WPHS College and Career Center Newsletter
October 2022

Greetings West Potomac students and families! Happy Autumn to all!

Please read below for information on College & Career Center upcoming events, college information sessions, financial aid, test prep programs, selected scholarships, and other opportunities.

Also make sure to follow the College & Career Center on Twitter @wphsccc ***AND*** on Instagram @westpoccc!

College and Career Center:

Wolverine…do you need help making plans for what you'll do after high school?

I partner with school counselors, teachers, and staff members to help students make informed decisions about post-secondary opportunities. The CCC is opened Monday through Friday from 8 am – 4 pm. I am available to meet with students and parents virtually or by phone. Please send an email to Mrs. Young at **kbyoung1@fcps.edu** if interested in scheduling a time to meet. I can also be reached via phone at 703-718-2548.

Please note: First quarter appointments are prioritized for seniors.

Highlight of Upcoming Events:

Below is a list of some upcoming events. Details regarding these events can be found in this newsletter.

October Events:
10/7 -10/8: HBCU College Fair
10/13 & 10/27: WPHS Common Application Bootcamp
10/15: Virginia Williams High School Career Forum
10/16: FCPS College Fair
10/17-10/20: FCPS Virtual Postsecondary Week
10/20: U.S. Service Academies Virtual Admissions Workshop
10/20: Region 3 Financial Aid Night
10/26: Free FAFSA or VASA Completion Workshop

Save the Dates:
11/10: Moving on to Life Community Resource Fair
11/17: U.S. Naval Academy Info Session
12/12: ASVAB Test

Community Event: High School Career Forum

The Virginia Williams High School Career Association is excited to host the 7th Annual High School Career Forum for all 9th -12th grade high school students on Saturday, Oct. 15th from 11 am – 1 pm at the Gum Springs Community Center. A moderated panel will share detailed information about different career options available to high school students after graduation and include a question & answer session. For additional details and to register by 10/14, go to www.vwhsca.org .

Common Application Bootcamp:

Seniors who need assistance or have questions about completing the Common Application can attend one of the upcoming Common App Bootcamps. Students will just need to bring their computer, social security number (if available) & questions to the Career Center. Registration not required!

Dates: October 13th ***OR*** October 27th
Time: 3:00 pm – 4:15 pm
Location: WPHS College & Career Center

College Information Sessions:

College admissions representatives have been visiting the College & Career Center every day since September 14th. Within the first 3 weeks of visits, 36 representatives have come to the CCC and 265+ juniors and seniors have attended the visits. Each visit lasts approximately 30 minutes and students hear information directly for the representative about the admissions process, scholarship process or special programs offered at their college or university. Students also have an opportunity to have their questions answered directly from the admissions representatives.

Representatives want to meet our WPHS students! Juniors & seniors must register to attend college visits through *Naviance Student>Colleges>Research Colleges>College Visits***.**

The registration process instructs students to print the confirmation page as a "Pass" or take a screen shot on their cell phone to show the teacher whose class they will miss at least 24 hours prior to the event.

There are still over 40 colleges and universities registered to visit the CCC through mid-November. College representatives continue to register to visit the CCC. Students should check Naviance regularly for the most up-to-date list of colleges visiting WPHS.

NOTE: Students must register for each visit. Teachers, counselors, parents, and Mrs. Young cannot register a student for a visit. A Naviance message informing a student about a college rep visit is not a registration.

OCTOBER & NOVEMBER COLLEGE REPRESENTATIVE VISITS (as of 10/6):

University of Georgia	October 6	9:00 AM
Marist College	October 6	9:45 AM
University of Virginia	October 6	11:15 AM
Longwood University	October 6	1:00 PM
Norfolk State University	October 7	9:00 AM
Northwestern University	October 7	9:45 AM
The New School	October 7	1:45 PM
High Point University	October 11	9:45 AM
University of Delaware	October 11	10:30 AM
Bryant University	October 11	12:45 PM
South Dakota School of Mines &Technology	October 13	9:45 AM
Towson University	October 13	1:00 PM
Christopher Newport University	October 13	1:45 PM
University of Maine	October 14	1:00 PM
Massachusetts Maritime Academy	October 17	9:45 AM
East Carolina University	October 17	11:15 AM
Bridgewater College	October 17	1:00 PM
Stetson University	October 17	1:45 PM
Manhattanville College	October 18	9:00 AM
The University of Alabama	October 18	9:45 AM
VCU Arts	October 18	11:15 AM
University of Michigan-Ann Arbor	October 19	11:15 AM
Butler University	October 19	1:45 PM
Virginia Commonwealth University	October 20	1:00 PM
Richard Bland College	October 20	1:45 PM
Saint Vincent College	October 21	9:00 AM
American University	October 21	9:45 AM
Saint Michael's College	October 21	1:00 PM
Appalachian State University	October 21	1:45 PM
Bates College	October 25	9:00 AM
Jacksonville University	October 25	11:15 AM
Old Dominion University	October 26	10:30 AM
GMU ADVANCE PROGRAM	October 27	9:45 AM
West Virginia University	October 27	11:15 AM
Radford University	October 28	9:00 AM
Mount St. Mary's University	November 1	9:00 AM
St Bonaventure University	November 1	12:45 PM
Mary Baldwin University	November 2	11:15 AM
Ithaca College	November 2	1:00 PM
University of Colorado Boulder	November 3	1:00 PM
Northern Virginia Community College	November 4	11:15 AM

******This list is being updated daily. Please make sure to check Naviance on a regular basis for the most current list of dates and times colleges have scheduled visits to WPHS.**

Upcoming College Admissions Events:

There are 2 local upcoming college fairs that students and families can attend. In addition to college fairs, many colleges host admission events during the fall. If a student is interested in a specific college or university, check the college admissions website for upcoming admissions events. A few college admissions events are highlighted below.

October 7th – 8th: *20TH Annual HBCU Festival*

Alfred Street Baptist Church will host its *20th Annual HBCU Festival*. Approximately 70 historically Black colleges and universities will be represented at this hybrid event. Many will provide onsite admissions decisions, award scholarships, conduct music auditions and waive application fees. There will be free seminars designed to help students and parents prepare for college. See the flyer for registration information. Questions? Email HBCUFESTIVAL@ALFREDSTREET.ORG .

October 16th – October 20th: *2022 Look to the FUTURE WEEK*

The FCPS *2022 Look to the FUTURE WEEK* begins with a college fair at Eagle Bank Arena on Sunday, October 16th from 4 pm to 7 pm. This college fair is one of the largest in the region designed to connect high school students with opportunities in higher education. It will feature over 200 colleges and universities from around the nation as well as representatives from the U.S. Service Academies.

The *2022 Look to the FUTURE WEEK* also includes a four-night virtual event featuring live sessions each night. Students and families are invited to attend virtual sessions on a variety of topics like how to pay for college, dual enrollment, studying abroad, college success for students with disabilities, work-based learning, and many more great topics. Registration is required and open. Students and families can sign-up for as many sessions as they wish. Questions? Contact FCPS School Counseling Services at 571-423-4431 or Pcwhite@fcps.edu .

October 9th: Prospective Student Information Sessions - Harvard, Princeton, UVA, Wellesley, & Yale

On Sunday, October 9th at 7:00 pm, students and families can attend a joint information session to learn more about each of these schools. Advance registration is required at Event Registration .

Month of October: VCU Open House

Students and families are invited to attend Virginia Commonwealth University's *Fall Open House* for prospective students. This is a great opportunity to learn about student life at VCU & explore academic programs. Opportunities to visit are being offered both in-person and virtually!

In-person events will be held on Saturday, Oct. 8th and 29th. Check in is from 7:30 am – 8:30 am. The official welcome will begin at 9:00 am.

Virtual events will be held nightly from Oct. 10th – 13th.

Go to https://admissions.vcu.edu/connect/events/open-house/ for details & to register.

October 10th: Radford on the Road:

Radford University will be hosting a *Radford on the Road* event for the Northern VA region on the evening of Monday, October 10th at the Fairfax Marriott at Fair Oaks. The event will run from 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm. Radford admissions will be holding onsite admissions during and after the event. Students may sign up for the event (and select a time slot for onsite admissions if they are interested) on the RSVP form https://join.radford.edu/register/fairfaxinfofall22

Financial Aid Information:

ALL college bound seniors are strongly encouraged to complete their financial aid application to be considered for federal, state and/or college specific financial aid. The FAFSA & VASA opened on October 1st. (****NOTE:*** October 1st is the date that the 2023 -2024 FAFSA & VASA applications opened, not the deadline to complete the application.)

We have a phenomenal community partner in *College Access Fairfax* (CAF). They are a local organization committed to helping Fairfax County Public School students and families with the complex task of acquiring financial aid for post-secondary education. This organization offers information and free services for FCPS families of students in middle and high school. Please visit their website at https://collegeaccessfairfax.org/

Upcoming Financial Aid Events:

Paying for College Regional Seminars:
This program is designed to help current seniors and their families understand the financial aid process.

The Region 3 seminar will be held at Lewis High School on 10/20 from 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm. Families are encouraged but not required to attend our school's Region 3 event. Please select the date that works best for your family. Event link

Free FAFSA or VASA Completion Workshops:
Workshops are offered for seniors and parents of seniors who may need assistance in completing the student's financial aid application. Parents and students who bring the required documents to the workshop can receive one-on-one assistance completing and submitting the FAFSA or VASA online.

Required documents: FAFSA English or FAFSA Spanish
VASA English or VASA Spanish

Families will need to bring their own computer. Please see link for dates and locations.

College Access Fairfax Financial Aid Champion:

Ms. Katrina Rowsey is our College Access Fairfax Financial Aid Champion. She will be in the College & Career Center each Thursday starting in October to assist students with their FAFSA or VASA application. Seniors can stop in the Career Center during lunch to get their questions answered or for assistance. No appointment necessary! Ms. Rowsey is also available to meet with students and families virtually. Email her at khrowsey@fcps.edu if you have a question or to schedule an appointment.

SAT, ACT and PSAT Test Prep:

Question: Do colleges still require the SAT or ACT test as an admissions requirement?

Answer: It varies by college.

Class of 2023: While many colleges do not require the SAT or ACT as an admissions requirement, **EVERY COLLEGE HAS DIFFERENT ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS and policies regarding standardized tests.**

Classes of 2024, 2025, & 2026: Whether or not standardized tests will be required remains an open question for some colleges & universities. There are colleges that are currently test optional for the Class of 2023 but will re-evaluate their policies regarding standardized tests requirements for future graduating classes. Students will need to research this requirement during their college search process and before submitting their applications during their senior year.

Recommendation: We recommend that ALL college bound students take the SAT and/or ACT. Some colleges and scholarships require standardized test scores in the application process. Generally, students take the SAT and/or ACT for the first time in the spring of junior year. We recommend that students complete Algebra 2 prior to testing. If a student takes Algebra 2 during junior year, target the June official test date as the first test attempt.

There are several ways to prepare for the SAT or ACT. For students who wish to prepare on their own, *Khan Academy* or *Kaplan Test Prep* are two great online resources.

For students who are interested in a test prep class, **Applerouth Test Prep** partners with our WPHS PTSA to offer test preparation at a discounted rate for WPHS students. They offer mock tests and group class sessions during the school year. The full schedule and registration can be found on **http://www.applerouth.com/schools/8946/**

WPHS student need-based scholarships are available. Students should see Mrs. Young in the College & Career Center or send an email to ***kbyoung1@fcps.edu*.**

Questions about Applerouth? Our WPHS PTSA Program Manager is Ms. Marilyn Aboff. She can be contacted at marilynaboff@yahoo.com .

Experienced tutors are also available for questions at 202-558-5644 or info@applerouth.com .

FCPS Event:

November 10th: Moving on to Life in the Community Resource Fair

This event is designed for students with developmental and intellectual disabilities who will need continuing support after exiting FCPS. Families can learn about programs that provide supported employment, day support, residential or independent living options, advocacy & more. The event will be held Thursday, November 10th from 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm at Willow Oaks Administrative Center. Families can register on-line at **https://bit.ly/3fns7cX**

Upcoming Military Information & Events:

October 20th: United States Service Academies

A Virtual Admissions Workshop for the U.S. Service Academies will be held on Oct. 20th from 6:30 pm to 9:30 pm. Students & families can attend a joint presentation by the Deans & Directors of Admissions and learn about the admissions process and requirements. Registration is required at Event Registration.

November 17th: United States Naval Academy Candidate Information Session

The Greater Washington DC Area Alumni Association is a hosting Candidate Information Session for students interested in attending the U.S. Naval Academy on Nov. 17th from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm. The session is for students in 7th – 12th grade and their parents.

Go to https://usnagwc.org/prospective-candidates for details & to register.

December 12th: ASVAB Test

Each year West Potomac High School offers students the opportunity to take the ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery). The ASVAB is a multi-aptitude battery of tests that helps in identifying different skills and competencies. It is the entrance exam required for students who plan on enlisting in the military after high school.

The ASVAB will be administered to interested juniors and seniors on Dec. 12th in the College & Career Center from 8:30 am – 11:30 am. The opportunity to register will be emailed to all juniors & seniors in mid-November.

For students who would like to study for the exam, use this link to access a great online resource.

SCHOLARSHIPS:

Scholarship opportunities are posted in *Naviance Student*. Students can find application instructions for all scholarships listed below by logging into:
Naviance Student>Colleges> Scholarship & Money>Scholarship List.

Below is a list of some of the scholarships posted in *Naviance*. This site is continuously updated and students are ENCOURAGED to review on a regular basis as deadline dates are critical.

Students are also encouraged to visit *Schoology*. The *College & Career Center* folder in the *Student Services Course* has additional information, tips, and resources about scholarships.

Coca-Cola Scholars Program Scholarship: *Deadline:* Oct. 31, 2022

Visionary Scholarship: Deadline: Nov. 1, 2022

*UVA Jefferson Scholarship: *Deadline:* November 3, 2022

*UVA Walentas Scholarship: *Deadline* November 3, 2022

*Harry F. Byrd Leadership Scholarship: *Deadline:* November 3, 2022

National Alliance of Black School Educators Foundation Scholarship: Deadline Nov. 7, 2022

Hispanic Heritage Youth Awards: *Deadline:* Nov. 13, 2022

National Space Club and Foundation Keynote Scholarship: Deadline: Nov. 15, 2022

Barbara Lotze Scholarships for Future Teachers: Deadline Dec. 1, 2022

Dell Scholars Program: Deadline: Dec. 1, 2022

USBC Youth Scholarships: Deadline: Dec. 1, 2022

Anthony Richard Tilghman Memorial Scholarship: Deadline: March 1, 2023

Harris Goodall Squires Memorial Scholarship: Deadline: April 1, 2023

Silver Dollar Financial Public Speaking Scholarship: Deadline: June 15, 2023

*These scholarship opportunities require a school nomination. A WPHS scholarship committee will determine which student will move forward for ultimate consideration. Students should read the descriptions and self-nominate if they wish to be considered.

ENRICHMENT PROGRAMS:

Enrichment programs present an opportunity for students to explore their interests or learn new skills. Students can find programs and application instructions for all enrichment programs listed below by logging into: *Naviance Student>Colleges> Research Colleges>Enrichment Programs*.

Below is a list of some of the programs posted in *Naviance*. This site is continuously updated and students are ENCOURAGED to review on a regular basis as deadline dates are critical.

Students are also encouraged to visit *Schoology*. The *College & Career Center* folder in the *Student Services Course* has additional information and resources about enrichment programs.

Afro-Academic, Cultural Technological and Scientific Olympics (ACT-SO) – event date School year - https://naacp.org/our-work/youth-programs/act-so-achievement-program

Pathways Flight Academies – event date Summer 2023 - https://vsgc.odu.edu/pathwaysflightacademies/

Harvard Princeton UVA Wellesley Yale Information Session – event date Oct. 2 and 9, 2022 from 7pm to 8:30pm - https://admission.virginia.edu/hpuwy

Online Pre-College Programs – deadline Oct. 4, 2022 – event date 2022-2023 - https://precollege.usc.edu/online-programs/

Radford on the Road – event date Oct. 10, 2022, from 6pm to 7:30pm - https://join.radford.edu/register/fairfaxinfofall22

High School Career Forum – deadline Oct. 14, 2022 – event date Oct. 15, 2022 from 11am to 1pm - https://www.vwhsca.org/

Veterinary Medicine Careers Exploration – event date Oct. 15, 2022 from 10am to 12pm - https://www.humanerescuealliance.org/virtual-student-programs

Washington Youth Summit on the Environment – deadline Oct. 15, 2022 – event date June 25 – 30, 2023 - https://wyse.gmu.edu/

Startalk – priority deadline Oct. 15, 2022 – event date Spring 2023 to Spring 2024 - https://worldlanguages.wvu.edu/students/undergraduate-students/chinese-studies/startalk

Virginia Space Coast Scholars (VSCS) – deadline Oct. 16, 2022 – event date Dec. 2022 – April 2023 and weeklong Summer Academy - https://vsgc.odu.edu/spacecoast/

United States Service Academies – Virtual Admissions Workshop – event date Oct. 20, 2022, from 6:30pm to 9:30pm - https://uscga.edu/serviceacademyworkshop/

Teens Love STEM 2022 – event date Oct. 22, 2022, from 9am to 2pm - https://www.eventbrite.com/e/teens-love-stem-2022-tickets-412948830067

Virginia Aerospace Science and Technology Scholars (VSATS) – deadline Oct. 24, 2022 – event date Nov. 28, 2022 to May 2023 - https://vsgc.odu.edu/vasts/

Virginia Earth System Science Scholars (VESSS) – deadline Oct. 24, 2022 – event date Dec. 2, 2022, to May 2023, June 24-30, or July 15-21, 2022 - https://vsgc.odu.edu/vesss/

Youth Advisory Council – deadline Oct. 31, 2022 – event date Once a month Jan. 2023 – June 2023 - https://forms.gle/yhT5dMD1fRrQ4N6Z8

Physical Therapy Internships & Shadowing – deadline July 1, Sept 1, Nov. 1, and March 1 – event date School year and summer - https://rehab2perform.com/internships/

MyPy Coding Tutors – event date 2022-2023 - https://www.mypycoding.org/volunteer