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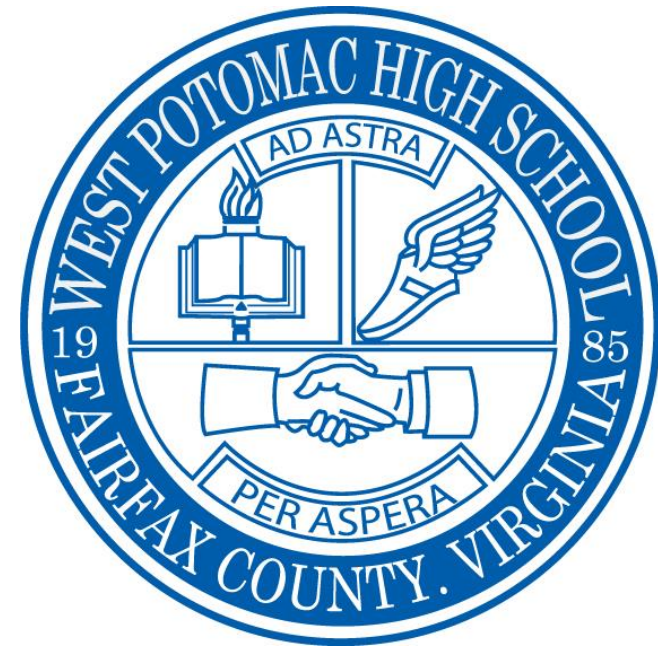
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Tia D White  
Caleb A Williams  
George W Williams  
Patricia M Wilson  
Robert D Wise  
Robert D Wise  
Peter J Wood  
Shanette L Yao  
Caroline A Yeboah  
Karen B Young  
Maximilian Younginer

# West Potomac High School

Class of 2024



June 11, 2024

2:00 pm

EagleBank Arena

## *Special Guests*

The Honorable Scott Surovell, Senate of Virginia  
The Honorable Paul Krizek, Virginia House of Delegates  
The Honorable Daniel G. Storck, Mount Vernon District  
Mr. Ray Lonnett, Assistant Superintendent, Region Three  
Dr. Ingrid Bynum, Executive Principal, Region Three  
Mr. Jesse Kraft, Executive Principal, Region Three  
Ms. Noel Klimenko, Assistant Superintendent, Instructional Services  
Mrs. Elizabeth Verhage, President, WPHS Parent Teacher Student Association

## *Administration & Counselors*

Jessica Statz ..... Principal  
Janet Babic ..... Assistant Principal  
Dr. Syllinda Banks ..... Assistant Principal  
Christina Cashman ..... Assistant Principal  
Ivan Johnson ..... Assistant Principal  
Katie Raffaelli ..... Assistant Principal  
Dr. Brian Valentine ..... Assistant Principal  
Jennifer Alpers ..... Administrator, West Potomac Academy  
Kevin McMahan ..... Director of Student Services  
Matthew MacDonald ..... Director of Student Activities  
Daniel Reynolds ..... Assistant Director of Student Services  
Dr. Emily Millians ..... Dean of Instruction  
Brian Bishop ..... Dean of Students  
Michael Henrich ..... System of Support Advisor  
Lauren Creighton ..... Counselor (A-Bee)  
Shayla Peterson ..... Counselor (Bef-Chil)  
Holly Bush ..... Counselor (Chim-El)  
Michael Shapiro ..... Counselor (Em-G)  
Keri O'Connor ..... Counselor (H-Kel)  
Stephanie Bluestein ..... Counselor (Kem-McE)  
Sara Brewer ..... Counselor (McF-O)  
Debora Lee ..... Counselor (P-R)  
Jennifer Piechoski ..... Counselor (S-Th)  
Charlette Jefferson-Dixon ..... Counselor (Ti-Z)  
Suellen Espino Dextre ..... Counselor (ESOL L1-L2)  
Miguel Arroyo ..... Counselor, On Time Graduation

## *Academic Customs & Dress*

The origins of many customs of the academic world can be traced to the Middle Ages, particularly the 11th and 12th centuries, when the first European universities were founded in places such as Bologna, Paris, and Oxford.

In their original organization, universities were medieval corporations or guilds. In fact the word “universitas” originally referred to any kind of corporation.

The students at the universities were equated to guild apprentices, and so the completion of the apprenticeship study was celebrated by a “commencement ceremony” marking the beginning of their careers.

In the 12th century, everyone wore gowns. The social and economic status of an individual was shown by the extra features, such as fur trimming on the gowns. Cloaks with hoods were worn over gowns for protection in bad weather. Degrees began to be awarded in the 13th century, and different styles of gowns and different colors came to represent the various degrees and disciplines.

Most American universities have the standard black gown with the hood serving to distinguish the individual institution. There are three styles of gowns, distinguished mainly by the sleeves: the bachelor’s gown, with long pointed sleeves; the master’s, with a squared sleeve, cut so the forearm is free; and the doctoral, with bell-shaped sleeves with three velvet bands.

The hood is the distinguishing feature of modern gowns, indicating the degree (the width of the edging band), the discipline (the color of the band), and the college or university (the colors of the lining). Faculty members have hoods edged in white (Bachelor of Arts), gold (Bachelor of Science), light blue (Master of Education or Science), pink (Master of Fine Arts) or lemon (Master of Library Science).

Some of the schools represented by the faculty include navy blue and orange for the University of Virginia, purple and gold for James Madison University, maroon and orange for Virginia Tech, green and gold for George Mason University, Carolina blue and white for The University of North Carolina, royal blue and white for Christopher Newport University, navy blue and white for The University of Mary Washington, and yellow and green for The College of William and Mary.



*Fairfax County Public Schools*  
*School Board Members*

The Honorable Karl Frisch ..... Chair & Providence District Representative  
 The Honorable Melanie K. Meren ..... Vice Chair & Hunter Mill District Representative  
 The Honorable Rachna Sizemore Heizer ..... Braddock District Representative  
 The Honorable Robyn Lady ..... Dranesville District Representative  
 The Honorable Marcia St. John-Cunning ..... Franconia District Representative  
 The Honorable Ricardy Anderson ..... Mason District Representative  
 The Honorable Mateo Dunne ..... Mount Vernon District Representative  
 The Honorable Sandy Anderson ..... Springfield District Representative  
 The Honorable Seema Dixit ..... Sully District Representative  
 The Honorable Kyle McDaniel ..... Member-at-Large  
 The Honorable Ryan McElveen ..... Member-at-Large  
 The Honorable Ilyryong Moon ..... Member-at-Large  
 Rida Karim ..... Student Representative

*Senior Leadership*

Dr. Michelle C. Reid ..... Division Superintendent  
 Dr. Sloan Presidio ..... Chief Academic Officer  
 Dr. Nardos King ..... Chief Equity Officer  
 Ms. Lisa Youngblood Hall ..... Chief Experience and Engagement Officer  
 Ms. Leigh Burden ..... Chief Financial Officer  
 Mr. William Solomon ..... Chief Human Resources Officer  
 Mr. Gautam Sethi ..... Chief Information Technology Officer  
 Ms. Janice Szymanski ..... Chief of Facilities & Capital Programs  
 Mr. Tom Vaccarello ..... Chief Safety & Security Officer  
 Dr. Geovanny Ponce ..... Chief of Schools  
 Mr. Marty Smith ..... Chief of Staff  
 Mr. Andy Mueck ..... Chief Operating Officer

*West Potomac Pyramid Schools*

Mr. Eric Underhill ..... Sandburg Middle School  
 Mr. Thomas Kuntz ..... Belle View Elementary School  
 Ms. Rashida Green ..... Bucknell Elementary School  
 Dr. Mattie Fallen ..... Fort Hunt Elementary School  
 Mr. James Swoger ..... Groveton Elementary School  
 Mr. Jonathan Gates ..... Hollin Meadows Elementary School  
 Ms. Lauren Sheehy ..... Hybla Valley Elementary School  
 Mr. Kevin Morris ..... Stratford Landing Elementary School  
 Ms. Katherine Cachine ..... Waynewood Elementary School  
 Mr. Peter Kelly ..... Pulley Career Center  
 Mr. Frank Tranfa ..... Quander Road School

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## Graduate Insignia includes:

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Blue, White, & Gold Cord—College Partnership Program  
Red, White, & Blue Ribbon with Gold Medal—Commitment to Military Service  
Double Red, White & Blue Cord with Eagle Charm—Eagle Scout  
Red, White & Blue Cord—Four Years of Army JROTC  
Red, White & Blue Cord—French Honor Society  
Blue and Yellow Cord—Future Business Leaders of America  
Green & White Cord (Charms denote higher awards)—Girl Scouts  
Red, White & Blue Cord—Health Occupations Students of America  
Silver Stoles with Blue Emblem—International Thespian Honor Society  
Purple and Gold Cord—Latin Honor Society  
Pink Cord—Music Honor Society  
Rainbow Cord—National Art Honor Society  
Hunter Green and Silver Cord—National Business Honor Society  
Yellow and Blue Cord—National English Honor Society  
Gold Stole—National Honor Society  
Gold and Blue Cord—National Honor Society  
Red & Black Cord—National Scholastic Press Association  
Silver Stole—National Technical Honor Society  
Black, Red & Kelly Gold--SEALs  
Red Cord with Red & Gold Tassel—Spanish Honor Society  
Blue and Silver Cord—Student Government Association  
Black Cord—Service Learning

### *Class Officers*

Student.....President  
Student..... Vice President  
Student..... Representative  
Student..... Representative  
Student..... Representative

### *In Appreciation*

We would like to thank the following groups and individuals who have helped to make this auspicious occasion happen today.

WPHS Faculty and Staff

WPHS Army JROTC

Fairfax County Police Department

WPHS Music Department

Dr. Sylinda Banks & Ms. Christina Cashman, Senior Class Administrators

Mr. Daniel Reynolds, Assistant Director of Student Activities

Ms. Carinne Hackshaw & Ms. Jean-Marie Simpson, Senior Class Sponsors