HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM OPPORTUNITIES
Dear Parents or Guardians,

Prince William County Public Schools (PWCS) is pleased to be able to provide a wide range of high school program opportunities for our students. Ninth-grade students may participate in the comprehensive program at their base high school, apply for the specialty program at their base high school, or apply to transfer to another high school for a specialty program. Additionally, students may apply for a Regional Governor’s School Program, Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology. In the tenth grade, students may apply for The Governor’s School @ Innovation Park.

Many Career and Technical Education courses are available at all high schools and middle schools. Occupational programs listed in this booklet are at limited sites but available to all students. Note that an application is required even when the program location is in the student’s base school. Review the information carefully since some programs that are housed outside of your base school will require the student to transfer to that school in order to participate in the program.

Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (JROTC) Programs are available at nine high schools. Students in those schools are eligible to attend the program at their school. Students at Brentsville, Colgan, and Patriot High Schools may transfer for designated JROTC programs.

We hope you will consider your wide range of choices as you begin planning for high school with your eighth-grade student. Please review this guide for additional information. Whatever your decision for a high school program, I hope that you will participate fully in the school. Involved parents and guardians are vital for student success in school. The PWCS staff and I look forward to working with you to prepare our students for the future.

Sincerely,

Steven L. Walts
Superintendent of Schools
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THE GOVERNOR’S SCHOOL @ INNOVATION PARK

The Governor’s School @ Innovation Park is a science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) initiative of three school divisions, Prince William County, Manassas City, and Manassas Park, in collaboration with George Mason University.

The instructional design of the program integrates strands in biology, chemistry, and physics with mathematics, with concepts of engineering and technology, and with laboratory research. Learning experiences focus on real-world research with mentorship opportunities in business, industry, government, and university settings.

Rising juniors are eligible to apply for the program. Interested students should ask a designated high school counselor or a gifted resource teacher for an application packet. Students must have completed algebra II/trigonometry and both biology and chemistry by the end of the tenth grade in order to apply. In addition to meetings at The Governor’s School itself, information meetings may be held in each school.

The Governor’s School @ Innovation Park
Science and Technology Campus of George Mason University
10900 University Boulevard, Manassas, VA 20110-2203
703.993.7027

THOMAS JEFFERSON HIGH SCHOOL FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

The Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology, a Regional Governor’s School, accepts Prince William County students into its four-year program through an application and testing process. Interested students should ask a designated middle school counselor for an information packet. Students must complete Algebra 1 by the end of eighth grade or receive written authorization to apply to Thomas Jefferson from the Admissions Director. Additional information is available through the Thomas Jefferson Admissions Office at 571.423.3770 or at www.tjadmissions.org

Thomas Jefferson High School
6560 Braddock Road, Alexandria, Virginia 22312

TRANSFERS

All Transfer applications are due February 1.

Once accepted into a Transfer program, students will transfer to the school where the program is based.
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

Students living within the boundaries of the specialty program school may ride their regular bus to school. Transportation services for students who reside outside the boundaries of the specialty program school will be provided via a network of express bus stops. Transportation requests, including the selection of a specific express stop, must be returned to the school with the specialty program application. The transportation request process must be repeated for every year the student is enrolled in the specialty program. Parents have the responsibility to provide transportation to and from express bus stops.

VIRGINIA HIGH SCHOOL LEAGUE ELIGIBILITY

Rising ninth grade students who transfer to a school to participate in a specialty program will be eligible to participate in VHSL sponsored activities. Rising tenth and eleventh grade students who transfer to any specialty program shall be ineligible to participate in VHSL sponsored activities for 365 days unless there is a corresponding change of address in accordance with VHSL Regulation 28a-7-1. For additional information, please refer to PWCS Regulation 721-2.

APPLICATION PROCESS

In order to apply for a specialty program, all students must complete an application. Applications are required for students residing within a school boundary as well as for students who transfer for a program. Applications are completed online and may be accessed from the Specialty Program Webpage. Some programs have limited availability.

Applications for students applying for the Center for Fine and Performing Arts are due in December. Auditions will be held in January (all Concentrations) at Colgan High School.

For all students residing in Prince William County before January 1 final applications are due by February 1. Students moving into the county after January 1 should call the coordinator of the program or programs of interest for additional information.

HIGH SCHOOL SPECIALTY PROGRAMS

- Advanced Placement Scholars Specialty Program
- The Biotechnology Center
- The Cambridge Programme
- Center for Environmental and Natural Sciences
- Center for the Fine and Performing Arts
- Center for International Studies and Languages
- Center for Information Technology
- International Baccalaureate Programme
- Pre-Governor’s School @ Osbourn Park
ATTENDANCE AREAS

Program Attendance Areas for:
The Cambridge Programme, Information Technology Program, International Baccalaureate Programme, and Advanced Placement Scholars Specialty

• Students who live within the boundaries of Colgan, Forest Park, C. D. Hylton, Freedom, Gar-Field, Potomac, and Woodbridge High Schools are eligible to attend the Cambridge Programme at Potomac High School, the Information Technology Program at Forest Park High School, the International Baccalaureate Programme at Gar-Field High School, and the Advanced Placement Scholars Specialty Program at Woodbridge High School.

• Students who live within the boundaries of Battlefield, Brentsville, Osbourn Park, Patriot, and Stonewall Jackson are eligible to attend the Cambridge Programme at Brentsville District High School, the Information Technology Program at Battlefield High School, the International Baccalaureate Programme at Stonewall Jackson High School, and the Advanced Placement Scholars Specialty Program at Patriot High School.

• Students who live within the Colgan High School boundary who live significantly closer to Brentsville may request permission from both program coordinators to attend the Cambridge Programme at Brentsville rather than the program at Potomac Senior High School.

• Any student attending Parkside Middle School who lives significantly closer to Woodbridge High School may request permission from both program coordinators to attend the Advanced Placement Scholars Specialty program at Woodbridge High School rather than the program at Patriot.

Program Attendance Areas for:
The Biotechnology Center, The Center for Environmental and Natural Sciences, The Center for the Fine and Performing Arts, and The Center for International Studies and Languages, and The Pre-Governor’s School @ Osbourn Park

• Students living within the boundary of any high school are eligible to apply to the Biotechnology Center program at Osbourn Park, The Center for Environmental and Natural Sciences at Freedom, The Center for Fine and Performing Arts at Colgan, and The Center for International Studies and Languages at Hylton.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT SCHOLARS SPECIALTY PROGRAM

PATRIOT HIGH SCHOOL

The Advanced Placement Scholars Specialty Program (AP Scholars) is aligned with the Advanced Placement Program from The College Board. The program will provide students with instruction in pre-college and college level courses. Courses will provide students with a collegial learning environment and rigorous academic focus with emphasis on content knowledge, critical thinking and analytical reasoning skills, as well as disciplined study habits. Students will be prepared for success on AP exams. Special activities such as college nights, informational forums and content related activities will be offered. Students will complete a research project in the senior year in an area of academic concentration such as English, mathematics, science, or history and social sciences. Students will be required to submit an application. To participate in the program, students must enroll in two or more pre-AP or AP courses each year. Patriot also requires students to complete six AP courses before graduation. By graduation, students will also complete 60 hours of community service as well as a senior research project. Limited express transportation is provided.

WOODBRIDGE SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

The Biotechnology Center is located at Osbourn Park High School. The program offers students a challenging and enriched science curriculum with a strong emphasis on biotechnology, medical sciences, and interrelationships among scientific disciplines. During freshman and sophomore years, Biotech Center students participate in
integrated language arts and social studies courses that extend the program.

The program stresses problem solving and hands-on learning as well as science literacy. Students also participate in community service and extracurricular science enrichment activities. To participate in this program, students must enroll each year in a designated Biotech Center science class and must complete a sequence of Biotech Center courses from ninth to twelfth grade. All students in this program may choose from an extensive list of Advanced Placement core and elective courses. Limited express transportation is provided.

THE CAMBRIDGE PROGRAMME

BRENTSVILLE DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL
POTOMAC HIGH SCHOOL

The Cambridge Programme offers an innovative international pre-university curriculum and examination system that can be tailored to students’ interests and abilities. Courses are based on an investigative approach to learning with students using initiative and creativity in solving problems. The external assessments by Cambridge International Examinations include written examinations, project work, and individual research. Students taking advanced level courses can qualify for an Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE) diploma.

To participate in the program, students must enroll each year in at least one Cambridge course and must complete a sequence of such classes in grades nine through twelve. Limited express transportation is provided.

CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AND NATURAL SCIENCES

FREEDOM HIGH SCHOOL

The Center for Environmental and Natural Sciences (CENS) specialty program at Freedom High School offers a rigorous four-year program of studies designed to include strong laboratory and field investigation components. An enriched and interdisciplinary curriculum helps students gain a greater understanding of the connection between scientific and other academic areas.

The program emphasizes interactive science research and projects that make use of the on-site CENS lab, greenhouse, aquarium, diverse habitats, and wet pond. Students participate in co-curricular and extra curricular activities, including community service, and will become involved with business and community partnerships that enhance their understanding of environmental and natural sciences. The program of studies includes a sequence of required CENS science courses, pre-AP/AP English and History and Social Studies courses, and a strong mathematics sequence. Limited express transportation is provided.

CENTER FOR THE FINE AND PERFORMING ARTS

CHARLES J. COLGAN, SR. HIGH SCHOOL

The goal of the Center for the Fine and Performing Arts is to encourage and develop creativity, self-expression, academic achievement, and critical thinking in young artists. Students are supported in their efforts to master a common core of learning that promotes a broader understanding of the arts. Students are trained in the skills necessary to be successful in a university arts program and to become a valued participant in the larger arts community. The student has the opportunity to study in one of several concentration areas including dance, instrumental music, vocal music, music technology,
theater, creative writing and visual arts. To participate in the program, students must complete an audition and/or present a portfolio. Students accepted into the program must be enrolled in at least one class in the Fine and Performing Arts and must complete a sequence of classes from grades nine through twelve. All students in this program may choose from an extensive list of Advanced Placement courses. Limit express transportation is provided.

Center for International Studies and Languages

C. D. Hylton High School

The Center for International Studies and Languages (CISL) at Hylton High School offers students the opportunity to follow a comprehensive program of study with a focus on global awareness. Participation in the full CISL program advances understanding of global issues respective to cultures and languages, information and communication, and social and political sciences. Additionally, field experiences such as student exchanges, Model United Nations, and travel support the curriculum. Students may choose to pursue a concentration of study in world languages or social and political sciences.

To participate in the full CISL program, students must be enrolled in world language, English, and social studies classes that are designated as components of the CISL program. CISL students take AP World History, AP Human Geography, and the capstone course, AP Comparative Government which includes a research paper component. Additionally, they may choose from an extensive listing of AP core courses and electives offered at Hylton. These courses are externally assessed by the College Board. For the single concentrations of study within the CISL program, please contact the CISL Coordinator for more information. Limited express transportation is provided.

Center for Information Technology

Battlefield High School

Forest Park High School

The Center for Information Technology offers opportunities for students to study a wide range of information technology programs covering three main areas: mathematics and computer programming, graphics and multimedia, and hardware and networking. Programs leading to professional and general certification are offered. These certificate programs include computer graphics, multimedia, computer repair, computer programming, and networking. Students need at least two years in upper level classes to prepare for the advanced graphics, network, and programming certifications.

To participate in the program, students must be enrolled in at least one iT core class and must complete a sequence of iT classes in grades nine through twelve. All students in this program may choose from an extensive list of Advanced Placement (AP) core courses. Limited express transportation is provided.

International Baccalaureate Programme

Gar-Field High School

Stonewall Jackson High School

Gar-Field High School and Stonewall Jackson High School both offer rigorous academic programs authorized by the International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO). Freshmen and sophomores enroll in advanced course sequence classes (Pre-IB Diploma Programme classes) taught and assessed using the IB Middle Years program (IBMYP) framework for instruction in all academic areas. Juniors and seniors enroll in IB courses that are externally moderated and assessed by the IBO. Juniors and seniors may participate in IB classes in three ways: by earning
the full IB Diploma, by completing the IB Career-Related Programme, or by earning individual certificates in IB subjects of strength and interest.

While various levels of student participation are available, the Diploma Programme (IBDP) is centered around the full IB Diploma where students complete internal and external exams in six subject areas; complete 150 hours of creativity, action, and service; write a 4,000 word Extended Essay; and complete a seminar course entitled Theory of Knowledge.

The IB Career-Related Programme (IBCP) is a new innovative education framework for students in Grade 11 and 12 incorporating the vision and educational principles of the IB into a unique programme specifically tailored for students who wish to engage in career-related learning.

The IBCP combines high regarded and internationally recognized IB Diploma Programme courses with an approved career-related student and unique IBC core. Limited express transportation is provided.

THE PRE-GOVERNOR’S SCHOOL @ OSBOURN PARK

OSBOURN PARK HIGH SCHOOL

The Pre-Governor’s School @ Osbourn Park (PGS@OP) is a preparatory program with a student centered learning environment that emphasizes Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) acceleration. Students will engage in meaningful study designed to prepare them for their post-secondary endeavors. Students have an opportunity to develop technical writing capacity and meet several graduation requirements while preparing for success at The Governor’s School @ Innovation Park (GS@IP) should they gain entry during eleventh and twelfth grades. All students in the program may choose from an extensive list of Advanced Placement (AP) core and elective courses. Limited express transportation is provided.
Prince William County offers a wide variety of Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs designed to provide rigorous curriculum that engages students in the acquisition of academic and technical knowledge and skills, leadership opportunities, and real-world applications. By connecting what students already know and relating it to new information and issues, CTE uses contextual learning to help students see the meaning and purpose of what they are learning. CTE prepares students for their post-secondary experiences whether it is straight into the workforce, additional technical training, or college.

Agriculture, Automotive Technology, Biomedical Science: Project Lead the Way, Cabinetmaking, Cyber Security, Engineering: Project Lead the Way, HVAC, Television Production, and Welding sequences require students to transfer to the school that offers the program once they are accepted. Limited busing is provided. Students accepted to the Building Trades, Cosmetology, Culinary Arts, and Nursing programs will attend their base school for the core classes and be transported to and from the school providing the CTE transport program.

Some courses provide students with the opportunity to earn college credit for courses completed in high school, an elective verified credit, a variety of seals on their diplomas, and a licensure or industry certification.

Students and parents who have additional questions regarding these programs may contact Mr. Doug Wright at 703.791.7297 or by email at wrightdr@pwcs.edu.

The Agriculture Program at Brentsville is a program which offers a hands-on curriculum where students develop the necessary knowledge, skills, habits and attitudes for entry level employment and advancement in areas such as greenhouse and nursery production, landscape design and turf management. Students also receive instruction in leadership development and are provided many opportunities for leadership through FFA, the Career and Technical Education student organization for Agriculture.

The program is a four-year program of study. Courses available to students are Horticulture Sciences, Landscaping I, Landscaping II and Turf Grass Establishment and Maintenance. Limited express transportation is provided.

Automotive Technology is a National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation (NATEF) accredited program of study taught by ASE certified auto technicians. The program prepares graduates for Automotive Service Excellence exams. The mission of the Automotive Technology Program is to assist the student in acquiring the knowledge, skills, and attributes necessary to be a successful entry level worker in the field of
CABINETMAKING

C. D. HYLTON HIGH SCHOOL

Students learn workshop and tool safety and employability skills as they practice reading blueprints; estimating and selecting materials; cutting and shaping stock; assembling, fastening, and installing components; and finishing surfaces. The technical, problem-solving, leadership, and creative skills learned in Cabinetmaking can be applied in industries well beyond construction trades and professions and can prepare the student for lifelong learning and success. This is a four-year program of study. Students would take Technical Drawing in the 9th grade; Construction Technology in the 10th grade; Cabinetmaking I in the 11th grade; and Cabinetmaking II in the 12th grade. Limited express transportation is provided.

BIOMEDICAL SCIENCE: PROJECT LEAD THE WAY

OSBOURN PARK HIGH SCHOOL

The rigorous and relevant four-course Project Lead The Way (PLTW) Biomedical Science sequence allows students to investigate the roles of biomedical professionals as they study the concepts of human medicine, physiology, genetics, microbiology, and public health. Students engage in activities like investigating the death of a fictional person to learn content in the context of real-world cases. They examine the structures and interactions of human body systems and explore the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of disease, all while working collaboratively to understand and design solutions to the most pressing health challenges of today and the future. Limited express transportation is provided.

CYBER SECURITY

POTOMAC HIGH SCHOOL

Students will explore both the theory and hands-on practices in the following areas: critical infrastructure security systems and devices; intelligent computing and controlling devices and systems security; business information technology network security systems and techniques; industrial/utility industrial control systems networks and devices security; medical network and data system security; and ethical hacking roles and tools. This is a 4-year program of study. Students will take an IT elective such as IT Fundamentals in 9th grade; Programming in 10th grade; Computer Systems Technology I/Cyber Security in 11th grade; and Computer Systems Technology II/Cyber Security and Forensics in 12th grade. Limited express transportation is provided.
Northern Virginia Community College and PWCS have partnered to create a dual-enrollment program in Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning. It is a four-year program allowing students to graduate with 15 college credits (8 credits in the first year; 7 credits in the second year) toward a Career Studies certificate in HVAC. Students take college course work at NVCC’s Woodbridge campus each day, M-F. Students will spend the rest of their school day at their high school completing their high school requirements. Students will earn 2 high school credits each year for the HVAC courses. Limited express transportation is provided.

It is an opportunity to provide students with the experience they need for a successful school-to-work transition. Students interested in this field generally complete their education at a university or specialized technical school following high school graduation.

Throughout the program, students will use program proposals, scripts, and storyboards to produce and refine professional productions. Student leadership and independence are stressed throughout the program.

Limited express transportation is provided.

WELDING

POTOMAC HIGH SCHOOL

Available to all students and taught only at Potomac High School, welding teaches students to use gases and/or welding processes and to braze and solder metal parts according to diagrams, blueprints, or written specifications. The Potomac High School program is a four-year program of study with some courses requiring two-blocks of instruction. Some courses may be available for dual enrollment credit through Northern Virginia Community College.

Students take a Technology Education elective such as Technical Drawing their freshman year. In 10th grade, they take Welding I. In 11th grade they take Welding II and in the 12th grade they take Welding III. Limited express transportation is provided.
TRANSPORT PROGRAMS

All Transport applications are due March 15.

Students in a Transport program will attend their base school for their core classes and take a bus to the CTE program school for their program classes.
BUILDING TRADES

**Patriot High School**

Building Trades is a two-year program that begins in the eleventh grade. It prepares students to erect, install, maintain, and repair buildings, and other structures using materials such as metal, wood, stone, brick, glass, concrete and composition substances.

In year one, eleventh grade students focus on developing core safety skills within the masonry, electricity and plumbing professions. In year two, twelfth grade students move to mastery skills as well as core safety within these industries.

COSMETOLOGY

**Stonewall Jackson High School**

This program is designed to develop the skills and knowledge necessary to pass the Virginia Board of Registered Professional Hairdressers examination for licensing. Graduates are expected to take the state examination. Students who complete this program successfully and pass their licensure examinations have the skills and knowledge needed for the following entry-level jobs: manicurist, salon receptionist, shampoo technician, and licensed cosmetologist.

Cosmetology is a two-year program of study that begins in the eleventh grade. Students will take their core classes in their base school and be transported to the Cosmetology center at Stonewall Jackson High School if their base school is Battlefield, Brentsville, Hylton, Osbourn Park, or Patriot high schools.

Students will take their core classes in their base school and be transported to the Cosmetology center at Woodbridge High School if their base school is Colgan, Forest Park, Freedom, Gar-Field, or Potomac high schools.

**Woodbridge High School**

CULINARY ARTS

**Patriot High School**

Culinary Arts is a two-year program that begins in the eleventh grade. Culinary Arts prepares students to practice the managerial, production, and service skills used in food establishments and related food industry occupations. Students begin to prepare for occupations in the food service industry, such as chef/cook, baker/pastry chef, and hospitality worker. Throughout the two year program, students have the opportunity to plan, select, store, purchase and serve food and food products; study basic nutrition, sanitation, and food safety; learn the use and care of commercial equipment; and practice the operation of institutional food establishments. Besides refining these skills, students also have an opportunity to practice serving and dining room management. Students in the program will have real-world experiences by working cooperatively with various food establishments in the community and with local business owners.

Students will take their core classes in their base school and be transported to the Culinary center at Patriot High School if their base school is Battlefield, Brentville, Hylton, Osbourn Park, or Stonewall Jackson high schools.

Students will take their core classes in their base school and be transported to the Culinary center at Potomac High School if their base school is Colgan, Forest Park, Freedom, Gar-Field, or Woodbridge high schools.

**Potomac High School**

Students will take their core classes in their base school and be transported to the Culinary center at Potomac High School if their base school is Colgan, Forest Park, Freedom, Gar-Field, or Woodbridge high schools.
The Practical Nursing curriculum prepares students at the pre-professional level for service disciplines related to medicine, nursing, and allied health careers. Course competencies are based on industry qualifications, certifications, and licensure requirements for that industry.

Courses are available to all students and taught at Osbourn Park High School, local hospitals, assisted living facilities, and nursing homes.

The Practical Nursing Program is an eighteen-month program beginning in the senior year of high school. During the second year of the program, students are charged tuition. Practical Nursing requires a program application and may include an interview and testing. Applications must be completed during course registration the year prior to program entry. Express transportation is provided to the program for high school students. High school students will be bused to their base school from this program.
Prince William County Public Schools offer Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) programs for the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marines at nine high schools. Students wishing to participate in one of these programs shall enroll in the JROTC program of the school for the attendance area in which they reside or in the program to which their school is assigned. Students are encouraged to enter the program in the ninth grade in order to receive the full benefits of the four-year program. Applications are available at the program locations as well as all school information presentations.

JROTC representatives will make individual presentations to the middle schools in the early spring each year. More information can be obtained by contacting each school listed.

**PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

The Prince William County Public Schools offers Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) programs in nine high schools. All of the programs are designed to teach leadership, self-discipline, citizenship and organizational skills.

The course of instruction is a combined program of classroom instruction and practical application designed to emphasize leadership education and development. Basic instruction in leadership tenets, health and physical fitness, drill and ceremonies, and military organization are taught as a means to develop leadership qualities. JROTC students are frequently involved in the following activities: drill team, air rifle competitions, community service, color guard, academic team, mini-boot camp, and orienteering.

**APPLICATION PROCESS**

Students who intend to apply for a JROTC program will complete an application for the program at the school for their attendance area. Applications are available at all school locations.

For all students residing in Prince William County before January 1, final applications are due to the program leaders before the end of March of each school year.

If a student wishes to apply for a JROTC program, and their base school provides such a program, the student must apply for the JROTC program at their base school and will not be granted a transfer on the basis of wanting to be in a specific service of JROTC.

Students whose base school is Brentsville District High School who wish to participate in a JROTC program must apply for admittance to the AFJROTC program at Stonewall Jackson High School. Students whose base school is Patriot High School must apply for admittance to the JROTC program at either Stonewall Jackson High School or Battlefield High School, whichever is closest to the student’s residence. Students whose base school is Colgan High School must apply for admittance to the JROTC program at Osbourn Park High School.

**VIRGINIA HIGH SCHOOL LEAGUE ELIGIBILITY**

**Rising Ninth Grade Students**
- Students who apply to participate in a JROTC program will be eligible to participate in VHSL sponsored activities.

**Rising Tenth and Eleventh Grade Students**
Students who apply for a transfer to participate in a JROTC program shall be ineligible to participate in VHSL sponsored activities for 365 days unless there is a corresponding change of address in accordance with VHSL Regulation 28a-7-1. For additional information, please refer to PWCS Regulation 721-2.