



Hello Lake Braddock Families,

3/28/2025

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

## COMMUNITY EVENTS AND ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

- **FREE BOOKS FOR ALL!** The **Reading Opens the World Book Drive and Family Literacy Fair** has been rescheduled to **Saturday, April 26 from 10 a.m.–2 p.m.** at the Lorton Community Center, 9520 Richmond Hwy, Lorton, VA 22079. For more information, please contact David Walrod: [dpwalrod@fcft.org](mailto:dpwalrod@fcft.org), 703-451-6840.

- **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).

- **Discover NOVA: In-Person Open House**

Coming to NOVA this fall? Discover NOVA is an in-person, campuswide event specifically designed for our first-year students. From application questions to getting your student ID, this even will help you start the semester prepared and ready for success.

You can learn about program options, explore financial aid and tuition payment options, Tour NOVA campuses, connect with community partners, get assistance with transfer resources, meet academic advisors and more!

**Register here for a chance to win a \$500 scholarship at these events! All events take place from 4-7 PM at each campus.**

**Woodbridge Campus:** April 3 from 4-7 PM

**Manassas Campus:** April 24 from 4-7 PM

[Register Here](#)

- **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:**

- **Spring/Summer Camps- see websites below**

[Fairfax County Park Authority Camps](#)

[Guide to Summer Camps Outside of FCPS](#)

[Summer Learning at FCPS](#)

[Therapeutic Recreation Camps](#)

**Summer Camp Open House programs for students with disabilities – March 28<sup>th</sup> from 6:30-8pm at Jim Scott Community Center: [RSVP by clicking HERE](#)**

[Seasonal Celebrations and Adult Summer camps](#)

- [Fairfax County Department of Family Services Parenting Resources](#)

Next free Virtual Café will discuss “The Power of Playing in Parenting” on Tuesday, April 8<sup>th</sup>. Any Fairfax County parents or guardians with children ages 0-18 years old can join through [MS Teams](#) at <https://bit.ly/4bzJYpP>.

For more information or to preregister, email: [buildingstrongerfamilies@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:buildingstrongerfamilies@fairfaxcounty.gov) or call 703-324-7720

- **Northern Virginia Tax-Aide 2025:** <https://www.novataxaide.org/>
- **NVFS Care Navigation.** Care Navigation is a short-term service to facilitate connection (not an ongoing direct clinical service). Families and young adults up to age 25 can meet staff in person or virtually, have an assessment and a care plan that addresses barriers to obtaining mental health and substance use services.

HopeLink is serving the majority of Fairfax children and young adults and NVFS will be serving our typical population of Spanish speaking immigrant families, providing a higher level of care navigation in the form of brief case management to address barriers.

[HOPELink Behavioral Health](#)

- **PEATC (Parent Educational Advocacy Training Center)**

PEATC is Virginia’s federally mandated Parent Training and Information Center (PTI). PEATC has staff in [your region of the state](#), ready to provide free and confidential assistance to Virginia’s families of students receiving special education services. Read the [Special Education Family Support Centers](#) one-pager to learn more.

Call 703-923-0010 or visit [www.PEATC.org](http://www.PEATC.org) for more resources.

### [Special Education Workshop Series – Spring 2025](#)

PEATC presents virtual workshop series for parents and professionals who want to learn more about special education in Virginia. Choose one, multiple, or all of these informative workshops to attend! Click on the link above to register.

Wednesdays

April 9 – From Referral to Eligibility

April 23 – Anatomy of an IEP

May 7 – Measurable IEP Goals

May 21 – Ins and Outs of IEP Meetings

June 4 – Dispute Resolution Options

Each workshop will start at 6:30 p.m. and last approximately 1 to 1.5 hours. Read descriptions for each workshop at [peatc.org/events](http://peatc.org/events). *These sessions will not be recorded.*

- **Early Childhood Academy is a free, self-paced online course for families of young children** (birth through age six) **with disabilities & developmental delays**. Parents are a child's first and most important teacher and help set a strong foundation for lifelong learning and success! In this 5-week online program, families of children with disabilities learn about supporting their child's early learning and development and preparing them for kindergarten and beyond. The training will take approximately 7 hours and can be accessed anytime during the 5-week timeframe.

[April 25, 2025 - May 20, 2025](#) **Click the dates to register.**

- **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](#)

- **Office of the FCPS Ombuds** is here to help! Their office serves as:
  - An independent, confidential resource for students, families, community members and employees
  - Informal help to answer questions, resolve concerns, and voice complaints regarding FCPS matters
  - Call: 571-423-4014                      Text: 571-496-8284                      Email: [ombuds@fcps.edu](mailto:ombuds@fcps.edu)
- **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.
- **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/>

- **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:**



The poster features a light blue background with the text "LBSS PTSA COMMUNITY YARD SALE" in large, bold, dark blue letters. A megaphone icon is positioned to the left of a QR code, which is surrounded by a starburst effect. Below the QR code, the date "SAT, APRIL 5" is written in bold. Underneath, the phrase "SPOTS FIRST COME FIRST SERVE!" is underlined. The main body of text describes the event details: "SETUP WILL BEGIN AT 7 AM AND THE SALE RUNS FROM 8 AM - 3 PM. STAY AS LONG AS YOU WOULD LIKE. TAKING PLACE IN THE LBSS PARKING LOT, ONLY \$40 TO RESERVE A SPOT TO SELL.. REGISTER TODAY!". This text is flanked by two hand icons. At the bottom, the deadline "DEADLINE TO REGISTER IS APRIL 4 AT 12:00PM." is written in bold, underlined letters.

**LBSS PTSA COMMUNITY  
YARD SALE**

**SAT, APRIL 5**

**SPOTS FIRST COME FIRST SERVE!**

SETUP WILL BEGIN AT 7 AM AND THE SALE RUNS FROM 8 AM - 3 PM. STAY AS LONG AS YOU WOULD LIKE. TAKING PLACE IN THE LBSS PARKING LOT, ONLY \$40 TO RESERVE A SPOT TO SELL.. REGISTER TODAY!

**DEADLINE TO REGISTER IS**  
**APRIL 4 AT 12:00PM.**

<https://lbspsa.org/online-store/ols/products/yard-sale-parking-spot>

- **Parent Workshop- Little-Known Secrets of Paying for College- on Wednesday April 9<sup>TH</sup>, from 7-8pm, through Zoom**, organized by LBSS PTSA and The College Funding Coach

For more information and to register click on the link below:

<https://www.thecollegefundingcoach.org/class/lake-braddock-secondary/>

## YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES:

- **STEMSkills Summer Program 2025 for Neurodiverse learners**

Pricing and sign up: <https://stemskills.org/stemskills-summer-programs-ages-14-21/>

For more information email: [eduer@stemskills.org](mailto:eduer@stemskills.org)



### Summer Programs '25

STEM Career Exploration for Neurodiverse Learners



- Learn how to ride WMATA Metro
- Visit STEM businesses and network with employers
- Mentorship with industry professionals
- Learn about careers, internships, and apprenticeships
- Visit colleges and universities for STEM education
- Future ready employment skills
- Learn hands-on STEM skills with VT Thinkabit Lab
- Get real world experience at Dewberry Engineers



## Programs & Locations

### 2 Week Program

- STEMskills A- June 30-July 11
- STEMskills B- July 14- July 25
  - Based in Ballston, Arlington with career/training exploration daily



### Dewberry, Fairfax

- June 23- July 18
  - Based at Dewberry Engineering, with job shadows and department learning

Each session is M-F, 9:00 am-1:00 pm

Pricing and signup at [www.stemskills.org](http://www.stemskills.org)

For more information email: [eduer@stemskills.org](mailto:eduer@stemskills.org)



- **Genesys Works: Where Tomorrow's Workforce Begins**

Genesys Works is an opportunity for a successful future! They provide free business and computer skills training, a paid corporate internship, and free college help. Opportunity to earn:

- Up to \$15,000 in a paid corporate internship
- An industry-recognized certification
- A successful plan for after high school

To apply go to: <https://genesysworks.tfaforms.net/f/NCRApplication>

- **NOVA's Medical Education Campus (MEC) annual OPEN HOUSE!  
SAVE THE DATE! April 12th from 11 AM - 2 PM.**

**NOVA Nursing, Ultrasound, Phlebotomy, Dental Hygiene etc!**

If students are interested in pursuing a degree or exploring program options at NOVA's MEC, this is an opportunity to learn about all the programs offered, requirements for each program & the application process.

[Register Here](#)

- **Health Medical 101 Spring/Summer Course Offerings- FCPS Adult Community Education (ACE)**

Interested in a career in the health care field? Learn the basics of medical terminology to build medical vocabulary and form an excellent foundation prior to entering the medical profession. Course includes BLS certification (valid for 2 years), Career Readiness tools (resume writing, interviewing skills, dress and appearance, job applications), Career Exploration (current market trends, educational requirements, national credentials, occupational outlooks, externships). These classes are \$299 and includes the tuition, lab, and textbooks required.

**Two Offerings:**

- April 22 – June 12, 2025, on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6AM – 9PM
- June 23 – August 13, 2025, on Monday and Wednesday mornings from 9AM – 12PM

[Register here](#)

- **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 Opción 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>

- **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**

- [Workforce, Innovation, Skills Hub \(WISH\)- Fairfax County Department of Family Services-Employment and Training](#)

The Workforce Innovation Skills Hub is a partnership that provides services designed to help the community to develop its workforce, support business, and cultivate a thriving economy. WISH is a unique, first of its kind workforce and innovation center that helps community residents by equipping participants with job skills and supportive services that helps participants find jobs.

At the WISH Center, community members can obtain the skills and certifications for in-demand employment, connect directly to employers ready to hire, and become empowered to earn a living wage. [Click here](#) to learn more about the WISH Center

- **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/#/>

- **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 \(ESOL\)](#)
- [English Empowerment Center](#)
- [Lord of Life Lutheran Church- ESOL classes](#)
- [Fellowship Baptist Church-ESOL classes](#)