Office: 540-775-5833 Fax: 540-775-2165



P.O. Box 1239 King George, VA 22485

January 2018

Dear Student:

CONGRATULATIONS on your decision to apply to The Commonwealth Governor's School. By requesting this application packet, you have taken the first step toward an exciting new learning experience. The application packet includes:

- ✓ Application Form
- ✓ Student Application Timeline
- ✓ Candidate Profile Sheet
- \checkmark Student Interests, Activities, Service, and Honors Form
- ✓ Student Portfolio Self-Assessment Form
- ✓ Three Teacher/Mentor Recommendation Forms

Use the Student Application Checklist as a guide to complete your application packet. Return your completed application to your **School Counselor** by **Tuesday, February 13**. If you are not presently a student in a public school in King George County, you must also include a signed Certification of Intent to Enroll form. You must be enrolled full-time in a public school in King George County to attend The Commonwealth Governor's School.

Upon receipt of your completed application, you will be scheduled for standardized testing and an interview with portfolio review. These will occur between February and April. You will receive notification of the time and place for each of these activities.

A committee will evaluate your completed application and supporting materials. A multi-criteria approach is used and includes the following: achievement and ability test scores; grades; teacher recommendations; student interests, activities, service, and awards; and, a portfolio presented during an interview. Students will be ranked according to their total points on the **Candidate Profile Sheet**. A maximum of twenty qualified students per grade level will be accepted to the King George CGS site. **All applicants who complete the application process will receive a letter of decision by the end of April**.

Much is expected of The Commonwealth Governor's School students. The curriculum is demanding and participants work closely with other highly motivated students in Stafford, Spotsylvania, and Caroline counties. The faculty and staff of The Commonwealth Governor's School are committed to providing their students a challenging and exciting high school program. Please note that 8th grade students must be enrolled in Algebra 1 at a minimum to successfully apply.

If you have any questions, please call me at (540) 775-5833. Again, congratulations on your decision to apply for participation in this regional community of learners.

Sincerely,

Amanda Higgins

Amanda Higgins Coordinator of Gifted Services



THE COMMONWEALTH GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL Application Process Checklist 2018

Phase 1- Application

No application will be reviewed for admission to The Commonwealth Governor's School until all materials have been returned to the Counseling Department or the Coordinator of Gifted Services by **February 13, 2018.**

Completed application includes:

- The Student Application page fully, clearly, and legibly completed
- o Student Interests, Activities, Service and Honors form completed
- Teacher/Mentor Recommendation forms completed and submitted by three individuals Applicants should follow up with their teachers to make sure they have submitted recommendations on time.

All applicants must complete Algebra I by the end of 8th grade

Phase 2 – Testing

- Abilities testing will be conducted at the student's school
- Achievement testing will be conducted at the student's school

Phase 3 – Portfolio/Interview

The applicant will receive notification of the time and place for the interview.

The portfolio will be due at the time of the interview. Students should have portfolio materials assembled and ready to present by March 1.

A local school division selection committee will evaluate the completed application and supporting materials.

Applicants will be notified by their local school division of acceptance into CGS for 2018-2019 at the end of April, 2018. Students currently enrolled in a private school, home school, or out-of- division school must enroll in King George County Schools prior to being enrolled at CGS.

Much is expected of CGS students. The curriculum is demanding and participants work closely with other highly-motivated students. The application should reflect that the applicant has set high academic learning goals and will be a positive addition to a challenging academic environment.

If applicants or their families have questions, they should contact

- King George- Amanda Higgins, Coordinator of Gifted Services at (540) 775- 5833
- The Commonwealth Governor's School- Merri Kae VanderPloeg, Director at (540) 548-1278



THE COMMONWEALTH GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL

Application Process Timeline 2018

Phase 1- Application

Tuesday, January 2	 Application packets available from: Middle and High School Counseling Departments Coordinator of Gifted Services
	The CGS website www.cgs.k12.va.us
Thursday, January 11	Workshop for completing the CGS application King George Middle School- 6:00-7:00 PM <i>This session is optional. Please bring an application with you.</i>
Tuesday, February 13	Applications due to the Counseling Department of the student's school or to the Coordinator of Gifted Services at the School Board Office.
Phase 2- Testing	
February 15-21	Abilities testing administered at the student's school
February 22- March 5	Achievement testing administered at the student's school
Phase 3 – Portfolio/Inte	rview

- March April Individual interviews/portfolio reviews at each middle or high school
- End of April Letters mailed to students with notification of status



The Commonwealth Governor's School Student Application Spring 2018

The Commonwealth Governor's School is designed to provide gifted and highly motivated students a challenging, differentiated, and interdisciplinary academic program of study in the core subject areas of science, mathematics, social studies, and English using nontraditional activities supported by technology at their home school sites. Students must be prepared to pursue and create knowledge both independently and in groups.

PLEASE COMPLETE YOUR APPLICATION LEGIBLY IN INK OR TYPE.

Student's Home-Based H	ligh School for n	ext year			
Name of Applicant					
	Last	First	Middle	Nickname (if any)	
Date of Birth//			Student ID Numbe	r	
Name of Parent(s)/Guar	dian(s)				
Home Address					
E-mail Address	Stree	t	City	State	Zip Code
Home Phone Number (_)	Work Nu	mbers ()	()	
Current School		School Divisio	on	Grade Level	_
If not in a participating s	chool division: (c	heck one)			
	•		Home School	Department of Defense Schoo	I
Certification of Intent to	Enroll Form must	accompany the ap	plication of any student r	not currently enrolled in a partici	pating school division.
Names of the three indiv English Teacher	viduals who will o		nmendation: • Geom.) Teacher	Other Teacher or Me	ontor
			Geomy reacher	Other reacher of Me	
1		2		3	
The decision to apply to Th in this application are my o		Governor's School	is my own, and I want to	participate fully in the program.	The responses contained
			support of the student's	e of Applicant application to The Commonweal	th Governor's School and
give permission for the stud	dent s'acadeniic re			in committee.	
Date			Signature	of Parent/Guardian	



The Commonwealth Governor's School Candidate Profile - Spring 2018

Candidate's Full Name:		Grade (Rising):
------------------------	--	-----------------

Home-based High School: ______ Student ID #: _____

I. Academic Information					
	Test	Date Tak	en	Percentile	Points
Ability Measure					
Achievement 1 Reading Comprehension					
Achievement 2 Total Math					
Strength of Academic Program	Grac	de Point Avera	age		
		Т	otal I :	(Maximum of 86)	
II. Recommendations			Total	(out of 36 points)	A: Divided by 3
English Teacher					
Math Teacher					
Other Teacher or Mentor					
		т	otal II:	(Maximum of 36)	

III. Student Interests, Activities, Services, Awards				
Activity Points- 1, 2, or 3 points possible per activity (15 Max)				
Honors Points- 1, 2, or 3 points possible (9 Max)				
Total III: (Maximum of 24)				
IV. Student Portfolio/Interview				
Work Samples- (24 Max)				
Interview- (18 Max)				
Total IV: (Maximum of 42)				
Grand Total: Sum of Parts I -V				
(Maximum of 188)				



GUIDELINES FOR COMPLETING STUDENT INTERESTS, ACTIVITIES, AND SERVICE FORM

For each activity listed, a maximum of three points may be earned.

** Do not list activities that are honors. Honors are listed on a separate page of the application**

Activity may earn 3 points

Student clearly articulates and describes:

- how participation goes above and beyond in terms of depth of commitment, time investment, leadership, and/or accomplishments
- how participation is self-generated by interest and a desire to learn, motivated by personal responsibility or family necessity, or founded on a commitment to a principle, and
- how the activity offers opportunity for a high degree of intellectual or personal growth and critical, productive, or creative thinking.

Activity may earn 2 points

Student description is weak in one area or two areas.

- Some commitment or interest is evident, though leadership and/or level of participation may be limited.
- Participation may be self-generated or encouraged by school or family.
- The activity offers some opportunity for intellectual or personal growth and requires some task commitment and independence on the part of the student.

Activity may earn 1 point

Student description is weak overall.

- There is minimal description of accomplishments or leadership roles.
- Participation is limited.



STUDENT INTERESTS, ACTIVITIES, AND SERVICE FORM

Extracurricular and Personal Activities

In this section, please indicate how you spend your time during and after school, and in the summer. Describe your **five** most significant extracurricular activities, community/service activities, work or family responsibilities, and interests/hobbies in order of their interest to you. In the blank provided, write the number of hours and check the appropriate time allotment. Finally, describe your responsibilities and accomplishments for each activity. **Do not** attach additional pages.

1. Activity	Amount of time (hrs) per Check one below:
	🗆 week 🛛 🗆 1 wk/year
Description of responsibilities, accomplishments, and/or	month months/year
leadership roles:	🗆 all year long 🛛 🗆 1 per year
	□ school year □ summer only
2. Activity	Amount of time (hrs) per Check one below:
Description of a second bilities as a second behavior and for	week 1 wk/year
Description of responsibilities, accomplishments, and/or	month months/year
leadership roles:	 all year long 1 per year school year summer only
3. Activity	Amount of time (hrs) per Check one below:
Description of responsibilities, accomplishments, and/or	□ week □ 1 wk/year □ month □ months/year
leadership roles:	□ month □ months/year □ all year long □ 1 per year
leadership toles.	school year summer only
4. Activity Description of responsibilities, accomplishments, and/or leadership roles:	Amount of time (hrs) per Check one below: week 1 wk/year month months/year all year long 1 per year school year summer only
5. Activity Description of responsibilities, accomplishments, and/or leadership roles:	Amount of time (hrs) per Check one below: week 1 wk/year month months/year all year long 1 per year school year summer only



STUDENT HONORS FORM

Academic Honors

In this section, please list the 3 most significant honors or recognitions that you have received in the **last three years**. For each honor listed, you may earn one, two, or three possible points. Do not list the same honor multiple times (i.e. Honor Roll). Refer to the table below for examples of honors and point levels.

	Honor/Recognition	Level of Competition/Hono	or <u>Year</u>
1.			
2.			
3.			
-			

These examples are not exhaustive. Other significant or rare honors may be listed by the applicant - please include documentation.

Level Two Honor (2 pt) School/Local/Regional Honor, more selective or difficult to attain	Level Three Honor (3 pt) Unique or Highly Competitive			
Straight A Honor Roll/Frequent Honor Roll	State Band or Chorus			
District Band/Chorus	Johns Hopkins Talent Search95 th percentile or above			
President's Education Award	Rappahannock Youth Symphony			
Regional or State Band or Chorus	State Science Fair			
Piedmont Regional Science Fair (1st, 2nd, 3rd place)	State Senate or House Page			
District Spelling Bee Winner	State or National Sport Competitions			
National Junior Honor Society				
National Honor Society				
District/Regional Reflection Contest (1 st , 2 nd , or 3 rd place)				
Selection to a Competitively-Selected Program such as Fredericksburg Regional Governor's School or Summer Residential Governor's School				
	School/Local/Regional Honor, more selective or difficult to attain Straight A Honor Roll/Frequent Honor Roll District Band/Chorus President's Education Award Regional or State Band or Chorus Piedmont Regional Science Fair (1st, 2nd, 3rd place) District Spelling Bee Winner National Junior Honor Society National Honor Society District/Regional Reflection Contest (1st, 2nd, or 3rd place) Selection to a Competitively-Selected Program such as Fredericksburg Regional Governor's School or Summer Residential Governor's			



STUDENT PORTFOLIO

Please select three samples of your work which are a source of pride to you. At least one should be something you have done on your own, not in school. Examples might be a science fair project, a piece of art, a research paper, original creative writing or musical composition, a computer program, a tape/video of a performance, a scout merit badge or other award, or something else. Bring the pieces with you to the Commonwealth Governor's School interview, and be prepared to discuss with the interviewers why you chose these particular pieces. Think about what goal you hoped to achieve (even if you did not reach the goal) and what you learned in working on the project. How has the work you selected influenced your direction for future endeavors? Make sure your items are selected from no farther back than the past 3 years. Your portfolio will be evaluated according to the following guidelines:

- 1. Is at least one piece **not** a school assignment?
- 2. Is the work advanced for the age or grade in the choice of subject and/or quality of the finished project?
- 3. Do the samples show in-depth understanding of an idea or a skill?
- 4. Is there evidence of research to support the ideas presented in the samples?
- 5. Do the samples show evidence of higher level thinking (analysis, synthesis, or evaluation?)
- 6. Do the products convey **your** ideas effectively?
- 7. Is there intellectual risk-taking and originality of thought?
- 8. Is there an unusual, complex, or intricate presentation of an idea?
- 9. Is there resourceful or clever use of materials and/or language?
- 10. Is there evidence of problem finding and/or solving?
- 11. Is there evidence of high interest and perseverance in the samples?
- 12. Can you communicate effectively about your work?

Every sample may not show every characteristic, but every characteristic should be evident in at least one sample.

The pieces of work I have selected are:

1	
2.	
3	



The Commonwealth Governor's School Student Portfolio Assessment Form

Your portfolio will be evaluated by an interview team according to the twelve criteria listed below. Please complete this form based on the three samples of your work that you will be sharing during the interview. Make sure your items are selected from no farther back than the past 3 years. List your three samples in the first column, then check those criteria that are evident in each sample.

Bring this form along with your portfolio items to your scheduled CGS interview. When presenting your portfolio items, use this form as your source for your presentation. The interview team does not need to be "taught" about your portfolio item, as, with an overview from you about the topic and how the assignment came about, the item should be self-explanatory with the thorough preparation you have done. Rather, the interview team wants to know how your portfolio items meet the criteria below.

Samples	Not School Assignment	Advanced for age or grade in subject or quality	In-depth understanding of Idea or Skill	Evidence of cited research to support ideas/ work	Higher level thinking (analysis, synthesis, evaluation) Is evident in work	Product conveys student ideas effectively	Shows intellectual risk-taking, originality in choice of subject or style of presentation	Unusual, complex, or intricate presentation of an idea	Clever or resourcef ul use of materials or language	Problem solving and finding are evident	High interest and perseverance are evident	Student is able to communicate effectively about concept and process of work
Sample 1												
Sample 2												
Sample 3												

Additional Comments:



The Commonwealth Governor's School

Math Faculty Recommendation Form for Student Application

Recommendation must come from current or previous year's teacher.

This box is to be comple	ted by the applicant before the f	form is presented to the teacher.	
Student Name:	Last	First	M.I.

Teacher Directions:

- Check one box for each criterion using the following rating scale:
 - BA Below Average A Average E Excellent (top 10%) O Outstanding (top 5%)
- Mark one (and only one) box for every criterion. DO NOT mark between two categories.
 NOTE: Not following this instruction hurts students in the application process.
- Sign, date, and seal recommendation in envelope and return to the counseling office.

Cri	teria	BA	А	E	о
1.	Motivation and Persistence				
	Curious, self-starter, shows initiative, accepts criticism				
2.	Communication with Peers				
De	nonstrates sensitivity, respect for others and opposing viewpoints, shares ideas				
3.	Academic Interest				
	Intense interest in and appreciation for learning new things				
4.	Dependability				
	Consistent, disciplined, supports others				
5.	Preparation				
	Prepared to participate fully in discussions and activities				
6.	Quality of Work				
	Complete, thorough				
7.	Work Habits/Time Management				
	Disciplined, turns in work on time				
8.	Logical and Analytical Skills				
	Can reason through problems/dilemmas				
9.	Ability to Use New Technologies				
	Can adapt to working with calculators, computers, software, or scientific equipment				
	(For office use only)				

Please add any other comments about this student that will help the selection committee make a decision. Use the back of this form to comment on specific strengths and/or weaknesses.

Name (Print):		_ Date:
Signature:	School:	
Subject(s)/Grade Level(s)/Date(s) you taught applicant:		



The Commonwealth Governor's School

English Faculty Recommendation Form for Student Application

Recommendation must come from **current or previous year's** teacher.

This box is to be co	ox is to be completed by the applicant before the form is presented to the teacher.				
Student Name:					
	Last	First	M.I.		

Teacher Directions:

- > Check one box for each criterion using the following rating scale:
- BA Below Average A Average E Excellent (top 10%) O Outstanding (top 5%)
- Mark one (and only one) box for every criterion. DO NOT mark between two categories.
 NOTE: Not following this instruction butto students in the application process.
 - **NOTE:** Not following this instruction hurts students in the application process.
- Sign, date, and seal recommendation in envelope and return to the counseling office.

Criteria	ВА	A	E	о
1.Motivation and Persistence				
Curious, self-starter, shows initiative, accepts criticism				
2. Communication with Peers				
Demonstrates sensitivity, respect for others and opposing viewpoints, shares				
ideas				
3. Academic Interest				
Intense interest in and appreciation for learning new things; makes				
connections				
4. Dependability				
Consistent, disciplined, supports others				
5. Preparation				
Prepared to participate fully in discussions and activities				
6. Quality of Work				
Complete, thorough				
7. Work Habits/Time Management				
Disciplined, turns in work on time				
8. Writing Skills				
Produces compositions which reflect control, insight, and maturity				
9. Reading Skills				
Demonstrates excellent comprehension of complex or demanding texts				
(For office use only)				

Please add any other comments about this student that will help the selection committee make a decision. Use the back of this form to comment on specific strengths and/or weaknesses.

Name (Print):		_ Date:
Signature:	School:	
Subject(s)/Grade Level(s)/Date(s) you taught ap	plicant:	



The Commonwealth Governor's School Other Teacher/ Mentor Recommendation Form for Student Application

This box is to be completed by the applicant before the form is presented to the teacher.				
Student Name: _	Last	First	M.I.	

Teacher Directions:

- Check one box for each criterion using the following rating scale:
- BA Below Average A - Average E - Excellent (top 10%) O - Outstanding (top 5%) Mark one (and only one) box for every criterion. DO NOT mark between two categories.
 - **NOTE:** Not following this instruction hurts students in the application process.
- Sign, date, and seal recommendation in envelope and return to the guidance office.

Criteria	BA	Α	E	0
1.Motivation and Persistence				
Curious, self-starter, shows initiative, accepts criticism				
2. Communication with Peers				
Demonstrates sensitivity, respect for others and opposing viewpoints, shares				
ideas				
3. Academic Interest				
Intense interest in and appreciation for learning new things; makes				
connections				
4. Dependability				
Consistent, disciplined, supports others				
5. Preparation				
Prepared to participate fully in discussions and activities				
6. Quality of Work				
Complete, thorough				
7.Work Habits/Time Management				
Disciplined, turns in work on time				
8.Perseverance				
Demonstrates sustained commitment to tasks, groups, and/or				
clubs				
9. Independence				
Demonstrates the ability to solve challenging problems or				
complete difficult tasks with minimal assistance from adults				
(For office use only)				T
Please add any other comments about this student that will help the selection co Jse the back of this form to comment on specific strengths and/or weaknesses.	mmittee	make	a decis	ion.
Name (Print):		Date:		
School:				

Subject(s)/Grade Level(s)/Date(s) you taught applicant:



The Commonwealth Governor's School CERTIFICATION OF INTENT TO ENROLL

(for students <u>NOT</u> currently enrolled in King George County Public Schools)

Current School:

Out-of-County			
	(School)	(County)	(State)
Private			
	(School)	(County)	(State)
Home School		_	

I hereby certify that I will enroll my son/daughter as a full-time student in the appropriate public school in King George County if my child is accepted into the Commonwealth Governor's School program.

Student Name	Date
Parent Name (print)	Parent Signature
Plea	ase return this form to:

Amanda Higgins Coordinator of Gifted Services King George County Schools PO Box 1239 King George, VA 22485



The Commonwealth Governor's School Strength of Academic Program Rubric

In addition to ability and achievement testing, a student's GPA and strength of academic program will be included in Section 1 of the Candidate Profile Sheet. A student's strength of academic program can earn up to 6 points.

2 Points – Evidence of on Grade Level Coursework

4 Points – Evidence of <u>Some</u> Above Grade Level Coursework

6 Points – Evidence of <u>Always</u> Above Grade Level Coursework

Grade	2 Points	4 Points	6 Points
8 th Grade	Algebra 1 plus 1 additional advanced course Or Geometry alone	Algebra 1 plus 2 additional above grade level courses Or Geometry plus 1 additional above grade level course	Algebra 1 plus 3 additional above grade level courses Or Geometry plus at least 2 additional above grade level courses
9 th grade	Little to no evidence of above-grade level coursework	3 or more courses considered above-level coursework	Geometry or Honors Alg II Advanced English 9 Advanced Earth Science AP Human Geography World language (minimum level 2)
10 th Grade	Little to no evidence of above-grade level coursework	3 or more courses considered above-level coursework	Adv. Alg 2 or Math Analysis or DE Pre-Calculus Advanced English 10 Advanced Biology AP World History
11 th Grade	Little to no evidence of above-grade level coursework	3 or more courses considered above-level coursework	4 or more courses considered above-level course work



Academic Information Chart

Please circle the corresponding point value with the percentile or GPA and then write the number of points at the bottom of each row. Then transfer the point value onto Section I of the Candidate Profile Sheet.

Ability N	Measure		ement 1 mprehension	Achieve Total		GPA	
Percentile	Points	Percentile	Points	Percentile	Points	GPA = x	Points
99	20	99	20	99	20	$x \ge 4.0$	20
98	19	98	19	98	19	$3.95 \le x < 4.0$	19
97	18	97	18	97	18	$3.9 \le x < 3.95$	18
96	17	96	17	96	17	$3.85 \le x < 3.9$	17
95	16	95	16	95	16	$3.8 \le x < 3.85$	16
94	15	94	15	94	15	$3.75 \le x < 3.8$	15
93	14	93	14	93	14	$3.7 \le x < 3.75$	14
92	13	92	13	92	13	$3.65 \le x < 3.7$	13
91	12	91	12	91	12	$3.6 \le x < 3.65$	12
90	11	90	11	90	11	$3.55 \le x < 3.6$	11
89	10	89	10	89	10	$3.5 \le x < 3.55$	10
88	9	88	9	88	9	$3.45 \le x < 3.5$	9
87	8	87	8	87	8	$3.4 \le x < 3.45$	8
86	7	86	7	86	7	$3.35 \le x < 3.4$	7
85	6	85	6	85	6	$3.3 \le x < 3.35$	6
84	5	84	5	84	5	$3.25 \le x < 3.3$	5
83	4	83	4	83	4	$3.2 \le x < 3.25$	4
82	3	82	3	82	3	$3.15 \le x < 3.2$	3
81	2	81	2	81	2	$3.1 \le x < 3.15$	2
80	1	80	1	80	1	$3.0 \le x < 3.1$	1
Total		Total		Total		Total	