



## Keenan High Career Preparation Magnet Program and Whole-School Leadership Theme

The vision for *Leadership Richland One* is that all students will have the opportunity to succeed academically through a high-quality education in an environment characterized by diverse social, economic, ethnic, and racial backgrounds.

*Leadership Richland One's* magnet program is based on research that found students who were randomly selected via lottery to attend magnet schools experienced significantly higher reading and math scores than students who applied but were not selected to attend magnet schools.

**What is Keenan's magnet program?** Our magnet academies in engineering, hospitality and tourism, government, and entrepreneurship serve as smaller learning communities within the high school to provide tailored academic and career instruction and college and career readiness strategies. The focus of college and career preparation will be on helping students: (1) create short- and long-term career plans; (2) understand the postsecondary college and training necessary to link to a career path; (3) recognize core knowledge and skills needed to be prepared for success in a career path; (4) experience the process of applying for employment (e.g., resume writing, interviewing) and using multiple resources to find jobs; (5) apply academic skills to the workplace; (6) select secondary courses aligned to the career academy; (7) prepare for college entrance exams and completing applications; (8) understand information on federal financial aid programs and assistance in completing applications; and (9) improve financial and economic literacy

**How is a magnet classroom different from a traditional classroom?** Our magnet teachers have received extensive training in Project-Based Learning (PBL). During a PBL lesson you will see students collaborating, conducting research to identify real-world problems to address, using hands-on approaches to test theories, and using multi-media tools to present their solutions. Students don't just take a test or produce a product at the end to show their learning. Research has shown that students who learn through PBL have improved academic achievement on state standardized tests, higher student engagement, and improved problem-solving strategies. PBL shows academic benefits for a variety of learners especially middle- to low-achieving students and low socioeconomic status students.

**What is the Whole-School Leadership Theme?** The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People and The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens serve as our philosophical approach to school culture and leadership. Our teachers are specially trained to teach leadership principles, create a leadership culture, and aligning academic systems. All students at Keenan will benefit from leadership activities throughout the year.

**How are students admitted to the magnet program?** Parents must attend an interest meeting and complete an application by **January 31**. We have limited enrollment capacity and students are randomly chosen using a lottery system. Upon acceptance, students must transfer to the school chosen. Transportation is provided for the Keenan Career Preparation magnet program.

**What should I do next?** Plan to attend the Richland One Showcase of Schools on December 5 from 5-7 PM at the Columbia Convention Center. Also plan to attend one of the required parent interest meetings here at Keenan.

**Who can I talk to if I have other questions?** You can talk with our Magnet Program Leader, Mr. KaReem Beckett. Mr. Beckett can be reached at 803-714-2500 or [kareem.beckett@richlandone.org](mailto:kareem.beckett@richlandone.org) or our Magnet



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Program Administrator, Dr. Marcia Seawright at 803-714-2500 at [marcia.seawright@richlandone.org](mailto:marcia.seawright@richlandone.org). You may also contact our principal or magnet teachers.