

CHICAGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Policy Briefing

**Adopt a New Admissions Policy for Magnet, Selective Enrollment and other
Options for Knowledge Schools and Programs**



Every child - in every neighborhood - has access to world class learning and will graduate college- and career-ready.

New Admissions Policy for Magnet, Selective Enrollment and other Options for Knowledge Schools and Programs

Created to ensure equity and access in the provision of magnet and selective enrollment schools and programs offered by CPS.

Goals

- 1) To maintain the diversity achieved by the District under the consent decree
- 2) To promote socio-economic (“SES”) diversity within schools
- 3) To provide a unique or specialized curriculum or approach
- 4) To improve achievement for all students participating

Diversity promotes equitable and fair outcomes across all communities in Chicago

1. Students who live in poverty and attend economically isolated schools often experience lower educational outcomes.
2. However, students who live in poverty and attend schools with socially and economically diverse student populations, experience higher educational outcomes than their peers who attend isolated schools.
3. Diverse learning communities benefit all students by better preparing them to live in a diverse society and to compete in the global economy.

Historical Context

While the termination of the Consent Decree was the catalyst for significant revision of the admissions policy, our intent is to **ensure equity of access in the school choice process.**

Desegregation Consent Decree
(1980-2009)

2010-2011 Policy
BRC Review and Community Feedback

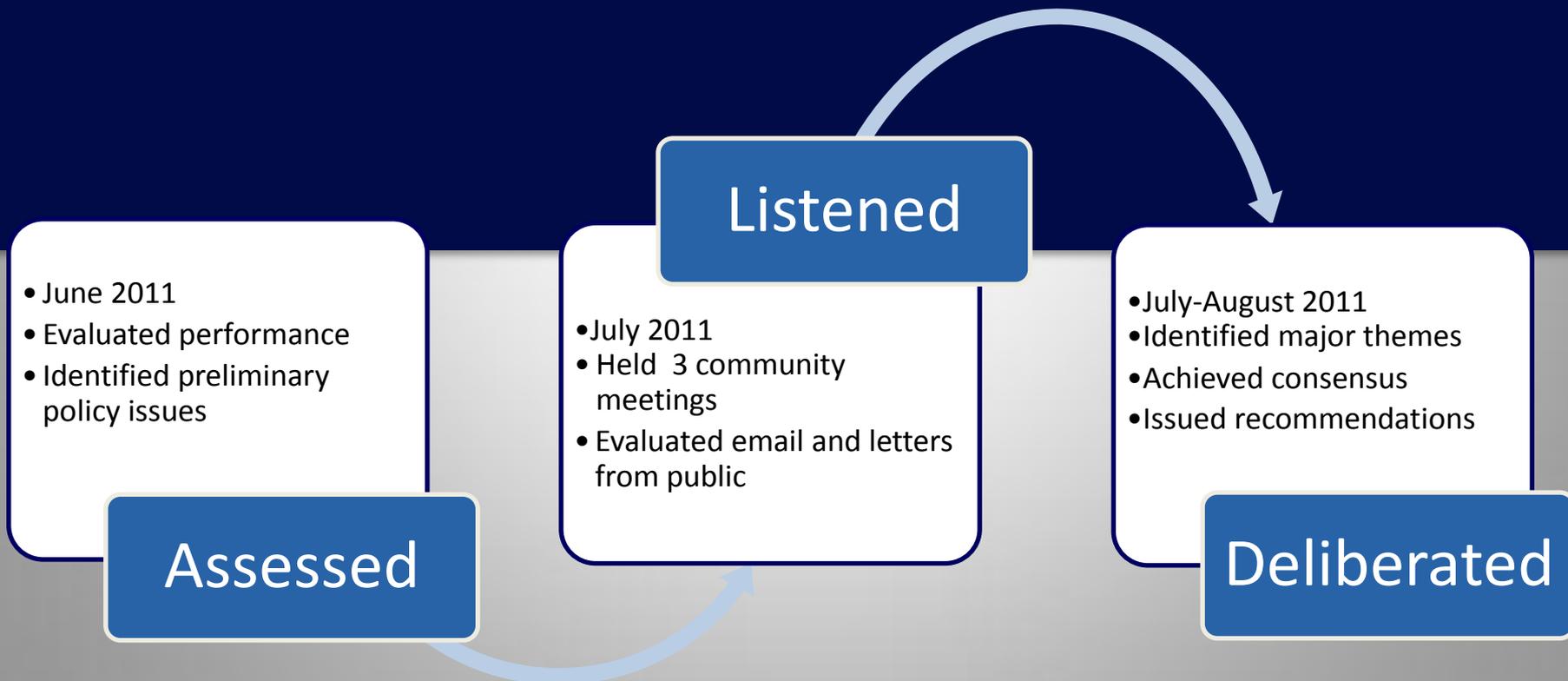
2011-2012 Policy
BRC Review and Community Feedback

Policy for 2012-2013 and beyond

The Blue Ribbon Commission's mission was to evaluate the results of the policy and hear the concerns expressed by parents, educators and community members during the community meetings.

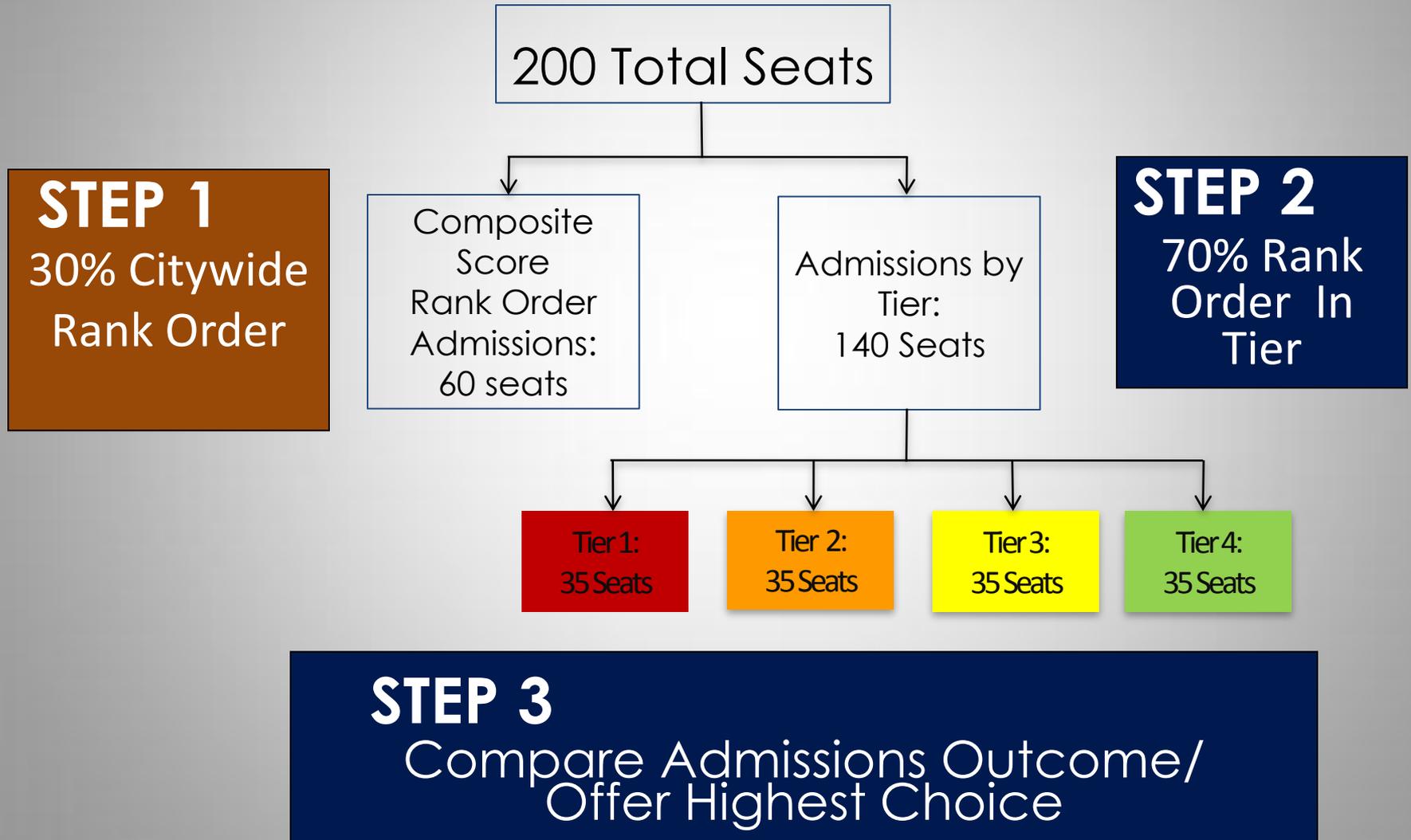
Blue Ribbon Commission Members:

- **Anna Alvarado**, Principal of Hawthorne Elementary
- **Cynthia Flowers**, Black Star Community PTA and CPS Parent
- **Alderman Michelle Harris**, 8th ward
- **Alan Mather**, Principal of Lindblom Math & Science Academy
- **Lisa Scruggs**, Esq., Jenner & Block
- **Alderman Latasha Thomas**, 17th Ward, and Education Committee Chairman



Issue	BRC Recommendation	CPS Policy Recommendation
Evaluation of tier system for Selective Enrollment High Schools	Maintain 30% rank order, 70% tier	Accept
Principal Discretion for magnet schools	Do not reinstate Principal Discretion	Accept
No Child Left Behind program in Selective Enrollment High Schools	Maintain transfer program from lowest performing elementary schools	Accept
Magnet School reenrollment	Maintain current rules	Accept
High School Magnet proximity percentage	Maintain current percentage at 40% after siblings	Accept
Redefine proximity area for schools on the city edges	Redefine for schools with >25% proximity outside the city limits	Evaluate further (adds additional complexity)
Multi-Year Policy	Move to Multi-Year policy	Accept
Eligibility requirements for students with disabilities in magnet high schools	Maintain current rules	Accept

Selective Enrollment Tier Process in Action



Magnet Policy in Action

56 open seats

STEP 1
Admit Siblings

Sibling Admissions:
16 Seats

Remaining Admissions:
40 Seats

STEP 2
40% of remaining seats for Proximity Lottery

Proximity :
16 Seats

SE Tier Based:
24 Seats

STEP 3
Remaining seats for Socio-Economic Tier Lottery

Tier 1:
6 Seats

Tier 2:
6 Seats

Tier 3:
6 Seats

Tier 4:
6 Seats

Additional Blue Ribbon Commission Recommendations

1. Need for more magnet schools, particularly in areas of the city that currently have very few options.
2. Improve neighborhood schools within every community.
3. Increase the number of high quality seats throughout all neighborhoods in Chicago.

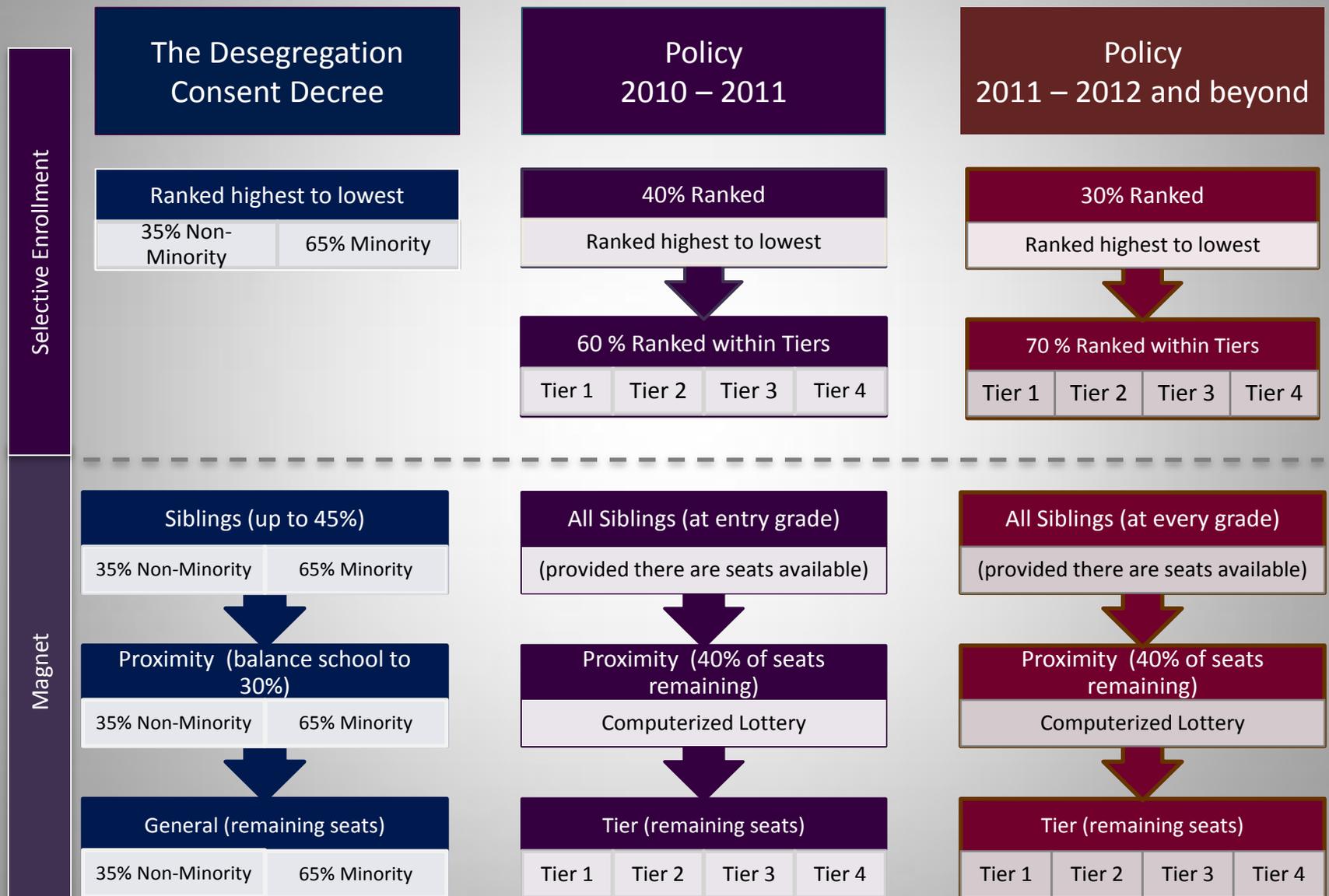


Comprehensive Portfolio Strategy will provide:

- Ongoing expansion of high quality options
- Transparent accountability system
- Targeted approach to innovative educational models
- Streamlined, simplified admissions process

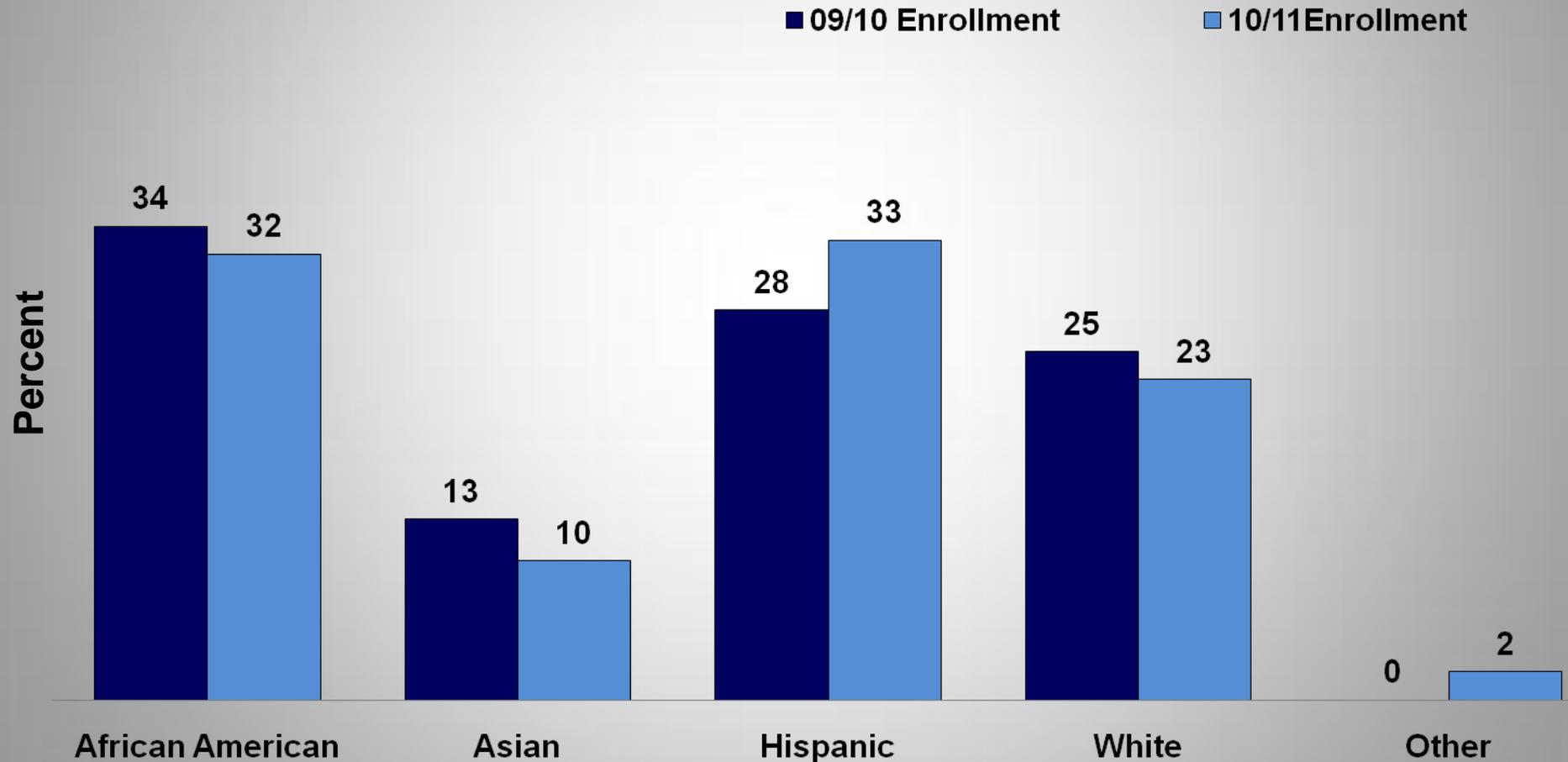
Appendix

Changes in the Policy since 2009



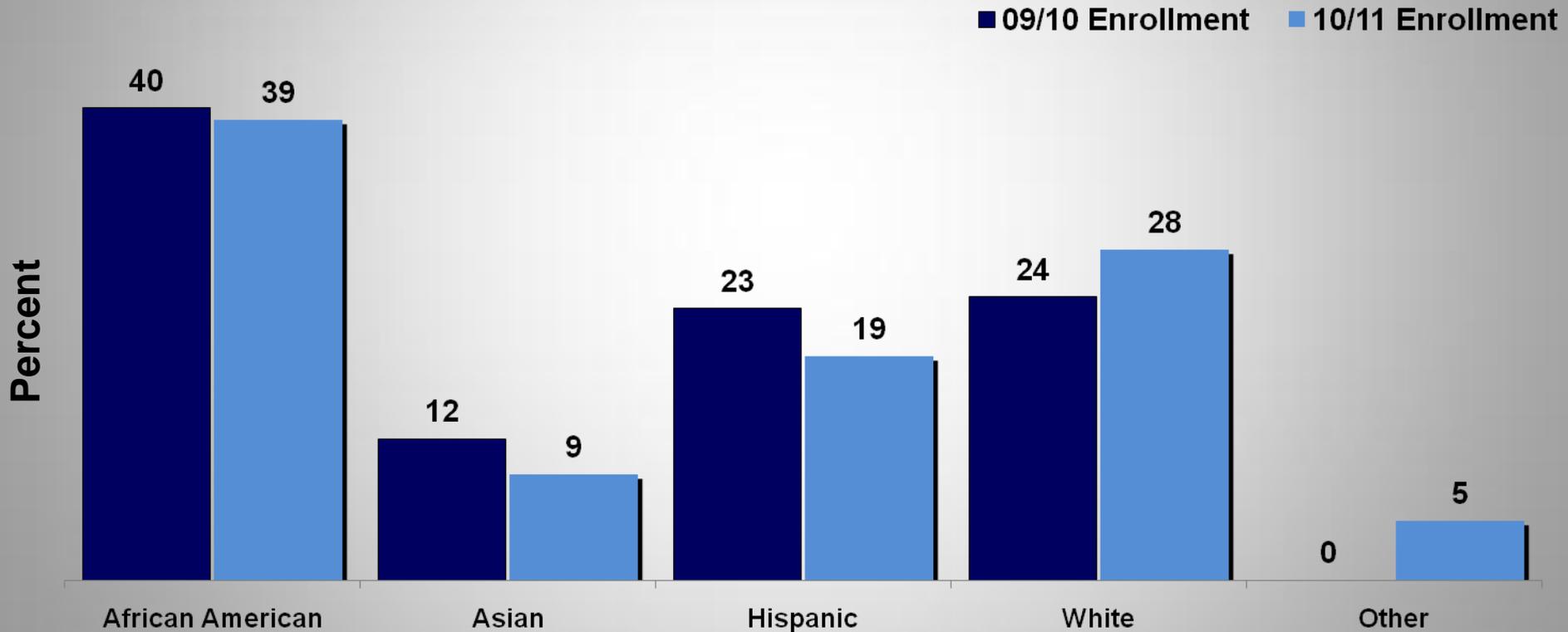
Selective Enrollment High Schools (9)

2010/2011 Entry Level Enrollment vs.
2009/2010 Actual Enrollment (all grades)



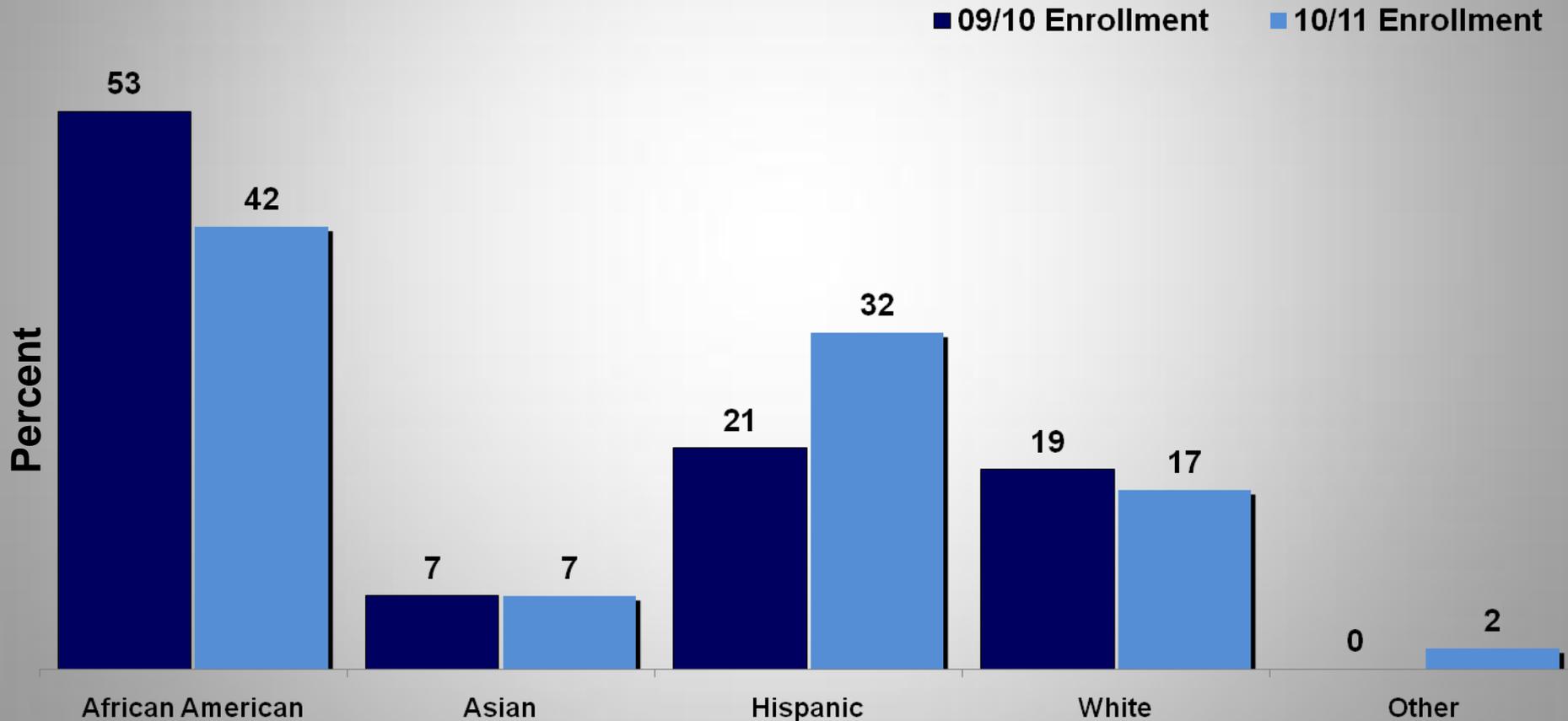
Selective Enrollment Elementary Schools (26)

10/11 Entry Level Enrollment vs.
09/10 Actual Enrollment (all grades)



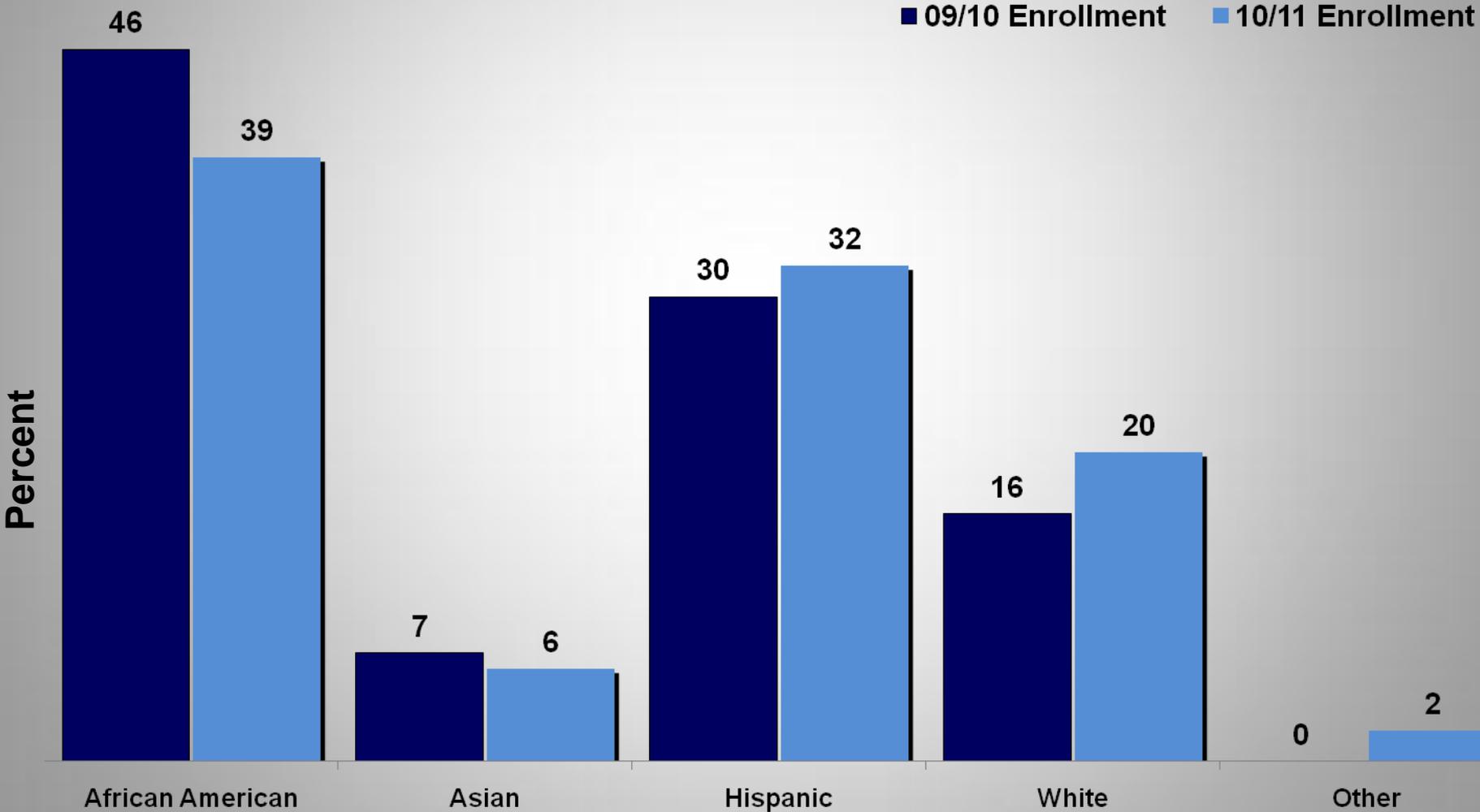
Magnet High Schools(3)

10/11 Entry Level Enrollment vs.
09/10 Actual Enrollment (all grades)



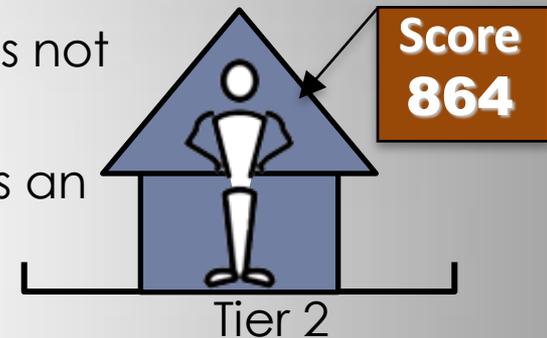
Magnet Elementary Schools (39)

10/11 Entry Level Enrollment vs.
09/10 Actual Enrollment (all grades)



Selective Enrollment Policy in Action

- John lives in a Tier 2 tract and has a 864 score
- He picks Walter Payton as his top choice
- Competing against all applicants, John's 864 score is not enough on a composite score basis to qualify
- But, competing against students in Tier 2, he receives an offer



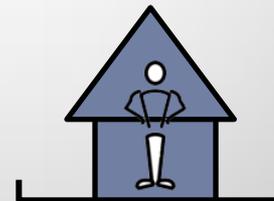
Not Selected

John needed an 897 to qualify for a rank order seat



Citywide Rank

Accepted!



Tier 2

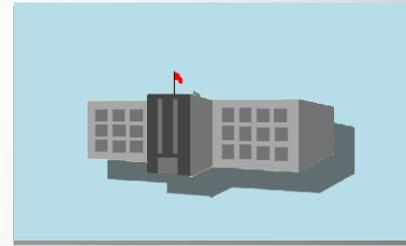
John's 864 score in Tier 2 qualifies him for a seat

No changes are recommended for the Magnet process.

Siblings



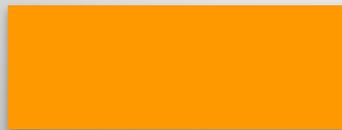
Proximity



Tier 1



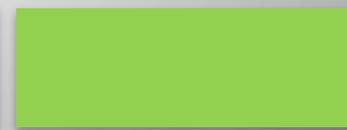
Tier 2



Tier 3



Tier 4



How are Socio-Economic Factors (SES) considered in the selection process?

Parents/guardians are responsible for providing a true and correct address on all applications.

CPS utilizes data in the following six areas to calculate socio-economic scores and designates a tier for each Census tract:

- 1) Median family income
- 2) Adult education attainment
- 3) The percentage of single-parent households
- 4) The percentage of home ownership
- 5) The percentage of the population that speaks a language other than English
- 6) A school performance variable

These six SES factors will be combined to create a composite Census tract score for each Census tract in Chicago.

Admission Policy 2010 – 2011: Map of Tiers across Census Tracts

TIER 4
 Students: 136,275
 Average Median Income: \$76,829

TIER 3
 Students: 136,378
 Average Median Income: \$54,232

TIER 2
 Students: 136,073
 Average Median Income: \$41,038

TIER 1
 Students: 135,716
 Average Median Income: \$30,791

