

SCHOOL BRIEFS



Kids Get Library Cards

As part of the ConnectED initiative, designed to enrich K-12 education for every student in America, George Mason Elementary students visited the Alexandria Library's Duncan Branch to have a tour of the library.

During their visit, each student signed up for their own library card. Each child that received a 'student' library card is allowed access to the Alexandria Library's collection of books and online resources. Student library cards allow children to check out three books which do not accrue fines or fees.

For more information about signing up for a new library card, please visit the website at alexlibraryva.org.



Courtesy photo

Social Studies teacher Arlene "Mickey" Moore and Coach Bill Yoast share a moment during the reunion.

Francis Hammond Class Reunites After 50 Years

Coach Yoast and Social Studies Teacher Moore Also Return

The Francis C. Hammond High School Class of 1967 celebrated their 50th Reunion On October 13 and 14, 2017 in Old Town Alexandria. Joining the 1967 graduates that evening were a couple of special guest faculty members, Arlene "Mickey" Moore, former social studies teacher and Bill Yoast, former physical education teacher and coach at both Hammond and later at T. C. Williams.

The class first gathered Friday evening at the Fish Market and followed with the reunion dinner Saturday evening at Hilton Alexandria Old Town.

For further information, please contact Susan Wise at: susan719@hotmail.com

Free College Financial Aid Assistance November 14

Sponsored by The Scholarship Fund of Alexandria

Many Seniors Qualify for \$5,920 on the Spot

Families of T.C. Williams High School seniors, if you need scholarships to help pay for college, your first step is to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (called FAFSA). FAFSA is the gateway to financial aid from the government, colleges, and private scholarships. Many seniors will qualify for \$5,920 on the spot!

Free, confidential assistance with submitting your FAFSA will be available during the Scholarship Fund of Alexandria's FAFSA Completion Workshop on Tuesday, November 14th. Please drop by room C-206 at TC Williams anytime between 4pm and 7:30pm to get your FAFSA finished, enjoy free pizza, and enter for a chance to win a \$1,000 scholarship. Since the FAFSA only takes 45 minutes, you don't have to stay the whole time.



CONTINUED ON PAGE 47



NEW ACADEMY OF HEALTH SCIENCES AT T.C. WILLIAMS HIGH SCHOOL PAVES GUARANTEED PATHWAY FOR CAREERS IN MEDICINE

NEW PARTNERSHIP IS BUILDING A STRONG HEALTH CARE WORKFORCE IN VIRGINIA

Alexandria City Public Schools (ACPS) and the George Washington University (GW) School of Medicine and Health Sciences have established a partnership that creates a Career and Technical Education (CTE) pathway for students interested in careers in medicine and health care. The program will begin to be rolled out in academic year 2018-2019 at T.C. Williams High School, Virginia's largest high school for grades 9 through 12.

According to the World Health Organization, "the world will be short of 12.9 million health care workers by 2035." More specifically, in the D.C. metro region, over the next 10 years there will be an annual shortage of approximately 1,236 health care professionals and a shortage of roughly 776 health care support occupations, according to Labor Insight Jobs and Burning Glass Technologies.

This new partnership between ACPS and GW addresses the workforce shortage in Virginia and across the globe and develops a qualified health care workforce



of tomorrow.

"This is a wonderful opportunity for our students to get a head start on college, have access to a great education and to develop a passion for a career field that has a critical need for future employees. The Career and Technical Education program at T.C. Williams provides students with the chance to fully understand the



field of study they may pursue and make sound decisions about that career choice before they fully commit to it. We are very excited about this unique public-private partnership opportunity with GW," said Interim ACPS Superintendent Lois F. Berlin.

The strategic educational partnership will establish five new Career and Technical Education pathways within the new GW-ACPS Academy of Health Sciences at T.C. Williams High School. It will start with the launch of a biomedical informatics pathway in fall 2018, followed by four additional pathways—sports medicine, pharmacy, emergency medical services and medical laboratory sciences that will launch over the next four years. GW faculty will work collaboratively with faculty from T.C. Williams to broaden and enrich the offerings for the students. Currently,

T.C. Williams offers a nursing and surgical technology pathway in its Health and Medical Sciences Department.

Through the pathways created by the partnership, T.C. Williams' students can begin earning college credits in their first year of the program, which could be as early as ninth grade. For some, this will significantly reduce the amount of time and

money needed to graduate from college and will create various career options upon graduation. The partnership is designed to provide the necessary background education and training for students to choose from the following career paths:

- attain employment immediately after graduation into an entry level medical role in the workforce,
- matriculate into Northern Virginia Community College (NOVA) to attain an associate's degree, or
- transfer into the GW School of Medicine and Health Sciences, through a guaranteed admissions agreement, with college credits towards earning a bachelor's degree. Under the partnership, students who opt to complete their health sciences degree at the GW School of Medicine and Health Sciences will also be eligible for scholarships.

Workforce development in high-demand health care professions is critically important for Virginia. This partnership addresses this priority by bringing cutting edge health sciences education to students at T.C. Williams to accelerate their paths to health care careers. GW faculty are uniquely prepared to help students explore careers that leverage their talents and strengths. As we designed this program, I have been inspired

CONTINUED ON PAGE 53