



## SHOWCASES FOR SUCCESS

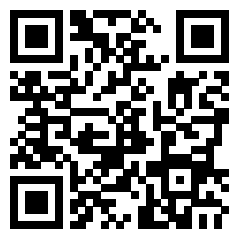
As a means of encouraging awareness and recognition of public schools, the Virginia School Boards Association invited Virginia’s school divisions to recommend programs that would serve as “Showcases for Success” in public education. The VSBA has created an online database of these successful programs 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.

The focus of the 2019 VSBA Showcases for Success is Career,

College and Life Ready, highlighting the numerous program offerings in Virginia’s public schools.

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.

**SHOWCASE DIRECTORY**  
[www.vsba.org/showcases](http://www.vsba.org/showcases)



**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.**

### PARTICIPATING SCHOOL DIVISIONS

Appomattox County  
Arlington County  
Augusta County  
Bristol City  
Buena Vista City  
Caroline County  
Carroll County  
Chesapeake City  
Chesterfield County  
Colonial Heights City  
Covington City  
Culpeper County  
Cumberland County

Dinwiddie County  
Essex County  
Fairfax City  
Falls Church City  
Fauquier County  
Fredericksburg City  
Goochland County  
Greene County  
Greensville County  
Halifax County  
Hampton City  
Henrico County  
Isle of Wight County

King & Queen County  
Lee County  
Louisa County  
Lunenburg County  
Lynchburg City  
Madison County  
Manassas Park City  
Mathews County  
Middlesex County  
Montgomery County  
New Horizons Career & Technical Center  
Newport News City

Pittsylvania County  
Poquoson City  
Prince Edward County  
Prince George County  
Prince William County  
Radford City  
Rappahannock County  
Roanoke County  
Rockbridge County  
Rockingham County  
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Spotsylvania County  
Stafford County

Suffolk City  
Tazewell County  
Virginia Beach City  
Valley Career and Technical Center  
Waynesboro City  
Westmoreland County

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ARLINGTON COUNTY

## Arlington County Public Schools

Arlington Public Schools' (APS) Superintendent Dr. Patrick Murphy created the signature event, Dream, Explore, Create Your Own Path, working in tandem with counselors, teachers and bilingual family liaisons, to celebrate student choice in educational and career pathways. As an extension of the APS Aspire2Excellence Program embedded into our counseling program, K-12 students experience career coaching activities led by school counselors and then choose career cluster presentations, using a conference style venue, to demonstrate the link between personality and interests to course and career choice. This personalization validates a student's unique strengths and interests and empowers them to make informed course choices. Now in our fourth year, we will creatively promote the Virginia Portrait of a Graduate 5 C's: critical thinking, creativity, collaboration, communication and citizenship to middle and high school students. This provides students important skills to procure internships, excel at college interviews and receive and succeed in desired jobs.

**CONTACT:** Pam McClellan, Supervisor of Counseling 703-228-6041



ARLINGTON COUNTY



COVINGTON CITY

## Covington City Public Schools

Edgemont Primary School held a Career Day for students in Early Childhood through Third Grade. Students were invited to dress up in their favorite career attire, as they rotated through ten, three-minute presentations. Career options included: Web Design and Drones, Physical Therapy, Dance Studio Owner/Instructor, Welding, Community College Certificate Programs, Community Services Board, Cosmetology, Real Estate, Nursing, and Life Flight Paramedic. The theme of the program was "Tools of our Trade," and each presenter was encouraged to highlight the "tools" used in their career, to promote hands-on learning for all students. Throughout the day, the "5Cs": critical thinking, creative thinking, collaboration, communication, and citizenship were reinforced. The school Association of Parents and Teachers (APT) provided a catered breakfast for presenters, and the school provided snacks and drinks throughout the day. A small token of appreciation was given to each presenter. The local online newspaper also publicized the event.

**CONTACT:** Lee Ann Gray, Speech Pathologist/ Career Day Planning Chair 540-965-1420



COVINGTON CITY

## Culpeper County Public Schools

To enhance the success of all English Learners (ELs) in Career and Technical Education (CTE) courses, Culpeper County Public Schools created learning modules that may be customized based on the CTE course and have integrated visual supports. The CTE modules are based on the safety tests needed to fully participate in the CTE classroom. The modules, designed using Google Forms, allow students to enhance their vocabulary and comprehension skills with the aim of scoring 100% on the required safety test(s) of their class. Teachers have found these modules to be a valuable asset for their ELs. Students who are able to fully participate in the class, by passing these safety tests, are given the opportunity to have hands-on instruction. Thus, another pathway for college, career, and life readiness is provided.

**CONTACT:** Anne Jewett, Program Coordinator 540-465-5025



CULPEPER COUNTY



CULPEPER COUNTY

## Essex County Public Schools

The Start on Success (SOS)\* program, prepares students with disabilities for the world of work. In partnership with Riverside Hospital, the program provides students in their final year with paid internships and opportunities to discover interests and abilities outside of the classroom. Students who participate receive valuable experience in plant operations, materials management, radiology, food service, and environmental services. "The program is a great opportunity for our students to get hands on experience and develop the skills necessary to be successful in the workplace and college" said Dr. Tara Roane. During their first semester of the school year, students receive classroom instruction that includes career readiness and self-determination skills training. Then, during the second semester, students work on-site three hours per week at the hospital for 16 weeks during school hours. \*Sponsored by the Center on Transition Innovations at VCU and funded by the VDARS.

**CONTACT:** Dr. Tara Roane, Director of Special Education & Student Services 804-443-3469



CULPEPER COUNTY



ESSEX COUNTY



ESSEX COUNTY



ESSEX COUNTY



ESSEX COUNTY

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**HALIFAX COUNTY**

## Halifax County Public Schools

The Marine Biology and Herpetology Center is located at Halifax County Middle School and is one of only two in the state of Virginia. Over 30 species are maintained for hands-on activities and features two saltwater touch tanks, lizards, snakes, turtles, and invertebrates. All of the organisms are taken care of by the students, which gives them ownership over the center and their learning. From Kindergarten to 12th grade, the center focuses on at least four major science SOL strands, and because of this, the center is open to all students in the district. Student ambassadors from the middle school lead classes through the center, focusing specifically on their teacher's learning goal. This allows students to see, touch, and feel their way through science, make real-world connections, and truly interact with what they are learning to gain a deeper understanding.

**CONTACT:** Magie Wilkerson, Principal  
434-572-4100



**HALIFAX COUNTY**



**HALIFAX COUNTY**

## Henrico County Public Schools

The Henrico County Public Schools Career and Technical Education Letter of Intent Signing Day was a first-of-its-kind celebration designed to recognize high school students who will be graduating and completing a CTE concentration and entering the workforce or apprenticeship programs. Similar to a "college athlete signing day" the focal point was the actual "signing" of the letter of intent. We designated a location where news media, business partners, students, and parents could observe the student and employer sign the letter of intent. The event soon received international attention. A Facebook post summarizing the occasion has been viewed on Facebook more than 4.9 million times after it was shared by "Dirty Jobs" host Mike Rowe: <https://www.facebook.com/HenricoCountyPublicSchools/posts/1679712538789231> The event highlighted the many lucrative opportunities for students and the value of college alternatives. It also encouraged local businesses to engage with students to help fulfill their workforce needs.

**CONTACT:** Mac Beaton, Director, Career & Technical Education  
804-781-1810



**HENRICO COUNTY**



**HENRICO COUNTY**



**HENRICO COUNTY**



**HENRICO COUNTY**

## Lee County Public Schools

In February 2018, eleven student technicians took on the task of supporting the 1:1 chromebook initiative that rolled out at the beginning of the school year. Students enrolled in Cybersecurity Systems Technology classes at Lee County Career and Technical Center put their knowledge to work by providing on the spot troubleshooting and repairs during the high school lunch periods. In the first semester of implementation, the student technicians worked together to repair 50 chromebook hardware issues and more than 100 software or configuration issues. The Help Desk was continued for the current school year and continues to serve as both an opportunity for students enrolled in the CTE class to apply their skills in a real-world setting, as well as an additional layer of support for students who experience difficulties with their chromebooks.

**CONTACT:** Jordan Edens, Networking & Computer Repair Teacher  
276-346-1960



**LEE COUNTY**

## Lynchburg City Public Schools

Lynchburg Beacon of Hope, a grassroots nonprofit partner of the Lynchburg City Schools, announced on September 12, 2018, Stay Close, Go Far: Lynchburg's Promise. This 5-year \$5 million community investment in our students will fund up to \$8,000 per student over two years to attend Central Virginia Community College and a like amount over four years to attend five other regionally accredited colleges/universities and certification programs in Lynchburg. Stay Close, Go Far is the first local initiative of its type in Virginia. It is unique compared to other free community college programs because it also offers a financial incentive to attend school beyond the two-year community college level. Students are able to choose a pathway for postsecondary education that best meets their individual needs. And the Beacon of Hope High School Future Centers and LCS Counseling resources help young people identify a pathway to post-secondary education.

**CONTACT:** Laura Hamilton, Executive Director,  
Lynchburg Beacon of Hope  
434-515-5082



**LYNCHBURG CITY**



**LYNCHBURG CITY**



**LYNCHBURG CITY**



**LEE COUNTY**

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**MANASSAS PARK CITY**

## Manassas Park City Public Schools

Manassas Park High School is in the first year of implementing an innovative high school model that focuses on moving students from test ready to life ready. The model is known by the acronym COMPASS which stands for Creating Opportunities at Manassas Park to Achieve Student Success. Freshman Foundations is the anchor program for COMPASS, and it is designed to guide students as they develop plans for life after high school. English, social studies, and health and physical education teachers collaborate with career and technology teachers to deliver a digital course to all ninth-grade students. Lessons are designed to expose students to a wide range of career opportunities as well as to describe corresponding paths for pursuing these fields. Plans can include university, community college, vocational school, enlistment, or another appropriate pathway. Students are also provided with practical skills such as developing resumes and writing cover letters for job applications.

**CONTACT:** Pam Kalso, Principal  
Manassas Park High School  
703-361-9131



**MANASSAS PARK CITY**



**MANASSAS PARK CITY**



**POQUOSON CITY**

## Poquoson City Public Schools

Poquoson Middle School is working hard to develop vocational skills for students with disabilities. One of their special education classes runs a coffee shop, named the “Cool Beans Café,” where each week students collect orders from staff through an electronic order form, fill them, and deliver custom coffee orders to staff. All of the students experience different roles ranging from barista to quality control inspector. During the 18-19 school year, the class expanded their business concept with the addition of the “Cool Beans Print Shop.” Similar in structure, the students collect forms from teachers requesting copy orders for their classes. They work as a team and practice organizational skills with meeting due dates, organizing the materials, and sorting according to type of paper, stapling preferences, etc. The delivery of both the coffee and copy orders target social and communication skills. These work-based experiences help students become employable and life-ready.

**CONTACT:** Ashley Reyher,  
Director of Student Services  
757-868-3046



**POQUOSON CITY**

## Tazewell County Public Schools

In the quest to recruit and train our criminal justice students for the multiple occupations that are available in our area including police officers, detectives, investigators, police dispatchers, forensic science technicians, corrections officers, law degrees, etc. and to encourage continuing post-secondary education, the Tazewell County Career and Technical Center and Bluefield State College have instituted an articulated program. This program allows TCPS students who complete specific courses and are completers of the Law, Public Safety, Corrections and Security cluster at TCCTC to transfer their TCPS coursework and receive up to 11 credits in the following Bluefield State College courses: CRMJ 151 Introduction to Criminal Justice – 3 credits, CRMJ 221 American Correctional System – 3 credits, CRMJ 232 Criminal Justice Writing – 3 credits, and HLTH 101 Personal Health & Wellness – 2 credits

**CONTACT:** Cynthia Beavers,  
TCCTC Principal/CTE Director/  
Supervisor of Technology  
276-988-2529

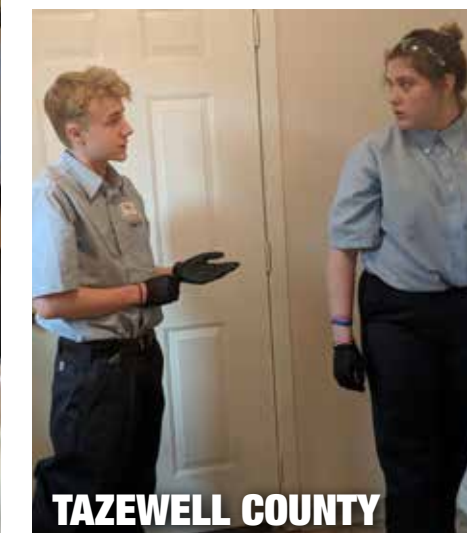


**TAZEVELL COUNTY**

## Waynesboro City Public Schools

Waynesboro City Schools has partnered with Radford University's Inclusive Practices Center in a grant funded by the Virginia Board of People with Disabilities entitled “Building Inclusive School Communities through Culture Shift, Collaboration, and Coaching (3 Cs Inclusion Project)”. The project will support our school division in the creation and implementation of an action plan that builds capacity within the division to support a sustainable inclusion effort for students with disabilities. Inclusion teams made up of administrators, regular and special educators, parents, and students have been formed in all of Waynesboro's schools. Professors from Radford University's School of Teacher Education and Leadership have provided a self-assessment and professional development about inclusive practices. Through disability awareness training, co-teaching strategy support, parent education opportunities, and the creation of inclusion action plans the goal of the grant is to improve inclusive practices in each of our schools for students with disabilities.

**CONTACT:** Dr. Ryan Barber,  
Director of Student Services  
540-946-4600



**TAZEVELL COUNTY**



**WAYNESBORO CITY**



**WAYNESBORO CITY**



**WAYNESBORO CITY**



**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.

# Leadership · Advocacy · Support

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