



Hello Lake Braddock Families,

2/7/2025

Please find all the information and resources for this week in our Newsletter below:

## COMMUNITY EVENTS AND ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

- **Comprehensive School Boundary Review**, next week is the last **VIRTUAL [Community Boundary Review](#)** meeting on [Monday, February 10, 2025, 6:30-8 p.m.](#) It will be capped at 400 participants, and language interpretation will be available. Click the date link to register and receive a **Zoom link**.

- **2025-26 FAFSA Form Now Available**

The 2025-26 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is now available. Any college-bound high school senior — regardless of income — who wants to be considered for federal, state, and school financial aid programs should complete a FAFSA form.

Parents and caregivers are encouraged to work with their children to complete the FAFSA as early as possible. Check each college's financial aid office webpage for deadlines and financial aid forms. Then, [create an account](#) (if you have not already done so) and fill out the [FAFSA](#).

The Virginia Alternative State Aid (VASA) application will be available in late January for students who are unable to complete the FAFSA. To help determine which aid option is right for you, visit the [State Council of Higher Education for Virginia website](#).

### Get Help Filling Out FAFSA From College Access Fairfax

Over the next few months, College Access Fairfax will offer several programs to help students complete the FAFSA/VASA and find and apply for scholarships. Get information on these programs and how to access them on the [College Access Fairfax website](#).

In addition, College Access Fairfax staff are available for virtual one-on-one help sessions to complete the FAFSA/VASA. To request an appointment, families should email [appointments@CollegeAccessFairfax.org](mailto:appointments@CollegeAccessFairfax.org).

- **NOVA VIRTUAL SESSIONS - FOR ALL HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS & PARENTS!**  
Join a webinar to explore program options, gain an understanding of NOVA student support resources, and learn how to enroll in classes. All sessions begin at 6:30pm and run for approximately one hour. Concurrent Spanish-speaking sessions will be available on February 20th and April 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Mar 19, 2025: [NOVA High School Get Nighthawk Ready](#)



## NOVA VIRTUAL SESSIONS FOR ALL HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS & PARENTS

All sessions begin at 6:30pm and run for approximately one hour. Concurrent Spanish-speaking sessions will be available on February 20th and April 22nd.

### Discover NOVA Information Session

Discover how NOVA is right for you. Join our Virtual Discover NOVA webinar to explore program options, gain an understanding of our student support resources, and learn how to enroll in classes.

**December 12, 2024 (Thursday)**

Register here: [bit.ly/novahsdec](https://bit.ly/novahsdec)

**January 22, 2025 (Wednesday)**

Register here: [bit.ly/novahsjan](https://bit.ly/novahsjan)

**February 20, 2025 (Thursday)**

Register here: [bit.ly/novahsfeb](https://bit.ly/novahsfeb)

### Get Nighthawk Ready

You've applied, now get ready to enroll in classes. Join us to learn about completing the advising survey, logging into myNOVA, course modalities, student and academic resources, financial aid, scholarships, and more.

**March 19, 2025 (Wednesday)**

Register here: [bit.ly/novahsmarch](https://bit.ly/novahsmarch)

**April 22, 2025 (Tuesday)**

Register here: [bit.ly/novahsapril](https://bit.ly/novahsapril)

Open to any public or private school students. For questions, contact: [admissions@nvcc.edu](mailto:admissions@nvcc.edu)



- **Where to Get Immunization - Fairfax County Health Department - Immunization Clinics** call 703-246-7100 for appointments.

<https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/health/immunization/locations>

<https://www.fcps.edu/immunization-resources>

- **The Fairfax County Health Department** has shared a comprehensive document that provides several health care options for families. Click on the link below to review the Health Safety Net Services list:

<https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/health/sites/health/files/assets/documents/pdf/nova-safety-net-providers.pdf>




## FAMILY RESOURCES:

- **Reading Opens the World Book Drive and Family Literacy Fair on Saturday, February 8<sup>th</sup>, 10 a.m.–2 p.m. at the Lorton Community Center, 9520 Richmond Hwy, in Lorton.**

Free books will be available for families on a first-come, first-served basis, so arrive early! Parents and guardians are welcome to choose up to 10 free books per child for home libraries, with a 30 books limit per family. The event will include fun family activities including a DJ, food trucks, and a free Valentine's Day card-making area! For more information, please contact David Walrod: [dpwalrod@fcft.org](mailto:dpwalrod@fcft.org).

- **The Application period for Crisis Assistance will end on 3/15/25, see below.**  
[www.commonhelp.virginia.gov](http://www.commonhelp.virginia.gov)


## ENERGY ASSISTANCE GET HELP WITH HEATING OR COOLING

 <b>FUEL ASSISTANCE</b>	 <b>CRISIS ASSISTANCE</b>	 <b>COOLING ASSISTANCE</b>
helps with home heating costs during the coldest months of the year. Open application period: <b>the second Tuesday in October through the second Friday in November.</b> Approved applicants will be notified of their benefit amount in late December. Payments begin in January and continue through April or until the benefit has been exhausted.	helps households that have no heat or are in imminent danger of being without heat. Open application period: <b>November 1 through March 15</b> for heating equipment repair/purchase/maintenance and a one-time-only heat security deposit. Open application period: <b>the first business day in January through March 15</b> for purchase of home heating fuel and payment of a heat utility bill.	helps with cooling costs during the hottest months of the year for households with individuals who are age 60 or older, or under the age of 6, or that include someone with a disability. Open application period: <b>June 15 through August 15</b> for payment of electric utility bill, cooling equipment repair/purchase and/or a one-time only electric security deposit.

### APPLICATIONS FOR ENERGY ASSISTANCE ARE ACCEPTED IN THE FOLLOWING WAYS:


<b>ONLINE</b> <a href="http://CommonHelp.Virginia.gov">CommonHelp.Virginia.gov</a>	<b>PAPER APPLICATION</b> Mail: 12011 Government Center Parkway, Suite 232, Fairfax, VA 22035 Fax: 703-653-1355 Email: <a href="mailto:DFSmycase@FairfaxCounty.gov">DFSmycase@FairfaxCounty.gov</a> In person: <b>drop off at one of the four DFS office locations.</b>
<b>PHONE</b> Enterprise Customer Service Center 833-522-5582	
<b>IN PERSON</b> paper applications are available at all four DFS office locations.	

Learn more about Energy Assistance and other benefits, services and resources, and how to apply:

VISIT ONLINE Public Assistance and Employment Services (PAES)		OR CALL <b>703-324-7500</b> , Monday through Friday, between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.
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Where a TTY number is not indicated, use 711/Virginia Relay.  
Reasonable accommodations provided upon request, call 703-324-7500.



- **The NEW [FCPS Family Academy](#)** promotes connections and collaborations between families, educators, and the community. They have classes, webinars, workshops, and programs offered by Fairfax County Public Schools to help families support their students' needs and learning at home.
- **Register for [FREE online webinars](#) offered by the Family Resource Center.** There is also a library of [archived webinars and workshops](#) with great resources to families.

Sign up for the [FRC newsletter](#)

- **FCPS [Digital Resources - Information for Families and Educators](#)** - follow the link and you will find resources from FCPS and the community on a wide variety of topics to help families and educators support student success. Email [frc@fcps.edu](mailto:frc@fcps.edu) or call **703-204-3941** the [Family Resource Center](#) for more information.
- The **Getting to Know FCPS** interactive orientation seminar provides information about the school system, the links between family engagement and student achievement, school staff you should know, and programs and technology considerations for families. The orientation includes a discussion that is helpful for families new to the United States. The [Family Academy Catalog](#) page has registration information and dates this orientation will be offered in English, Arabic, Korean, and Spanish.
- **Varsity Tutors- Online Tutoring Services at no cost to families** - FCPS is partnering with **Varsity Tutors** to provide students and families with extra resources for learning (no longer Tutor.com). Every student can take advantage of Varsity Tutors' services, at no cost, including weekly live online classes, on demand 24/7 chat tutoring, essay editing, study resources such as recorded content, practice problems, and diagnostic tests. Learn more [HERE](#).
- **School Attendance at Lake Braddock Secondary School** - Parents and caregivers can now report up to two consecutive full-day absences using **ParentVUE**. Click on the link below to learn how to do it. [school attendance](#).

<https://lakebraddockss.fcps.edu/attendance-reporting>

- **Need to activate your ParentVUE account?**

[SIS ParentVue videos](#) are available on the FCPS website. SIS ParentVue is an invaluable tool for families to stay connected to their students' learning, especially in middle and high school.

To obtain a ParentVUE activation code for Lake Braddock SS contact:

Middle School: Angela Santizo [assantizo@fcps.edu](mailto:assantizo@fcps.edu)

High School: Sandra Coleman [SMColeman@fcps.edu](mailto:SMColeman@fcps.edu)

- **Parent Advocacy Handbook**, this contains answers to the many questions parents or guardians may have about the school system and how they can best advocate for their student at the various stages of their school experience.

<https://www.fcps.edu/parentadvocacyhandbook>

- **[Youth Behavioral Health Services Extend to Local Community Centers](#)** Mental health support for children and youth is a priority for Fairfax County.

Community-based behavioral health services for youth and families are now available at three community centers. These centers will provide evidence-based treatment to individuals ages 5 to 18 in need of behavioral health services.

Mental health support for children and youth is a priority for Fairfax County, and our [Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board \(CSB\)](#) is now offering new community-based behavioral health services for youth and families at three community centers.

- **JSSA/ Healthy Minds Fairfax JSSA** Transitions Program provides care coordination, linkages to community resources and supports, and peer-to-peer support for transition-age youth (16 – 25 years of age) who are:

- Experiencing intensive needs across multiple life domains
- Not currently being served by other care coordination or case management programs.

The program is provided free of charge to any eligible residents of Fairfax County.

**For more information contact: Andrea Carpenter, JSSA- 240-673-1042 and [acarpenter@jssa.org](mailto:acarpenter@jssa.org)**

- **[Parent Encouragement Program](#)** "Encouraging Parents, Enriching Families" (webinars, in-person programs, podcasts, videos) <https://pepparent.org/>

- **Parenting Education Program through Fairfax County**

[https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/familyservices/children-youth/parenting-education-programs?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=govdelivery#classes](https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/familyservices/children-youth/parenting-education-programs?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery#classes)

- **Military Families Resources**

<https://www.fcps.edu/registration/military-families>

- **Check out the Library Events:**

#### **Burke Centre**

<https://librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov/calendar?cid=6524&t=d&d=0000-00-00&cal=6524&cm=3436&inc=0>

#### **Kings Park**

<https://librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov/calendar?cid=6524&t=d&d=0000-00-00&cal=6524&cm=3446&inc=0>

#### **Pohick Library**

6450 Sydenstricker Rd  
Burke, VA, 22015-4274

<https://librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov/calendar?cid=6524&t=d&d=0000-00-00&cal=6524&cm=3452&inc=0>

#### **LBSS EVENTS:**

- **Join the Lake Braddock Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA)**

<https://lbspsa.org/>

**Next meeting: Monday March 10<sup>th</sup>, from 7-8pm- Library room 3,  
enter through door 1**

## YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES:

- **College Partnership Program (CPP)- Lake Braddock SS**

The goal of the College Partnership Program (CPP) is to systematically mitigate the impact of barriers to access and opportunity, and support students who are from populations that are historically underrepresented on college campuses.

The mission of CPP is to provide students with equitable access to postsecondary opportunities and activities necessary for college and career readiness.

Each year, there is an application process for the College Partnership Program.

The application deadline is February 28, 2025: <https://tinyurl.com/u2e3hme3>.

- **INTERESTED IN A CAREER IN THE MILITARY??**

We will be offering the ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery) test at Lake Braddock **Tuesday, February 25, 2025 at 8:00am in the Lecture Hall**. To learn more about the ASVAB or view practice tests please visit [this site](#). If you are a junior or senior and interested in taking the ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery) please sign up at the link below by February 14th. You must be on a school computer and [sign up here](#).

**ADDITIONALLY: Students must turn in [parent permission form](#)!!**

- **NOVA Information and Engineering Technologies (IET) Career Days**

NOVA is excited to invite **high school seniors** to participate in their annual Information and **Engineering Technologies (IET) Career Day on Thursday, March 6, 9am - 2pm**. During the event, students participate in breakout sessions led by industry professionals and NOVA Staff, learn more about in-demand career paths, tour NOVA's Annandale campus and learn about the benefits NOVA has to offer. Once LBSS has a minimum of 25 students registered, NOVA will arrange for a free charter bus to the event. A box lunch is provided free for all attendees.

This event is FREE and offer students a unique opportunity to explore various in-demand career pathways within the IET Division, including:

- NOVA Admission, Dual Enrollment and Workforce Opportunities
- Computer Science and Information Technology
- Data Center Operations and Engineering Technology (Mechatronics)
- Cybersecurity and Cloud Computing

- Data Analytics and AI
- Emerging In-Demand Careers

Students interested in this event need to:

1. Complete the field trip packet and return it to H106 to Mrs. Kolbenstetter or the Career and College Center to Mrs. Sandy Hunter
2. Register for the event with NOVA [here](#) or in the link attached

- **NOVA OPEN HOUSE**



## Discover NOVA: Open House

**Coming to NOVA this fall? Join us at our open house events this spring!**

Discover NOVA is an in-person, campuswide event specifically designed for our Dual Enrollment (DE) high school students and their families. From DE credit questions to getting your student ID, this event will help you start the semester prepared and ready for success.

At Discover NOVA, DE students can:

- Learn about program options.
- Explore financial aid and tuition payment options.
- Tour NOVA campuses.
- Leverage their DE credits.
- Get assistance with transfer resources.
- Meet academic advisors and more!

**Thursday, March 6: 4-7 p.m.**  
Loudoun Campus

**Thursday, March 13: 4-7 p.m.**  
Alexandria Campus

**Thursday, March 27: 4-7 p.m.**  
Annandale Campus

**Thursday, April 3: 4-7 p.m.**  
Woodbridge Campus

**Thursday, April 24: 4-7 p.m.**  
Manassas Campus

**[Click here to register.](#)**



**Register for a chance to win a \$500 scholarship at the events!**

**Registration link:**

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdSpg5XbrwyVDeV6OuCs6Va\\_CjzXtGOzBFzAYxPrTa2oG0CcA/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdSpg5XbrwyVDeV6OuCs6Va_CjzXtGOzBFzAYxPrTa2oG0CcA/viewform)



- **Academy Open Houses 2025 Updates**

Academy courses in Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) are specialized and technical courses offered at various high schools. These courses prepare students for college and careers by integrating academic and career preparation such as health and medical sciences, criminal justice, engineering, fashion, music, computer technology, various trades, etc. Students enrolled in these classes will have the opportunities to participate in shadowing, mentoring, and internships with local businesses and can possibly be provided with transportation between Lake Braddock and other schools.

Due to inclement weather, some of the dates have been changed for FCPS Academy Open Houses.

**See the new dates below:**

- Fairfax County Firefighting Program: February 19<sup>th</sup>, 6:30pm-8pm
- West Potomac Academy; February 20<sup>th</sup> 6pm-8pm

For more the MOST updated information visit this [link](#).

- **Scholarship Information**, in addition to Naviance being the database for scholarships, there is now an FCPS public webpage that includes scholarships available to all FCPS students.

<https://www.fcps.edu/scholarships-fcps-students>

- **Look to the Future!**

College and Postsecondary virtual recordings now available. Recordings include:

- Paying for College
- Exploring Naviance Student
- Considerations for Students with Disabilities in High School vs. College
- AP, DE, and IB in FCPS
- Standardized Testing in the College Process
- Scholarship 101
- NOVA: The Community College Option
- Are you Common App Ready
- NOVA: La Opcion del Colegio Comunitario
- NOVA: Certificates & Workforce Development Programs

<https://www.fcps.edu/academics/academic-and-career-plans/college-education-planning/events-college-and-career-planning#virtual-postsecondary-nights>

- **ARE YOU INTERESTED IN A CAREER IN COSMOTOLOGY?** Check out the link below.  
<https://www.hairdresserstrong.com/shadow-program>

- **Earn College Credit with FCPS ACE**

Earn college credit online, anytime, with FCPS ACE! Eighteen classes, across business, apprenticeship, and health & medical are now certified for college credit through the American Council on Education. These courses provide a pathway to academic credit, facilitating transitions to college and career success. To register click [HERE](#)

Certified courses are offered in the following areas: **Health & Medical, Education, IT/Cyber, Business.**

### **JOB READINESS AND EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

- **BritePaths and [the Financial Empowerment Center at South County](#)** are offering free virtual consulting services and workshops to help with your personal finances, job search and more.
  - Financial Mentoring: Work with a dedicated trained volunteer virtually for six months or more on your financial goals. The volunteer is there to guide you and teach you skills pertinent to your life! If interested, please email [CRogers@Britepaths.org](mailto:CRogers@Britepaths.org)
  - One-on-One, Confidential Coaching: Free and Confidential Coaching and Consulting. To book an appointment call 703.704.6101 or email [info@FECSoco.org](mailto:info@FECSoco.org), or click here: <https://fecsoco.timetap.com/#/>
- 3. **BritePaths Workforce Development-** helps Northern Virginia job seekers navigate the job search process and find meaningful employment. It is designed to work with under- or unemployed men and women in an individualized and coordinated way to ensure that their workforce development needs are met. All services are free, and most are offered virtually.

<https://britepaths.org/our-services/workforce-development/>

## ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE CLASSES

- **FCPS - Adult English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)**- Click on the link below for more information about testing locations for classes.

<https://www.fcps.edu/academics/adult-education-academics/esol-classes>

- **English Empowerment Center:** Do you know someone who wanted to register for class with the Empowerment Center but missed the registrations? They can fill out the [Information Request Form](#) to hear about upcoming spring classes. The Center also encourages students to study on their own with [USA Learns](#).

<https://englishempowermentcenter.org/>

- **ESLIM (English as a Second Language and Immigrant Ministries)**

<https://eslim.org/students/classes-schedules/>

- **Fellowship Baptist Church:**

<https://www.fellowshipbaptistva.org/english-classes>