

Career and Technical Education Highlights for November 2021

Career Experiences:

Edison Academy:

Visit to International Spy Museum

On October 25 and 28, almost 80 Criminal Justice students visited the International Spy Museum where they learned about the role spy craft plays in protecting citizens. With almost 20 digital and physical interactives interspersed throughout the permanent historical exhibition's students tested their memory, observation, deductive reasoning, code cracking, strategic planning, and surveillance skills. Students also viewed film archives, spy interviews, spy craft tools of the trade and artifacts from historic spy missions from around the globe.

Culinary Institute of America Visit

On October 22, culinary arts students were treated to a demonstration by Chef Keith Simpkins from one of the world's premier culinary schools, the Culinary Institute of America. The Culinary Institute boasts such alumni as Anthony Bourdain, Michael Mina, Duff Goldman Marcy Blum, and a host of others. Students also had a question-and-answer session where they gained important information about the school's programs of study, tuition, admission process, and career placement services.

Electrical Construction and Engineering Teacher Receives FCPS Excellence Award

On October 13, Joe Wolfe, Edison Academy's Electrical teacher, was recognized at the FCPS Excellence Awards ceremony in the category of Impact on Others. "Joe is quick to share opportunities and to collaborate with others. He takes the lead in offering cross and co-curricular activities with other teachers. He involves his students in community service projects for non-profit organizations and works with local business and industry leaders to place students in paid summer internships and youth apprenticeships while in high school and after graduation. "Thank you, Joe, for your professionalism, dedication, and all that you do for our Edison Academy teachers and students."

Fairfax Academy:

Fairfax Academy will host a Career Connections Expo with professionals from numerous industries including TV Production, Theatre, Dance, Musical Composition, Photography, Language, Social Media and more! Students will spend the day hearing from professionals from all over the country!

Falls Church Academy:

Aspiring Medical Workers Get Hands-On Practice Performing Vision and Hearing Tests across FCPS

Each academic year, students new to Fairfax County Public Schools and FCPS students in grades K, 3-7 and 10 are required to receive a vision and hearing screening to determine their level of medical need. Students who have difficulty seeing and hearing are at greater risk of not meeting their academic potential. This early detection will help the school, parents and students understand the support needed for each student to access their education equally. COVID disrupted this effort for detection, therefore the number of students needing screening is larger this year than in the past.

With thousands of students to be screened, parent volunteers are often called upon to help but this year Falls Church Academy Medical Assistant students were brought in to assist Fairfax County Health Department representatives with the screening. The Medical Assistant students assisting is mutually beneficial because students get real experience, and the schools get much needed assistance for the screenings. At some schools over 700 students are screened. Julie Smith, Fairfax County Health Department Public Health Nurse said, “that would be impossible without the assistance of the Falls Church Academy students. They are professional, courteous and well trained. We so appreciate their help and couldn’t do it without them.”

Students in the Medical Assistant course are interested in moving toward various medical careers in the future and were excited for the opportunity to learn patient communication and record keeping skills as well as how to use the different medical equipment needed in the screening.

Story links:

[FCPS Blog Submission](#)

[NBC 4 Story](#)

Marshall Academy:

Marshall Academy IT students participated in Cybersecurity Awareness Month and Cybersecurity Awareness Week by engaging with virtual guest speakers including Marshall Academy alumni, FCPS DIT, NICE K12 etc. Students also participated in the FAA’s Cyber Symposium.

Marshall Academy students participated in VDOT's Virtual Transportation Career Fair featuring companies in the civil engineering, technology, construction, architecture and environmental career fields.

West Potomac Academy:

Criminal Justice Guest Speaker Series:

October 27 and 28 - The FCPD K9 Unit visited the Criminal Justice classes over two days in the end of October. The visit and demonstration took place outside where students were actively engaged.

October 8 - Mr. Brian Stolarz, a current Criminal Justice student's father, presented to the class. Mr. Stolarz is an attorney who fought to get Alfred Dewayne Brown exonerated from Death Row in Texas. He is the author of the book: Grace and Justice on Death Row and the case was featured on Netflix, The Innocence Files.

Music & Computer Technology:

Sound Engineers from Trilogy Sound Studios presented to ALL Music Tech classes. They discussed careers in Music Production, sharing and protecting your music, original beats, and technology platforms.

Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy:

NOVA Dual Enrollment in PT/OT Level 1 classes- All WPA PT/OT Level 1 students will participate in Nova Dual Enrollment upon completion of 2021-22 year and will earn 3 College Credits in Medical Terminology.

Dental Careers & Medical Assistant:

Dental and Medical Assistants students participated in a multicultural share fair, where students had the opportunity to teach their classmates about their heritage through food, dress, native Languages and family traditions.

Dental and Exploring Health Sciences/Language of Medicine:

WPA started partnering with Ronald McDonald House this school year and are offering academy student service-learning opportunities through their volunteer events. Health & Medical Science students attending and volunteered at the Ronald McDonald House, Red Shoe 5K. They hosted a table for kids sharing good dental hygiene care and promoted the Dental Careers Academy Program. Exploring Health Science & Language of Medicine students also participated in a variety of tasks/responsibilities supporting the Red Shoe 5k charitable event.

Trade and Industrial Education:

Two teachers are now newly trained to teach The National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER) NCCER's industry-recognized credentials provide students and craft professionals with national portability of skills. We will offer the curriculum and exam to our students in Carpentry, Chantilly Academy, Electrical Engineering and HVAC-R, Edison Academy with three trained and qualified teachers.

Cosmetology:

Donna Holshey, Hayfield Secondary, has volunteered as the Cosmetology teacher representative on the VDOE Curriculum Review team for updates to the Cosmetology competencies for the State from November 2021 to February 2022.

JROTC:

The Hayfield Secondary JROTC color guards will be presenting for Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) on Friday, November 5, 2021, at their Fall National Leadership Conference in Washington, DC.

The Lake Braddock and West Potomac JROTC cadets will be marching during a November 11, 2021, Veterans' Day Parade in New York City.

Foundation for Applied Technical Education:

Foundation for Applied Technical Education has voted and submitted for Superintendent approval two new members to the Board, Andy Gurowitz, President, Fairfax Motors and Matthew Hansen, Director, Site Development & Inspection Division County of Fairfax, VA.

Mr. Reid Dudley was awarded Honorary Life Member Status by the Board of Directors for his years of dedicated service to the foundation.

A car wrap has been Board approved to circulate a Kia SUV to be parked at various schools to advertise and promote donation of cars for Automotive students to learn to fix and sell through the Student Auto Sales dealership.

FATE has loaned 9 high school Entrepreneurship programs a total of \$15,900 to begin their businesses in the Entrepreneurship classes. The students will get to keep their profits and repay their loan, a valuable financial life project for our Marketing Students.