



SHOWCASES FOR SUCCESS

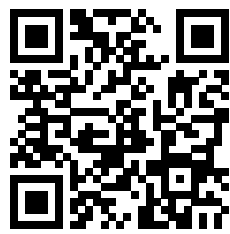
As a means of encouraging awareness and recognition of public schools, the Virginia School Boards Association invited Virginia's school divisions to recommend programs that would serve as "Showcases for Success" in public education. The VSBA has created an online database of these successful programs and will feature them on the VSBA web site for the entire year. In addition, this directory will be shared with journalists, school board members, superintendents, legislators, and top state officials.

This year, featured programs fit within the category—*Workforce Readiness and Career & Technical Education*.

Readers are invited to visit the directory of programs, which is now available on the VSBA web site. We also would like to encourage an exchange of ideas and initiatives. The directory highlights division-wide programs, as well as those at elementary, middle, and high school levels. The quality and range of initiatives is vast and remarkable, and divisions are encouraged to use these "Showcases for Success" as a starting point to develop similar programs in their school division.

With an open exchange of ideas and implementation of best practices, together we can work toward the ultimate goal of graduation and success for all students.

SHOWCASE DIRECTORY
www.vsba.org/showcases

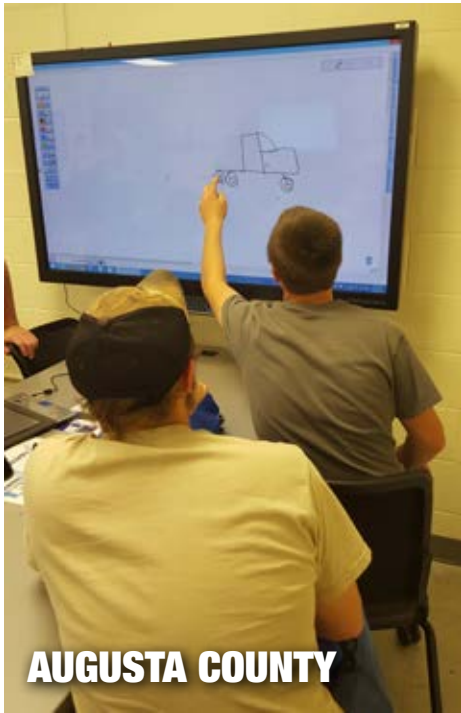


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DIVISION:
Augusta County Public Schools

PROGRAM:
**Blue Ridge Community
College Pathways
Consortium**

The Blue Ridge Career Pathways Consortium supports students in preparing for successful careers by building a partnership between Blue Ridge Community College, local area school division, including Augusta County Schools and local area employers. The Consortium works to build a unified curriculum which relies on the input of employers, provides career development opportunities, and offers secondary/post-secondary career paths that provide a seamless transition for students from secondary to post-secondary education and/or the world of work. The curriculum is enhanced with Workplace Readiness events and conferences for high school and middle school students such as: Social Media Ethics Workshop, Get A Job Bootcamp, Career Clusters 101, World of Work, 1st Generation Student Conference, and Student Parent Career College. Public schools, technical centers, the community college, employers and parents working together to provide students a future filled with opportunity is at the heart of the Blue Ridge Career Pathways Consortium.

CONTACT: Lisa Shifflett, curriculum supervisor, 540-245-5120



DIVISION:
Botetourt County Public Schools

PROGRAM:
**State-of-the-art Advanced
Welding Lab**

Botetourt County Public Schools unveiled a new state-of-the-art advanced welding lab located in Botetourt Technical Education Center (BTEC) in May 2015. The new lab is a joint project between the Botetourt Education Foundation, Botetourt County Public Schools, Dabney S. Lancaster Community College and local businesses and industry in an effort to increase the number of welding students and to provide state-of-the-art training. The facility hopes to become the first high school AWS Accredited Testing Facility in the nation. This project received extra funding from a grant given by the Allegheny Foundation and the Governor's Competition for Talent Solutions Grant.

CONTACT: Jim Bradshaw, principal, 540-473-8216



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DIVISION:

Caroline County Public Schools

PROGRAM:

**Caroline Middle School
Junior Culinary Academy**

The Caroline Middle School Junior Culinary Academy under the direction of Ms. Denise Ewing-Williams, Family and Consumer Sciences Teacher hosts an annual luncheon for the school board during School Board Appreciation Month in February. The Junior Culinary Academy was developed as an alignment program to support Career and Technical Education (CTE) from middle to high school. Students that seek certification in the culinary field meet twice a month at the middle school to discuss and develop healthy meals and plans for their families and peers. Students learn culinary and workplace skills to lay the foundation for them to be successful in the workforce. Skills include having a positive work ethic, being part of a team, having a creative but diverse mindset when thinking about foods of other cultures and alternate diet plans. Each year members of the academy visit different culinary schools and colleges for three days, reinforcing their speaking, listening, reading, writing skills and other professional and knowledge skills taught during the year. The academy prepares student leaders at Caroline Middle School for their transition to high school, which focuses on college and career readiness.

CONTACT: Denise Ewing-Williams, teacher, 804-633-6561



DIVISION:

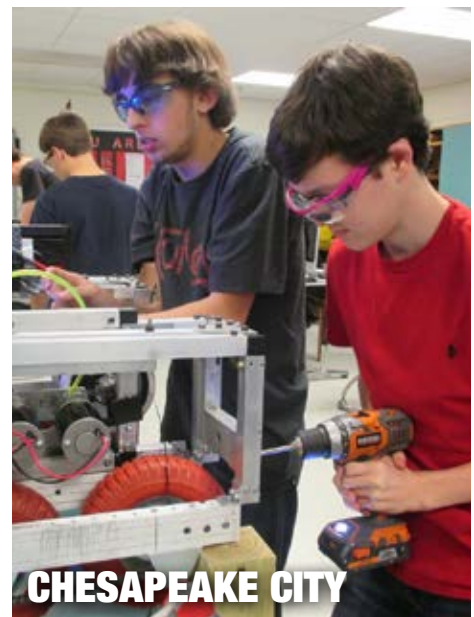
Chesapeake City Public Schools

PROGRAM:

Mechatronics

In 2015, Chesapeake Public Schools partnered with Tidewater Community College to provide an opportunity for 27 high school students to prepare for in demand jobs in the exciting and challenging field of mechatronics. Mechatronics is the study of electricity, electronics, and robotics--all the things that are used in modern manufacturing. Rising high school freshmen sign up for TCC/CPS Dual Enrollment: Mechatronics program. Enrolled students will be on a special career pathway that includes taking selected classes in their high schools for the first two years, working toward a standard high school diploma and a recognized industry credential in electronics. During the final two years of high school, some classes will be held on TCC's Chesapeake Campus, where students will get hands-on training in the Precision Machining Lab and earn a Career Studies Certificate in Mechatronics.

CONTACT: Grant Stanley, supervisor of career and technical education, 757-547-0153



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DIVISION:
Fairfax City Public Schools

PROGRAM:
Career Talks

Fairfax High School created “Career Talks” in 2014. Career Talks began as a partnership between the school and community volunteers to bring professionals from various industries into the school for students to listen, learn and ask questions. Professionals such as a pediatrician, Washington Post reporter, information technology specialist, fire fighter and agents in both the FBI and CIA visited Fairfax High School and spoke with students to provide first-hand information on how to enter and succeed in these fields. The professionals were interviewed by a moderator and then were asked questions by the student-audience. The popular series was designed to help students connect the work they are doing in school to future career opportunities and postgraduate plans.

CONTACT: Carrie Dorsey, communications specialist, 703-385-7911



DIVISION:
Galax City Public Schools

PROGRAM:
Job Shadowing

The CTE Department in Galax City Schools has created partnerships with a number of local businesses to set up job shadowing opportunities with students in the upper grades. These partnerships are made possible through an innovative schedule. This schedule allows for full or part day shadowing opportunities and has attracted a great deal of student interest. Students may choose to shadow with a number of different programs, including the hospital, dentists, optometrists, architects, and engineers. In addition, students may choose to work with several different industries to explore CNC design and development. The alternate schedule (The Intersession) is scheduled twice; once in October and once in late February. The main focus of the intersession is remediation, but all upper high school students have the opportunity to participate in a shadowing experience.

CONTACT: Bill Sutherland, CTE director, 276-233-4815



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DIVISION:

Louisa County Public Schools

PROGRAM:

**Practical Spanish
Component of LCHS CTE
Coursework**

Louisa County High School's Career and Technical Education classes now feature a functional Spanish language component. Doug Bowman, Spanish teacher at LCHS, visits CTE classes weekly during a flexible period added to his schedule. He develops vocabulary heavy mini-lessons that delve directly into subject matter. For example, nursing classes learn Spanish words for body parts and medical equipment, while landscaping students learn terms for tools and techniques. Many students have taken some Spanish, so the additional exposure extends that foundation into their chosen fields of interest. Lessons do not include verb conjugation or sentence structure as the goal is simply to build vocabulary that can help facilitate basic communication. That relaxed focus also keeps the lessons light, fun, and engaging. This innovative cross-curricular effort is creating stronger students today, better workers tomorrow, and will lead to higher levels of service for customers and co-workers who speak Spanish in the area.

CONTACT: Greg Dorazio, public information specialist, 540-872-1080



LOUISA COUNTY

DIVISION:

Mathews County Public Schools

PROGRAM:

**Student Technology
Assistants Program**

The Student Technology Assistant Program consists of one paid student and two volunteer students who work a few hours after school and 4 days a week over summer vacation. As students graduate or move out of the program, new students are selected by teachers at the middle school. The program is an apprenticeship where the Division Technology Coordinator trains the older students and these students train the younger participants. Student Technology Assistants collectively perform the same duties that previously had been done by support staff. This includes classroom computer imaging, repair, setup, software installation, laptop keyboards and screens replacements, network cabling and install/replace wireless access points. The work these students perform in teacher classrooms throughout the District enables all students to have access to properly functioning technology systems. Program participants also gain marketable workforce skills in Technology Systems and experience working with adults and students in a workplace environment.

CONTACT: William Vrooman, division technology coordinator, 804-725-3909



LOUISA COUNTY



MATHEWS COUNTY

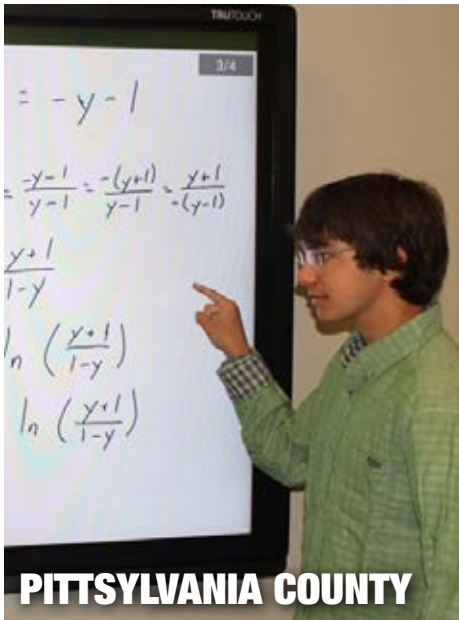


MATHEWS COUNTY



MATHEWS COUNTY

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PITTSYLVANIA COUNTY

DIVISION:
Pittsylvania County Public Schools

PROGRAM:
Academy of Engineering and Technology (AET)

The Academy of Engineering and Technology (AET) program is a partnership with Virginia State University (VSU), the New College Institute (NCI), Danville Community College (DCC), and The Institute for Advanced Learning and Research (IALR). This program, housed at the IALR, offers students the opportunity to participate in a demanding engineering curriculum that will equip participants with skills necessary to meet the rigorous standards of postsecondary programs. The two-year engineering curriculum is comprised of courses that focus on theory and design while actively engaging students in lab experiments and projects. Students also take English 11 and 12 and Calculus. All AET courses carry special grade point values, and students receive dual enrollment credits from VSU and DCC.

CONTACT: Dr. Mark R. Jones, superintendent, 434-432-2761



PITTSYLVANIA COUNTY

DIVISION:
Powhatan County Public Schools

PROGRAM:
Comprehensive School Approach- Reaching ALL Students

Powhatan County Public Schools provides all students with an opportunity to participate in Career and Technical Education and related Career and Technical Service Organizations through its comprehensive school approach. PCPS focuses its attention on vertical alignment of a STEM curriculum from kindergarten through 12th grade, culminating with CTE programs at the high school level. They include coding and computer science, health services, culinary arts, agriculture/horticulture, and electricity. Each year Powhatan's CTE serves over 2,250 students across grades 7-12. Students can move back and forth between CTE and academic courses seamlessly, all under one roof at the high school. In addition, Powhatan's CTE supports CTSOs through an emphasis on co-curricular involvement, enabling its students to win awards at the local, state and national level.

CONTACT: Jason Tibbs, principal, 804-598-5782



POWHATAN COUNTY



POWHATAN COUNTY



POWHATAN COUNTY

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DIVISION:

Richmond City Public Schools

PROGRAM:

**Richmond Technical Center
Mock Interview Program**

The Richmond Technical Center and Bon Secours Richmond Health System hosted its annual Industry/Business Mock Job Interview in honor of celebrating CTE Month. Over 1,200 students dressed in business attire were interviewed by 102 business/industry volunteers as an effort to assist students with developing essential workplace readiness skills. Students were rated on introductions, resume, appearance, mannerisms, voice level, presentation, articulation of skills/abilities, and career research. Interpreters were also present to support our ESL students.

CONTACT: Nancy Holmes, principal, 804-780-6237



DIVISION:

Shenandoah County Public Schools

PROGRAM:

**Shenandoah County
Students Participate in
WoW! Career Expo**

Shenandoah County Public Schools' seventh graders were among the 2,800 students who participated in the 2015 Worlds of Work (WoW) Expo held in Winchester, Virginia. WoW!, a collaborative regional effort among seven divisions and local economic development authorities, supports Academic and Career Plan development. Katie Rice, CTM/STEM Supervisor for SCPS, described this event as "an interactive, hands-on career expo for all seventh graders from seven area school divisions." Students were given a passport and asked to visit all eight Worlds of Work. In these work areas, students' passports were stamped certifying they had completed at least one activity in that area. Eighty area businesses provided hands-on, authentic experiences for students. Worlds were selected based on regional employment data. The state mandates that seventh graders develop career plans. Of the almost 3,000 students attending, 93% of students felt the career expo "definitely" or "somewhat" helped with ideas for their career choices.

CONTACT: Katie Rice, supervisor of CTE/STEM, 540-477-3161





Virginia School Boards Association

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MISSION STATEMENT

Virginia School Boards Association, a voluntary, nonpartisan organization of Virginia school boards, promotes excellence in public education through advocacy, training and services.

VISION STATEMENT

VSBA is recognized and respected as an innovative leader in public education.

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