you to be a part of a professional learning community that diligently works to prepare every student with the foundation of knowledge, skills, and character necessary to excel in higher education, work, and life.

Head Middle Magnet is a thematic magnet school with an emphasis in math and science. Head is a STEAM designated school and is a member of the large urban school district known as Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools located in Davidson County. Students are admitted to Head by applying through the Optional School process. Students are chosen through a random drawing. According to MNPS data, Head Magnet has been the most requested school through the Optional School selection process for over ten years now.

Head Middle Magnet is recognized as one of the top-performing middle schools in the state of Tennessee. We are continuously recognized for student academic success. We continue to meet and exceed district and state statistics in achievement scores, parental involvement, and community support. Head Magnet was named a Tennessee Reward School in 2011-2012 and 2012-2013 and 2017-2018. We have consistently remained in the top 15% of K-8 schools in the State of Tennessee. We offer motivated students the opportunity to combine strong academics with specialized interests in math and science.

Our Vision

Head Middle Magnet School will create a culture in which the academic and social foundations of all students are built and fostered beyond district and state expectations.

Our Mission

To achieve our vision, we must:

- Provide meaningful, collaborative and professional development for all faculty and staff
- Ensure ongoing communications between all stakeholders
- Strengthen academic rigor for all students, in all subjects
- Value and embrace equity and diversity
- Promote global citizenship for all stakeholders

Our Students

Head Middle Magnet serves 565 students from all across Davidson County. There are 179 students in 5th grade, 181 students in 6th grade, 100 students in 7th grade and 105 students in 8th grade. The ethnicity breakdown is as follows: African-American – 57.7%; White – 30.2%; Asian – 7.5%; Hispanic or Latino – 4.5%; and Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander – 0.2%. While a large percentage of incoming students have advanced scores in reading and math, Head also has students who have approaching or basic scores and who are working below grade level expectations. Although Head Magnet has less than 1% ELL students, it is a very diverse school with students who come from a wide range of backgrounds and speak as many as 25 different home languages. With fewer than 50% of our students qualifying for free and reduced lunch, Head Magnet is a NON-Title I School.
HMMS at a Glance

Total Student Enrollment: 565

Grade Level Size:
5th – 179
6th – 181
7th – 100
8th – 105

Grading Scale:
A: 93-100
B: 85-92
C: 75-84
D: 70-74
F: 0-69

Tiger Transition:
Middle School is a time of transition for all students. Head Middle Magnet provides a structured transition program for rising 5th graders prior to the start of the school year. Rising 5th grade students come to Head from many elementary schools (public, private, and charter schools). Tiger Transition is an introduction to middle school program that takes place each summer. The purpose of Tiger Transition is to ease the transition from elementary to middle school.

Faculty:
HMMS has 41 faculty members, including an Executive Principal, an Assistant Principal, Dean of Students, an Instructional Coach, two counselors, a librarian and 34 teachers. Twenty-two percent of the faculty hold bachelor’s degrees, 56% hold master’s degrees, 12% hold master’s +30, 2% Ed.S. degrees, and 7% hold doctorate degrees. The faculty’s years of experience range from zero to over 35. Collaboration is the key to our success.

More about Head Middle Magnet
Head Middle Magnet provides a rigorous academic program for all students. All of our students are enrolled in reading/language arts, math, science, and social studies. We also offer high school credit classes in Spanish I, Honors Integrated Math I, and Physical Science for those students who meet the academic qualifications. In addition to participating in a challenging academic curriculum, students are afforded the opportunity to participate in band, strings, STEAM, visual arts and physical education. Students are encouraged to participate in extracurricular activities including athletics, science club, chess club, drama club, coding club, robotics club, National Beta Club, engineering club, Science Olympiad, National Geography Bee, dance team, and others. While at Head, we want our students and parents to feel supported academically, socially, and emotionally. Working collaboratively with families, the Head Magnet Experience will be like no other!

Where We Are Located
Head Magnet is located in the Metropolitan Davidson County downtown area. Because of the unique location, Head Magnet benefits from being in close proximity to the Tennessee Performing Arts Center, Tennessee State Museum, Tennessee State Capitol, Farmers Market, Bicentennial Mall, Frist Center for the Arts, The Parthenon, and Jubilee Hall housed on the campus of historic Fisk University. The school is also in close proximity to Vanderbilt University, Tennessee State University, Meharry Medical College, and Fisk University which allows us to experience unique partnerships with Vanderbilt, Meharry, and Tennessee State University. These partnerships enrich our curriculum and instruction.

Athletics
Head Magnet offers several athletic opportunities for students in grades six through eight. Sports offered at Head include girls’ volleyball, girls’ and boys’ soccer, boys’ and girls’ basketball, cheerleading, wrestling, and boys’ and girls’ track. We co-op with H.G. Hill for football. Our teams have won numerous divisional and district championships over the years.

Pathway to Martin Luther King, Jr. Magnet High School
Head Magnet offers middle school students preparation for in-depth studies in all subjects at the high school level. While there is no academic requirement for admission, Head is a feeder school for Martin Luther King, Jr. Magnet High School (MLK), one of the top-two rated schools in the state of Tennessee and one of the top rated schools in the nation. For those students who meet the academic requirements, a direct pathway to MLK (7-12) is available. Students enrolled at Head Magnet for at least one year may qualify for direct admission to Martin Luther King, Jr. Magnet School. If a student meets the academic requirements for MLK, he or she may elect to go to MLK starting in the 7th or starting in the 9th grade.

Present Qualifications for MLK:
A student may qualify for an academic magnet school through either TNReady or MAP. A student qualifies on TNReady by scoring at the On Track or Mastered achievement level for both Reading/Language Arts and Math. A student qualifies on MAP if the national stanines for Reading and Math total 14 or higher on one of the test administrations. He or she must also have a GPA of 85 or higher and NO failing grades on the report card.
HMMS Highlights

- Named one of the top middle schools in the Middle TN area by Nashville Business Journal
- Accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Council
- Tennessee Reward School 2012
- Tennessee Reward School 2013
- Tennessee Reward School 2018
- Received $10,000 STEAM grant through Amazon
- Partnership with Tennessee State University for Study Abroad to Johannesburg South Africa in 2018
- Partnership with Tennessee State University for Study Abroad to Trinidad & Tobago in 2019
- Partnership with Vanderbilt University to offer VSVS (Vanderbilt Students Volunteering in Science)
- Vanderbilt Resident Scientist on Faculty
- Partnership with Adventure Science Museum for TWISTER: Tennessee Women in Science, Technology, Engineering and Research
- Student led Tiger Court
- Literary lunches
- Active Parent Teacher Association
- Three MNPS Blue Ribbon Teachers
- Student led conferences in November
- Winners of the 2017 National Poetry in Motion Contest
- Annual Fall Festival for the Head Magnet Community
- Annual Crossing Over Ceremony
- Yearly Geography Bee
- Yearly Spelling Bee
- Participate in Battle of the Books
- Participate in Regional Math Contest at Austin Peay State University
- Peace, Love & Pearls Girls’ Mentoring Conference
- 2013 – 3rd Place Montgomery Bell Academy Math Contest
- 2013 – 2nd Place Montgomery Bell Academy Math Contest
- 2014 – Boys Basketball Western Division Champions
- 2014 – Boys Basketball City Runner-up
- 2016 – Concert Choir Gold Mickey Award
- 2018 – Girls Track Team Divisional Champions
- 2018 – Girls Basketball Western Division Runner-up
- 2018 – Boys Basketball Western Division Runner-up
- 2019 – Girls Basketball Western Division Champions
- 2019 – Girls Basketball City Champion