



# 1.29.22 MAGNET SCHOOLS Q1

## Evanston/Skokie School District 65


### Q1 Why is magnet school enrollment declining?

Because the schools are far away and the programs don't really offer true magnet schools, they are just d65 curriculum with an overlay theme. If you are going to do magnets, free them, give educators the freedom to make a really compelling program and not something that pays lip service.

3.9  (6 )  
Ranked #1 of 41





Because the draw of the magnet does it outweigh the challenge of it not being a neighborhood school. Harder to create community ; harder to connect outside of school

3.8  (5 )  
Ranked #2 of 41





Less reason to look at Bessie Rhodes for anyone whose neighborhood school has TWI

3.8  (5 )  
Ranked #3 of 41



People prefer neighborhood schools and the supposedly special curricula at those schools no longer are incentive enough to draw students Magnet schools was a trendy idea in the 1980s. It's day has passed.

3.8  (5 )  
Ranked #4 of 41

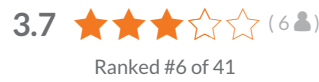


The programming that sets the magnet schools apart is not clear. They seem like poor copies of actual magnet schools

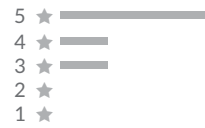
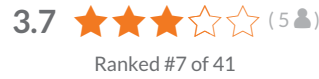
3.8  (5 )  
Ranked #5 of 41



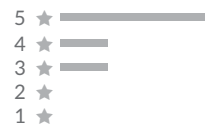
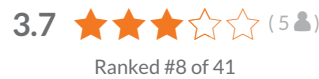
**Location- farther than neighborhood school**  
Need for bussing versus walking



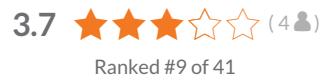
**Bessie Rhodes language focus has been changed and changing and there's not shared understanding of its focus or vision.**



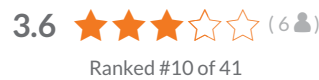
**Neighborhood schools are also good and convenience takes priority over global/arts studies for many**



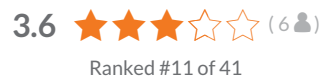
**Because there have been about 7 principals in the past 10 years at Bessie Rhodes There can't be any kind of continuity or long term planning in that context**



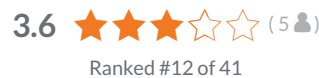
**Is it possible Bessie Rhodes' decline coincided with the shift to 100 TWI?**



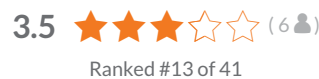
**The TWI focus at Bessie Rhodes may be decreasing enrollment Not everyone has TWI interest or concern**



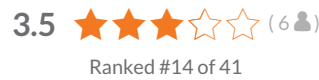
**Lower enrollment creates small groups of students; reduced opportunities for socialization If your kid doesn't fit in, there isn't another peer group to connect with**



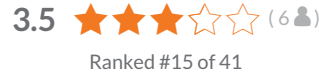
**Administration changes to often. Admin not supporting the teachers enough. Teacher turnover. The magnet school start time is 8am not 9am.**



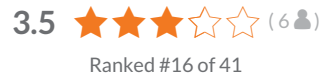
Because the selective enrollment programs and because the whole district enrollment has gone down as well



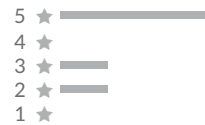
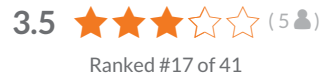
One building has had high principal turnover and lack of leadership.



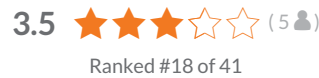
Principal turnover



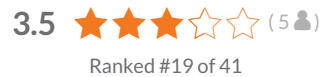
Because Walker is doing well Reduces the incentive for students near Bessie Rhodes to attend there



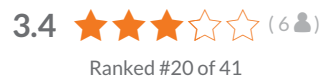
Enrollment is declining at King Arts because it's been documented that Black & Brown students are FAILING at this School!



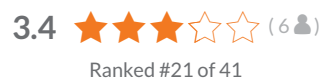
The programming is not as rigorous as it ought to be





I am looking to pull my 7th grader out of king arts and have considered option since he entered 6th grade. The handling of students and educational focuses the "magnet" program features do not seem present or focused on. Transitions of staff; ineffective



Some middle school programming not available at magnet middle schools (eg, advanced math programs) Preparation for high school math





**Bessie Rhodes School location is working against it, it's all the way at the western boundary** For families all the way east, or who have kids further east, it's a lot of driving

3.4  (5 )  
Ranked #22 of 41





**I hear many aspects of instability in both magnet schools- changes in staffing/principals, poor student performance, lack of community feel.** Families would need to opt-in, and these negative perceptions prevent that.

3.4  (5 )  
Ranked #23 of 41





**TWI at Rhodes is new so don't evaluate yet.**

3.4  (5 )  
Ranked #24 of 41





**Too many new initiatives by admin without follow through.**

3.4  (5 )  
Ranked #25 of 41





**Enrollment is declining at Bessie Rhodes because it was converted to a TWI school from a Global Studies school.** Families want TWI closer to home, not at a school far away.

3.4  (4 )  
Ranked #26 of 41





**A few years ago, king arts got a lot of press for its academic achievement numbers** It had the appearance to me as a community member of a failing school, part of the problem was the principal who is no longer there

3.3  (6 )  
Ranked #27 of 41




**We moved into the district when my oldest was between k and 1 and I had no idea how to sign up.** The district did not help us understand what they were People need to understand what they mean.

3.3  (4 )  
Ranked #28 of 41

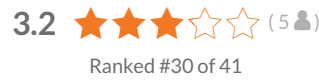


**Early start time may affect decisions to attend for some families** Neighborhood schools start later

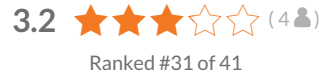
3.2  (5 )  
Ranked #29 of 41



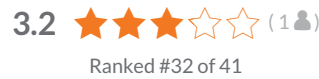
Is Bessie Rhodes declining in the lower grades where TWI is being implemented?



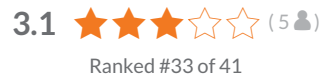
I've heard from Black parents that their experiences with King Arts and the data suggest lower achievement of Black and brown students at that school. Equity.



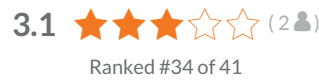
TWI is doing well only to third grade now. Give it time. Get better administration that is experienced with the TWI program



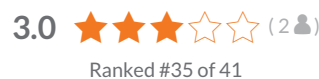
Bessie Rhodes and Walker are also very close and seem to pull students from one to the other.



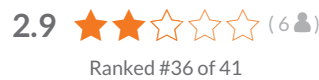
Lower enrollment at BR has made it become known for those students who need a "smaller setting" Creates an environment of overall needier students without the support needed to support them.



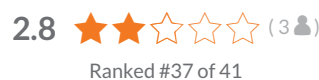
Very small class sizes at Bessie. Especially limiting socially for middle school students.





Quality of education is perceived to be lower at magnet schools



Ironically, I find BR education to be phenomenal! I am white.





8am start time at magnet schools, not 9am.

2.7  (5 )  
Ranked #38 of 41





I love that my daughter is bused to BR

2.7  (1 )  
Ranked #39 of 41





Parents do not like the political/ideological movement and LGBTQ curriculums that have been added to all D65 schools. They move or put their kids in private schools.

2.4  (6 )  
Ranked #40 of 41



If I remember right there was controversy when Bessie Rhodes School went all TWI with short notice Some parents moved their kids, and there may still be hard feelings

0.0  (0 )  
Ranked #41 of 41

