

## Board seeks enrollment limits at Arts Magnet

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- Author/Byline: Joseph Garcia, Staff Writer of The Dallas Morning News, THE
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Students living outside the Dallas Independent School District would, in effect, be prohibited from enrolling at the Arts Magnet High School under a proposal by school board members.

The board's education committee on Thursday instructed administrators to develop guidelines for admission to the Arts Magnet that would prevent outside enrollment until all DISD students interested in the school were served.

Officials said the school, which can accommodate 650 students, usually has a waiting list of almost 400 people.

The school's enrollment includes 108 students who live outside DISD and pay tuition to attend. Those students should be allowed to continue at the school until they graduate, school board members said.

"We weren't created for them," said school board member Rene Castilla. "We were created for DISD students."

The Arts Magnet provides specialized instruction in dance, visual arts, theater and music, in addition to a regular high school curriculum.

Administrators said they would also review audition practices and recruiting efforts to try to increase minority enrollment at the school.

The magnet's student body this year is 60 percent Anglo, 30 African-American and 10 percent Hispanic. Overall, the school district is 50 percent African-American, 30 percent Hispanic, 17 percent Anglo and 3 percent other minorities. DISD's federal desegregation order sets magnet school enrollment goals of 40 percent African-American, 40 percent Anglo and 20 percent Hispanic.

School board members also called for the school's name to be changed to the Booker T. Washington Arts Magnet, reviving the historic building's original name. The famous educator's daughter once was a music teacher at Booker T. Washington High, said school board member Yvonne Ewell.

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