

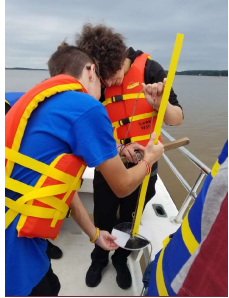
The Commonwealth Governor's School

Career & College Pathways Night
Stafford County Public Schools
November 15, 2023

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Overview

- Established in 1998
- Six total sites across four counties with 12 participating high schools
- School within a school model
 - Half day program at 3 different sites within Stafford County focused on core content areas (mathematics, science, English, social studies)
 - Colonial Forge HS
 - North Stafford HS
 - Stafford HS
 - **In order to participate in CGS, students must transfer and become a full-time student at the CGS site high school.**
 - Starting with the Class of 2028 (current 8th graders), the highest scoring students will be assigned to their CGS site based on their home address (NOT by their zoned high school).



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Overview (continued)



- Interdisciplinary approach to learning
- Focused on helping students see the connections between content areas and learning big picture concepts
- Access to real-world, relevant learning experiences in all content areas



EXAMPLES

- French Revolution Salon
- Henrietta Lacks, Genetics, & Ethics
- Astronomy & Equations of Ellipses

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Overview (continued)

- Implementation of a Gifted Instructional Model
 - Pace
 - CGS courses move at a much faster pace than the same course in a comprehensive high school allowing students to feel challenged as they work through new material.
 - Process
 - Focus on critical thinking skills that allow students to problem-solve, analyze, and dissect material, primary documents, and apply their content knowledge to new situations
 - Product
 - Students are provided choice and options when completing assignments and projects. They often choose the type of product and the content of the assignment (within a theme) in order to demonstrate their mastery.

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Eligibility

- Gifted or high-achieving students AND highly motivated learners
- Students in grades 9-12
- Must successfully complete Algebra I by the end of the spring in 8th grade to be eligible to apply
- CGS utilizes a **merit-based application** model, which is unique amongst all high school programs offered in Stafford County.



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Field Experiences

- 6-8 field experiences per grade level per year; 1-2 per subject area



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Culminating Project

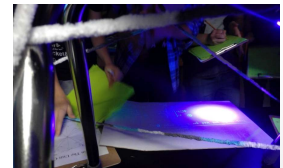


- Research project
- Focused on student's personal interest
- Receive an elective credit at the conclusion of 12th grade
- Opportunity to work with an expert in selected field of research
- Intersession model that allows students to work exclusively on research throughout the school year

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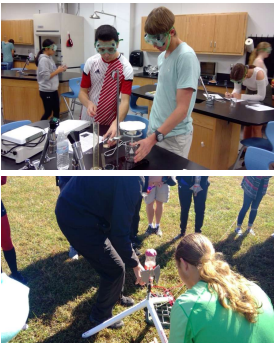
CGS Mathematics

- Pathway 1 – completed Algebra I in MS
 - Honors Algebra II,
 - Honors Geometry,
 - AP Precalculus,
 - AP Statistics
- Pathway 2 – completed Algebra I & Geometry in MS
 - Honors Algebra II,
 - AP Precalculus,
 - AP Calculus AB,
 - AP Statistics **OR** AP Calculus BC & Multivariable Calculus



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CGS Science




- AP Environmental Science
- AP Biology
- DE Chemistry
- AP Physics 1

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CGS English

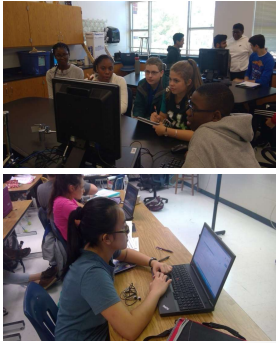
- Honors English 9
- Honors English 10
- AP Language & Composition
- AP Literature & Composition



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CGS Social Studies

- AP European History
- AP Government
- AP U.S. History
- AP Human Geography



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College Credits



- 13 Advanced Placement Courses
 - If testing in all courses and earning a minimum passing score of a 3, students can earn a minimum of 39 college credits
- 1 Dual Enrolled Course
 - 4 college credits in Chemistry 101 & 101 Lab

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College Preparation

- What types of college acceptances do CGS graduates earn?
 - In-State Acceptances
 - CGS graduates have been accepted to every college and university in The Commonwealth of Virginia, including:
 - Washington & Lee University
 - University of Virginia
 - University of Richmond
 - College of William & Mary
 - Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University
 - George Mason University
 - James Madison University
 - Virginia Military Institute
 - University of Mary Washington
 - Christopher Newport University

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College Preparation (continued)

- Out-of-State Acceptances
 - CGS graduates have attended all 8 Ivy League schools, including:
 - Harvard University
 - Yale University
 - Princeton University
 - Brown University
 - Columbia University
 - Cornell University
 - University of Pennsylvania
 - Dartmouth College
 - CGS graduates have also attended other prestigious, highly selective schools across the country including:
 - All of the federal military academies & several senior military colleges
 - See the full list at <http://cgsva.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/College-Acceptances-Collective.pdf>
- International Acceptances
 - The American International University in London
 - University of Seoul
 - London School of Economics & Political Science

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Extracurricular Involvement



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CGS Support

- Peer Support
 - Cohort model
- Academic Support
 - Tutoring
 - Note-taking, Time Management & Scheduling Lessons
- Social-Emotional Support
 - Lessons on coping with stress & anxiety
 - CGS Program Counselor focused solely on CGS regional students
- PTO Social Events
 - Fall Social
 - Snowball Semi-Formal Dance
 - Summer Picnic



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Application Evaluation

Category	Maximum Total Points
Academic Information <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ability Measure, Achievement Measure 1 (Reading Comprehension), Achievement Measure 2 (Math), & Grade Point Average 	80
Recommendations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> English Teacher, Math Teacher, Other Teacher, Teacher/Mentor/Coach <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Top 3 out of 4 scores taken 	36
Portfolio & Interview <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Includes 3 work samples Panel interview 	30 - Portfolio 36 - Interview
Grand Total	182

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Application Process Timeline

- CGS Family Information Night
 - December 4 – Stafford HS – 6:00pm-7:30pm
- Application Process
 - The CGS application is **SEPARATE** from the lottery-based systems for the SCPS Specialty Centers or the ATI at UMW.
 - The application can be found [here](#).
- Application opens online – November 15, 2023
- Application closes (including portfolio projects) – January 5, 2024
- Testing & interviews/portfolio presentations will occur between January 8-19 and will be scheduled after applications are submitted.
- Acceptance Notification – February 5, 2024

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Best Wishes & Good Luck!

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For more information, please visit,
www.cgsva.org

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