



The Commonwealth Governor's School

Stafford County Public Schools

Fall 2025

What is CGS?

Established in 1998

CGS provides gifted and highly motivated high school students a challenging, differentiated, and interdisciplinary academic program of study in the core subject areas of English, mathematics, science, and social studies using non-traditional activities supported by technology at their sites.

6 total sites with 12 participating high schools

3 sites in Stafford County

- Colonial Forge, North Stafford, Stafford



Who Should Apply?



Gifted or high-achieving students **AND** highly motivated learners

Application starts with current 8th graders

Current 9th-10th graders may apply for open seats in specific grade level

Must successfully complete **Algebra I** by the end of the spring of 8th grade to be eligible to apply

For the rising 9th grade class, **90 students are accepted** from the 150-200 applicants each cycle.

What Makes CGS Unique?

Half-day program - Students spend a half-day in CGS courses and a half-day in their home school

Regional collaboration with common instructional planning

Instructional broadcasts across all sites by expert teachers

Field experiences in each content area

Purposeful course alignment to allow for **cross-curricular instruction**

Focus on **research and writing** through four-year culminating experience

CGS English

Honors English 9

Honors English 10

AP Language & Composition

AP Literature & Composition



CGS Mathematics

Pathway 1 – completed Algebra I in MS

- Honors Algebra II
- Honors Geometry
- DE Precalculus
- AP Statistics

Pathway 2 – completed Algebra I & Geometry in MS

- Honors Algebra II,]
- DE Precalculus
- AP Calculus AB
- AP Statistics **OR** AP Calculus BC & Multivariable Calculus



CGS Science

AP Environmental Science

AP Biology

DE Chemistry

AP Physics 1



CGS Social Studies

A photograph of a historical site, possibly a plantation or farm, with a wooden structure and a red wooden tub. A woman in a red vest and white shirt stands behind the tub, looking towards a group of students. The students are standing in a line, looking at the woman. The background shows a wooden fence and trees.

AP European History

AP Government

AP U.S. History

AP Human Geography

Field Experiences

6-8 field experiences per
grade level per year

1-2 per subject area

Extension of classroom
learning

Field Experience / Location	Grade	Subject
Graves Mountain	9	Science
Williamsburg	11	Social Studies
National Archives	10	Social Studies
Air & Space Museum	11	Math
Shenandoah Trip (Overnight)	10	Science
Problem Solving	9	Math
Business Trips	12	Math
Philadelphia	11	Science/Social Studies
Orienteering	12	Social Studies
Physics Workshop	12	Science
Pamplin Park	11	Social Studies
Mock Congress	10	Social Studies
Holocaust Museum	12	Social Studies
Film Workshop	11	English
Poetry Workshop	12	English
National Gallery of Art	9	Social Studies
A Tale of Two Cities	9	English
Pi Day	12	Math

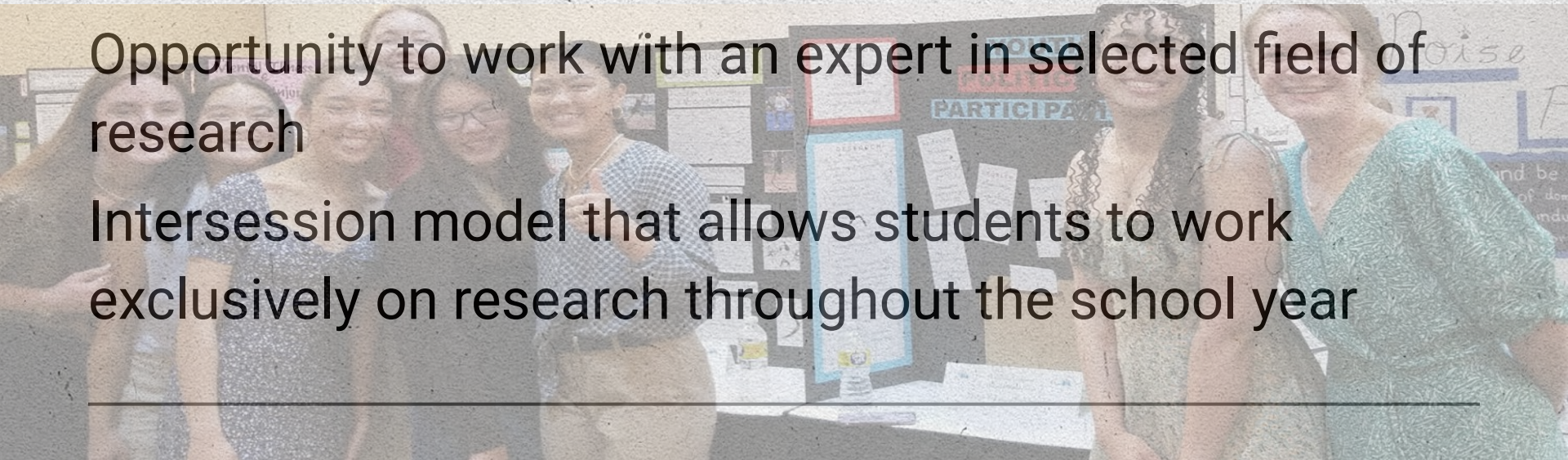
Culminating Project

Research project focused on student's personal interest

Elective credit at the conclusion of 12th grade

Opportunity to work with an expert in selected field of research

Intersession model that allows students to work exclusively on research throughout the school year



Why CGS?

3rd largest Governor's School in the Commonwealth of Virginia (19 total)



Learn more about Virginia's 19 Governor's School
from the Virginia Department of Education



1310

AP TESTS TAKEN IN 12 SUBJECT
AREAS!



89%

SCORED 3+
ON THE AP EXAM



61%

SCORED 4 OR 5
ON AP EXAMS



\$2.5+ Million

SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED TO
GRADUATES

11 dual enrollment credits; 10-11 AP courses for potential transfer credits

College & Post Secondary Opportunities



In-State Acceptances

CGS graduates have been accepted to every college and university in The Commonwealth of Virginia, including:

- Washington & Lee University
- University of Virginia
- University of Richmond
- College of William & Mary
- Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University
- George Mason University
- James Madison University
- Virginia Military Institute
- University of Mary Washington
- Christopher Newport University

All of the federal military academies & several senior military colleges

Out-of-State Acceptances

CGS graduates have attended all 8 Ivy League schools, including:

- Harvard University
- Yale University
- Princeton University
- Brown University
- Columbia University
- Cornell University
- University of Pennsylvania
- Dartmouth College

University of Chicago

International Acceptances

- The American International University in London
 - University of Seoul
 - London School of Economics & Political Science
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Extracurricular Involvement & Social Events

Extra-curriculars

- Sports
- Publications
- Music
- Academic Competitions
- CTSOs



PTO Social Events

- Fall Social
- Snowball Semi-Formal Dance
- Summer Picnic



CGS Support



Peer Support

Cohort model

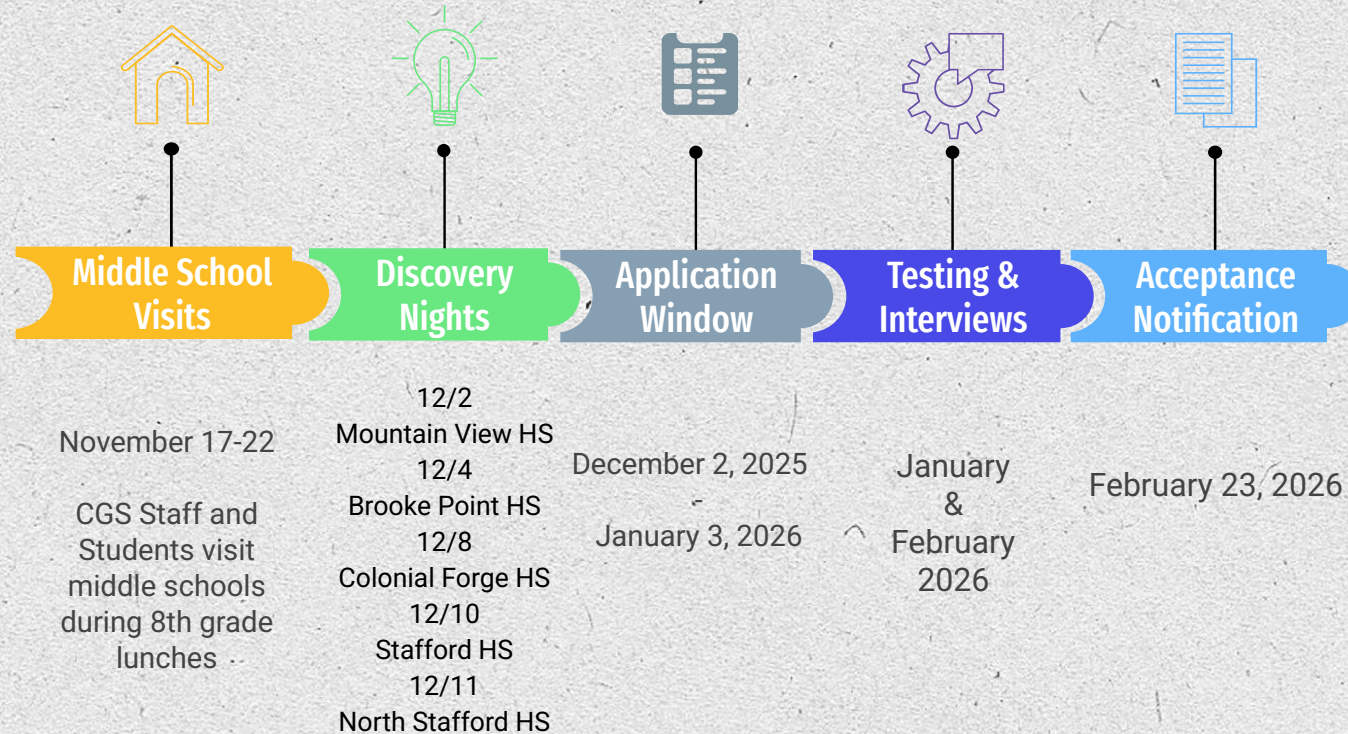
Academic Support

- Tutoring
- Note-taking
- Time Management

Social-Emotional Support

Coping with stress & anxiety

Application Process



Contact Information



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For more information, please visit, www.cgsva.org
