THE GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL
for
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Prospective Student Pipeline Newsletter #5
February 20, 2023

The Prospective Student Pipeline is a virtual community for families who want to learn more about The Governor's School for Science and Technology (GSST). By subscribing to this newsletter, you'll get information about what's happening at GSST plus notifications of upcoming events for prospective students.

Director's Notes: Ms. Vikki Wismer

Last Call to Apply to Governor's School

As the application deadline approaches, I'd like to offer one more perspective to help families decide whether the Governor's School would be the right choice for their student. We've given you a lot of facts and figures, but I think this mother of three Governor's School students has captured the benefits of our program as

well as anyone could.

Why Governor's School: Reflections from a Mother of 3 GSST Students

My girls all looked into the three strands offered (Bio, Engineering, and Computer Science) and put in their application during their sophomore year of high school in hopes of going there for their final two years. Governor's school is a half day program which starts in the morning for our schools. That allowed all three to do XC and track and other after school events too.

My girls all found their people in those classrooms. Like-minded, focused, engaged, motivated students who all wanted to learn.

My girls all made some amazing connections outside the classroom because of their senior year internships. Hands-on experience with professionals in their field made a huge difference in helping them decide what they wanted to study and the confidence that they could actually do it. They all entered college with the skills to learn and do research, the time management abilities needed to manage campus life, and the self sufficiency to know they could be on their own. I knew they had skills that a lot of students are still trying to figure out after entering college and that gave me peace of mind.

I have to thank the staff and the director for all the focus they gave my three girls. The one-on-one help when they needed it was so helpful.

I am so proud of my girls and so honored we had the chance to experience Governor's school as a family. Ms. Wismer makes everyone feel like they are part of it all. She goes out of her way to make sure the program is running smoothly and that is a huge feat with dozens of schools coming from all over the city. Each school has its own calendar and she manages to make it all work.

My girls are where they are because of the wonderful counselors, mentors, and staff that went out of their way to make sure everything was lined up and all the paperwork was done when it came to applying to colleges.

Many will tell you it is hard. Kids will say it isn't worth it. I promise it is worth it. My girls had to work hard but it set up habits and skills that will last a lifetime and they can tell you it makes a huge difference in success.
Criztina Jean

How to Apply
The process shouldn't take long - our online application asks for some straightforward biographical information, plus the contact email addresses for your current math and science teachers. Your school counselor and teachers do the rest. **Click here** to learn about the application process and apply.

Video of Parent Information Session Available Online
If you didn't have a chance to attend a virtual Parent Information Session, you can view the video here: **https://youtu.be/_RwV78-OZrg**

Timeline for the Applications Process:
February 28: Student online application forms due

March 8: Counselor forms and teacher recommendations due
Mid-April: Decision letters mailed to all applicants
Late April: Date for accepted applicants to accept or decline offer of admission
Early May: Virtual Open House for rising juniors who will be attending the school

Student Awards & Competitions

Governor's School students are competing - and succeeding - at a variety of competitions this year.

Congressional App Challenge

This competition, sponsored by the U.S. House of Representatives, recognizes the students from each district who develop the best app. GSST winners are:

1st Place for Virginia's 1st District: Joshua Markle (Warhill HS) for his app, Milestone, that helps student drivers log their hours spent driving to earn their license.

2nd Place Winners:
● Dow Draper - [Woodside HS]
● Sundeep Tripuraneni - [Grafton HS]
● Raafat Salib - [Grafton HS]
● Sagun Venuganti   - [Grafton HS]

YoungArts Competition

In this national competition, Hannah Hong (Grafton HS), was the winner of a Merit award in the field of Visual Arts.

Upcoming Competitions
Programming: CodeQuest Lockheed Martin, UVA, and VCU
ExploraVision: Sponsored by Toshiba/NSTA, this contest asks teams of students to choose an existing technology that requires coding of any type. The project involves studying the history of the technology as well as developing a vision of how it might evolve over the next 5-10 years.

College Planning Corner with Dr. Ellen Fithian

FREE Week-Long Archeology Field Program At Colonial Williamsburg

Who: Students in grades 9 through 12

What: A week-long program working alongside archeologists at Colonial Williamsburg.

When:
Session One (Rising 9th & 10th graders)
June 26-30, 2023

Session Two (Rising 11th & 12th graders)
July 10-14, 2023

Application is due February 28. To learn more,

and to apply, **click here**.

Tell a Friend About the PSP! Everyone is Welcome!

If you know someone who might be interested in learning about The Governor's School, or who would benefit from any of the more general information provided here, please encourage him/her to subscribe by signing up on the **Prospective Student Pipeline** tab of our website.

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