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Have you ever heard about the term â€œmagnet schoolâ€•. Donâ€™t be confused because it is not the sa magnet which attracts iron towards it. Well, magnet schools are the public schools in the United States with specialized curricula and courses. They are called so because these schools draw the students from corner to corner of the normal boundaries defined by school boards as school zones that give food to certain schools. These schools have all the levels starting from elementary school, middle school to high school. In urban places, a number of these schools with various specializations may be pooled into a single "center," for example, Skyline High School in Dallas.

In the late 1960s and early 1970s Magnet schools first came into existence and as a tool to further academic integration. The school was intended to be a focus for students from across different school regions. The main purpose of a Magnet school was politically not to innovate in instructional approach only but rather to make a school that would be so attractive that it would magnetize students to join it rather than having to force students of other schools to promote academic integration of students. The goal was to lessen racial separation voluntarily.

Even now also many magnet schools help to raise diversity within the public school system and help the families to volunteer for integration. But over the last 20 years, a few of them have taken a more competitive aspect in which they can only admit 10-20% of the students that apply to go to school on their campus. The present role of such schools, thus, can frequently support academic opportunity and excellence over their regular opposite numbers. These schools often draw extremely intelligent students who do well in tests and score good grades. These schools have some characteristics which make them different from other schools, such as, unique curriculum or instructional approach, draw attention of the students from outside and given neighborhood attendance zone, have variety as an open purpose.

Magnets schools were started to help public school integration. All this had been done to balance the student population culturally and ethnically by drawing students across neighborhoods. Unfortunately, presently the wish to go to a magnet school often overpasses the admission capacity of magnet schools. The aim of every magnet school is to encourage high success. These schools mostly maintain a high standard of education because of the extra financial support they get plus their restricted population of students.

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