

WPHS College and Career Center Updates

September 2022

Welcome back to school West Potomac students and families! My name is Mrs. Karen Young. I am the new College & Career Center Specialist here at WPHS and am replacing Mrs. Elizabeth Carter who retired at the end of last year. I am a proud graduate of Hampton University and earned my Master of Science degree in Human Resources and Industrial Relations from Rutgers University in NJ. Prior to joining the West Potomac family, I worked in Human Resources for 20+ years with a strong emphasis in Career Management. We are transplants to northern VA and most recently I worked in Student Services at Hayfield High School.

I truly believe that knowledge is power. My goal in the College and Career Center is to provide all students with pertinent and important information that will ultimately assist them in creating a solid post-graduation plan for the next chapter in their life's journey...whether that is a 2- or 4-year college, military service, trade school or work.

Throughout the year, there will be a variety of opportunities for students to learn information to assist in planning for post-secondary plans through lunch and learn sessions, college information sessions, financial aid, test prep, programs, career information sessions, selected scholarships and other opportunities.

Each month, I'll communicate through CCC Newsletters to WPHS students, parents and staff. The newsletter will list upcoming events, College Rep Visits for the month, SAT/ACT information, scholarship information, enrichment programs, military information, job opportunities and much more! You can also review the many CCC resources on the following website: <https://westpotomachs.fcps.edu/student-services/college-and-career-center>

I'm very excited to join the West Potomac Family and look forward to supporting all students in reaching their highest potential!

College and Career Center :

Do you need help with making plans after high school graduation? I partner with school counselors, teachers, and staff members to help students make informed decisions about post-secondary opportunities. The CCC is opened Monday – 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.

College Information Sessions:

Seniors and juniors who plan to go to college after high school graduation are starting the college admissions process. College admissions representatives are invited to the CCC during the fall to present information about their schools. This year, I will be hosting in-person college representatives in the CCC, unless the college representative decides to conduct their visit virtually. Visits will begin the week of September 13th.

Students will register to attend college visits through **Naviance Student**. The registration process instructs students to print the confirmation page as a “Pass” or take a screen shot on their cell phone to show teacher(s) whose class(es) they will be missing at least 2 days prior to the event.

SEPTEMBER COLLEGE REPRESENTATIVE VISITS (as of 9/1):

9/13: Hawaii Pacific University at 10:45 AM
9/20: University of Lynchburg at 1:15 PM
9/22: US Naval Academy at 10:30 AM
Christopher Newport University at 1:00 PM
9/23: Bridgewater College at 11:15 AM
Radford University at 1:00 PM
College of Charleston at 1:45 PM
9/24: American University at 1:45 PM
9/27: Elon University at 1:15 PM
George Mason University at 2:00 PM
9/28: Shenandoah University at 9:00 AM
9/29: Sweet Briar University at 10:30 AM
9/30: James Madison University at 9:45 AM
The University of Alabama at 1:00 PM

******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.**

Financial Aid Information:

College Access Fairfax (CAF) is 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 <https://collegeaccessfairfax.org/> to see a full description and details of all the services they offer, including videos of previous workshop presentations, scholarships available to FCPS students, and individual assistance with completing financial aid documents that are a part of the college application process.

Mrs. Rowsey is our CAF Financial Aid Champion. She is available to assist students and parents in completing the 2022-2023 FAFSA and the CSS Profile once each opens on **October 1st**. She is available to communicate with students/parents through email or phone. Her contact information: email: khrowsey@fcps.edu phone: 757-284-1609

SAVE THE DATE: 9/27/2021!!!!

College Access Fairfax will present a virtual seminar for Region 3 families:

Seniors & Paying for College: Financial Aid Process

More details to come!!!

SAT, ACT and PSAT Test Prep:

Applerouth/PTSA Test Prep will offer numerous mock tests and three class sessions during the school year. Classes target prep for December, March/April, and June official tests. The full schedule and registration can be found on <https://www.applerouth.com/schools/8946/>

WPHS student need-based scholarships are available through the WPHS College and Career Specialist Mrs. Young at kbyoung1@fcps.edu.

Questions? Contact Marilyn Aboff, marilynaboff@yahoo.com.

SCHOLARSHIPS:

Scholarship opportunities are available to FCPS students to review and apply to through Naviance Student. Students review and apply for scholarships by logging into *Naviance Student*>*Colleges*>*Scholarship & Money*>*Scholarship List*. See below for a list of scholarships with deadlines through the end of December. This site is updated **WEEKLY** and students are ENCOURAGED to review on a regular basis as deadline dates are critical. Detailed application instructions for all scholarships listed below are in “Naviance Student.”

The Gates Scholarship: *Deadline:* Sept. 15

P.E.O Star Scholarship: *Deadline:* Sept. 17

Quest Bridge National College Match: *Deadline:* Sept. 28

Don't Text and Drive Scholarship: *Deadline:* September 30

OppU Achievers Scholarship: *Deadline:* Sept. 30

School House Connection Scholarship: *Deadline:* Oct. 15, 2021

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

North American Van Lines 2021 Logistics Scholarship: *Deadline:* 12/15

PTSD Scholarship: *Deadline:* 12/15

The Allen Schott Blackhail-Pay it Forward Scholarship: *Deadline:* 12/31

ENRICHMENT PROGRAMS:

Introduction to Quantum Computing 2021-2022 – deadline Aug. 31 and Sept. 5, 2021 - event date Sept. 19, 2021 to April 10, 2022 - <https://www.qubitbyqubit.org/course-info>

Taste of Salt (Strategic Alternative Learning Techniques) – Sept. 3, 2021 from 5pm to 6pm or Sept. 4 from 9am to 10am or 11am to 12pm - <https://salt.arizona.edu/future-students/visit-us>

Register at:

[https://uarizona.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_2avHZdVwHwQUe6q?ct=t\(EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2_22_2021_23_19_COPY_01\)&mc_cid=e6127f1d51&mc_eid=a2d8c5f49f](https://uarizona.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_2avHZdVwHwQUe6q?ct=t(EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2_22_2021_23_19_COPY_01)&mc_cid=e6127f1d51&mc_eid=a2d8c5f49f)

Volunteer Fest – event date Sept. 11, 2021 - <https://www.volunteerfairfax.org/signature-events/volunteerfest-2021/>

StellarXplorers Space Competition – deadline Oct. 1, 2021 – event date Oct 2021 to April 2022 - <https://stellarxplorers.org/competition/>

Virginia Space Coast Scholars (VSCS) – deadline Oct. 17, 2021 – event date school year and summer 2022 - <https://vsgc.odu.edu/spacecoast/>

Virginia Aerospace Science and Technology Scholars (VSATS) – deadline Oct. 24, 2021 – event date Nov. 29, 2021 to May 2022 and 7 days in summer 2022 - <https://vsgc.odu.edu/vasts/>

Virginia Earth System Science Scholars (VESSS) – deadline Oct. 24, 2021 – event date Dec. 1, 2021 to May 2022 and 7 days in summer 2022 - <https://vsgc.odu.edu/vesss/>

Be The Change: A Youth Service Learning Summit – deadline Sept. 17, 2021 – event date Nov. 11 – 14, 2021 - <https://www.historyisfun.org/youthservicesummit/>

Beta Nu Boule Young Scholars Program – deadline Oct. 1, 2021 – event date Nov. 2021 to May 2022 2nd Saturday of each month - *See Mrs. Young in the College & Career Center for application*

Give Youth Tutors – Sat or Sun during school year - <https://www.giveyouth.org/>

Sci-Tech Week – SAVE THE DATE – March 21 – 25, 2022 - <https://www.ncat.edu/cost/events/>

Science and Engineering Apprenticeship Program (SEAP) – deadline Nov. 1, 2021 – Event date Summer 2022 - <https://navalsteminterns.us/seap/>