



Hello Lake Braddock Families,

3/7/2025

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

COMMUNITY EVENTS AND ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

- **2025 Family Summit- Beyond Labels: Nurturing a Culture of Belonging**

FCPS is pleased to announce the **2025 FCPS Family Summit - Beyond Labels: Nurturing a Culture of Belonging**, an event hosted by Fairfax County Public Schools in collaboration with a host of internal and external community partners. This in-person summit will be held on **Saturday, March 15th, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at South Lakes High School, [11400 South Lakes Drive, Reston, VA 20191](#).**

All families are invited to attend to come together to create a safer, more supportive, and inclusive community for all. Childcare will be provided during both the morning and afternoon sessions. Special education staff will be available to care for children with high support needs. Language interpretation will be provided.

For more information, please visit the [Family Summit website](#).

[Register for the Family Summit](#)

- **A Social Media Panel for Teens and Parents** will be held on **Tuesday, March 11 from 6:30-8 p.m.** Parents and their teenagers are invited to join a panel discussion featuring young adults sharing their experiences navigating social media when they were teenagers. Panelists will discuss lessons learned about social media, the positive and negative impacts on their well-being, and what they thought their parents did well, or did not do well in monitoring their social media access. There will be time for questions and further discussion.

[Join online via MS Teams https://bit.ly/4hBnRli](https://bit.ly/4hBnRli)

- **Turning 18: What Individuals with Disabilities Need to Consider**

Date: Wednesday, March 12th, 2025

Time: 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

Location: Zoom

Description: Turning 18 is a big deal. An 18-year-old is legally considered an adult in Virginia and can make their own legal, financial, medical, and educational decisions. For some individuals

with disabilities, this will not be an issue. Others may need support. This workshop will share basic information about things that need to be considered as your loved one turns 18.

Presented by PEATC in partnership with Richmond Public Schools

This webinar will be presented on Zoom. It will not be recorded.

[Registration 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.

- **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 April 22nd.

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

- **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 event 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.

Alexandria Campus: March 14 from 4-7 PM

Annandale Campus: March 27 from 4-7 PM

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>

Extended Vaccination Hours. The Fairfax County Health Department will have extended hours for student vaccinations at the following clinics from 2:30-6:30pm:

March 11, 2025 - Joseph Willard Health Center (3750 Blenheim Blvd)

- **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- Registration opens this week, see website below**

<https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/camps>

- **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 for more resources.

- **The Application period for Energy Assistance (Fuel, Crisis or Cooling) will end on 3/15/25, visit the website below.**

www.commonhelp.virginia.gov

- **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](#)

- **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 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

High School: Sandra Coleman 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

- **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

- **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>

- Northern Virginia Tax-Aide 2025: <https://www.novataxaide.org/>

LBSS EVENTS:

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

<https://lbspts.org/>

**Next meeting: Monday March 10th, from 7PM-8:15PM- Lecture Hall-
B135**

enter through door 1

Topic: TikTok-sponsored Create with Kindness Program

This program will bring high school families together for an open and interactive discussion with teens on their online experiences and equip families with practical information and resources to enhance online safety as teens use various digital platforms.

- **Senior Class Mulch Sale, March 15th and 16th**

The PTSA needs students and adults to help with the Senior Class Mulch Sale on March 15 & 16! Proceeds from this sale go directly toward funding prizes and planning for the 2025 All Night Grad Party, so let's make it a success!

Please consider signing up with these two links:

Student Volunteers: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409094EA8A92DA2FF2-54898755-mulch>

- Sign up today and encourage your friends, classmates and teammates to join.
- Do NOT use your FCPS email when registering, as you won't receive notifications.
- Earn service hours for most organizations while supporting a great cause!

Adult Volunteers: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409094EA8A92DA2FF2-54922527-adult>

YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES:

- **2025-26 Academy Reminders**

- [Open House Details](#)

- **March 7, 2025: Last day for On-Time Registrations from High School - After this date, registrations can be accepted for courses on a space-available basis**

- **RISING SOPHMORES & JUNIORS INTERESTED IN STEM**

George Mason University is excited to host the 2025 VALHEN STEM Academy. This unique pre-college experience offers selected participants a series of interactive and hands-on sessions across a wide range of STEM disciplines, held in Mason's cutting-edge labs and facilities. VSA's fun, innovative format connects today's high school students to the STEM majors and careers of tomorrow.

This program is free for selected students. Participants reside overnight on campus for two nights (double occupancy in a suite dormitory setting with an interior, shared bathroom). A limited number of non-residential (day-only) slots are also available. Bed linens, meals, and a daily snack are provided for the duration of the program. Selected students must provide their own transportation to/from the VALHEN STEM Academy.

When: July 30 through August 1, 2025

Where: George Mason University's Fairfax Campus

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Friday, March 7, 2025 at 11:59 PM. Click [HERE](#) for more information

- **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



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

For more information email: 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

- **Fairfax County Neighborhood & Community Services Open Hire Event**

5 – 7 p.m. Wednesday March 26th

10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Thursdays, March 13th

7611 Little River Turnpike, Annandale, VA 22003- Heritage Room 348E

Apply and interview on the spot for different positions. Qualified applicants may fill positions at other locations.

Please bring multiple copies of your resume to the event. If you are unable to attend the open hire, please submit your resume to NCSCCRCCRegion2@fairfaxcounty.gov or call 703-533-5701 for more information.

- **Free Tax Debt Relief Clinic, for Filing IRS & VA Department of Taxation Offers in Compromise- March 20th at 1pm on Zoom.**

To register visit our booking page <https://taxdebtreliance.timetap.com/> or email your request to info@fecso.org

- **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
 - One-on-One, Confidential Coaching: Free and Confidential Coaching and Consulting. To book an appointment call 703.704.6101 or email info@FECSoCo.org, or click here: <https://fecso.org/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)-** 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/>

- **Lord of Life Lutheran Church:**

<https://www.lordoflifeva.org/ESL>

- Fellowship Baptist Church:

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