

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA

JOYCE MARIE MOORE, ET AL.,
Plaintiffs,

CIVIL ACTION NO.: 65-15556

VERSUS

SECTION "B" (1)

TANGIPAHOA PARISH SCHOOL BOARD,
Defendant.

JUDGE: IVAN L. R. LEMELLE

**MOTION FOR COURT APPROVAL FOR ELECTION FOR
CONTINUATION AND EXPANSION OF EXISTING HAMMOND MAGNET
PROGRAMS**

NOW INTO COURT, through undersigned counsel, comes Defendant Tangipahoa Parish School Board who moves the court for the entry of an order to authorize an election for the continuation of funding for existing magnet programs in Hammond and for expansion of said programs into the seventh and eighth grades. The School Board respectfully shows as follows:

1.

Pursuant to a prior order of this court, the School Board established the Hammond Accelerated Magnet Program in School Year 2006 at Hammond Eastside Primary for grades pre-kindergarten through three.

2.

In School Year 2007, the Hammond Accelerated Magnet Program was expanded to the fourth grade at Hammond Eastside Upper and introduced in grades first through third at Hammond Westside Primary, grade four at Hammond Westside Upper, and pre-kindergarten at Woodland Park Early Learning Center.

3.

In School Year 2008, the Hammond Accelerated Magnet Program was expanded to the fifth grade at Hammond Eastside Upper and Hammond Westside Upper, and to kindergarten at Woodland Park Early Learning Center.

4.

In the current school year, the Hammond Accelerated Magnet Program has been expanded to the sixth grade at Hammond Eastside Upper and Hammond Westside Upper.

5.

The current school year student enrollment in the Hammond Accelerated Magnet Program is as follows:

Hammond Eastside Primary: 65 Black and 65 Non-Black,

Hammond Eastside Upper: 23 Black and 22 Non-Black,

Hammond Westside Primary: 50 Black and 49 Non-Black,

Hammond Westside Upper: 30 Black and 19 Non-Black, and

Woodland Park Early Learning Center: No students presently enrolled.

6.

In School Year 2006, black teachers comprised 20 percent of the faculty assigned to the Hammond Accelerated Magnet Program. In School Year 2007, black teachers comprised 25 percent of the faculty assigned to the Hammond Accelerated Magnet Program. In School Year 2008, black teachers comprised 26.7 percent of the faculty assigned to the Hammond Accelerated Magnet Program. In the current school year, black teachers comprise 11.1 percent of the faculty assigned to the Hammond Accelerated Magnet Program.

7.

The School Board seeks court approval for expansion of the Hammond Accelerated Magnet Program into grade seven beginning in School Year 2010 and grade eight in School Year 2011 to be housed at Hammond Junior High School with continuation of the existing requirements for student admissions.

8.

A tax election for funding necessary to continue the existing Hammond Accelerated Magnet Program and for its expansion into grades seven and eight will need to be called and held prior to the end of the current school year. The last such proposition election date is set for March 27, 2010, under state election laws. In order to conduct a tax election on March 27, 2010, the tax proposition must be submitted to the secretary of state not later than January 15, 2010.

9.

Undersigned counsel has been advised that plaintiffs will interpose objection to this motion.

WHEREFORE, Defendant Tangipahoa Parish School Board prays for the entry of an order authorizing defendant to hold a tax election for continuation of the Hammond Accelerated Magnet Program and for its expansion into grades seven and eight at Hammond Junior High School.

By Attorneys,

s/ Charles L. Patin, Jr.
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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on December 18, 2009, I electronically filed the foregoing document with the Clerk of Court by using CM/ECF system which will send a notice of electronic filing to all counsel of record.

s/ Charles L. Patin, Jr.
Charles L. Patin, Jr.