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## Wright Elementary hosts open houses

MALTA - Parents and prospective students can explore the Paul T. Wright Elementary School, a partnership school of DeKalb District 428 and Northern Illinois University.

Wright is a "school of choice," and families must apply to enroll their children at Wright.

Three open houses are scheduled: 10-11 a.m. and 12 p.m. Feb. 1 and 6-7:30 p.m. Feb. 10.

Wright School is at 5068 Route 38.

Scott Kubelka, principal at Wright, and DeKalb staff members will be on hand to explain the school's unique features, assist with the application process and answer questions.

Wright students are admitted through a fair and open application process. Application forms will be available at district offices and at the open houses.

Completed forms will be accepted through Feb. 24, with decisions to parents by the week of March 25.

For the 2005/2006 school year, the district anticipates 46 openings in Wright's all-day kindergarten program and the possibility of additional openings in grades one through five.

In the interests of keeping siblings together, district policy gives priority to applicants with siblings currently attending Wright.

NIU and the DeKalb school system formalized the partnership that created Wright in October 2003.

The partnership aims to improve academic performance throughout the district with proven strategies to raise student achievement, including all-day kindergarten, integration of arts and technology across the curriculum and instruction tailored to the learning needs of individuals.

Students at Wright come from all over the district, bringing a diverse mix of academic preparedness and ethnic backgrounds similar to the district as a whole.

The school budget, teaching staff and other resources from District 428 match those of other schools in the district.

If the number of applications to Wright exceeds the number of upcoming student vacancies, NIU will assist District 428 with an impartial lottery to help select students.

For more information on Wright, visit [www.partnershipschool.niu.edu](http://www.partnershipschool.niu.edu) or [www.dist428.dekalb.k12.il.us/wright/home.html](http://www.dist428.dekalb.k12.il.us/wright/home.html).