

*Providing a forum since 1989
for the discussion and sharing
of common educational
concerns and
ideas. Delegates are welcome
from all 88 public schools in
Loudoun County.*



November MTG minutes posted...

Hello LEAP Delegates AND Guests from our November meeting. Due to the large turnout at our "College Planning" event, we wanted to share the "minutes" with a wider audience, so this email is going to more than just delegates. We still strongly encourage our delegates to do all they can to **share this information with their schools. Ideally we would circulate and post it on both school websites and share with PTOs.** Because of the relevance of the topic AND the timing of the school year, we welcome you to **reach out to your school's lead counselor** so that their staff can further share with parents who would appreciate this additional information.

LEAP's secretary, Mrs. Melissa Ganz has put together a fine [review on the November 11 meeting](#). [You can also click on the graphic directly below to open

the PDF document.] This program summary & minutes of the meeting as well as the briefing slides are all listed on the LEAP website in PDF format here

==> <http://www.lcps.org/Page/161339>



LEAP Program Summary

"The Future Is Now. What Are Colleges Looking For?"

November 11th, 2015

Speakers:

- **Dr. Charlotte Klaar, Ph.D., CEP** - Klaar College Consulting
- J. Michael Lunsford Middle School
 - **Carrie Simms**, Principal
 - **Jennifer Calderone**, 7th Grade Counselor
 - **Sue Simpson**, Counselor of Programs and Career Readiness
- **Cathy Hall** - High School Outreach Coordinator, Northern Virginia Community College
- **Rachel Sepelyak** - Assistant Director for Volunteer & Visit Programs, Shenandoah University
- **Maura Walsh-Copeland** - Parent Perspective

November presentations too...

Also included on the LEAP website are each of the presentation slides that accompanied our excellent speakers in November. We are confident that if you found the meeting worthwhile, you will value having the presentations to review, perhaps with your student.

A special note to our GUESTS at our last meeting: We are happy that you joined us for this timely discussion. LEAP is structured to be made up of delegates from all of Loudoun's 88 schools. Ideally we would have two

delegates for each school so that if one delegate cannot attend, the alternate can and vice versa. Quite a few of our schools ONLY have one delegate and a few have none for the 2015-16 school year. **If you are not sure who the LEAP delegate is for your school's parent group, feel free to contact us by email and we will be happy to connect you.**

Getting involved with LEAP ...

If it turns out we have a delegate slot open, we would welcome you to contact your PTO and offer your time to serve. LEAP always meets on the 2nd Wednesday of the month and we have a fabulous line-up of exciting programs planned for the remainder of the school year.

Notes from LEAP's president ...

Wow! I was so, so pleased to see many parents attend LEAP's program headlining "What Are Colleges Looking For". It is never too early to prepare for those college years. They creep up on you before you know it.

The presenters provided a volume of information, and we wanted to make sure you have access to it as a reference. You can find all the presentations listed at <http://www.lcps.org/Page/161339>.

*Please remember to share the information with other LCPS parents. If you have any suggestions or comments, please **email us at LEAP.news@gmail.com**.*

*We look forward to seeing you at our December meeting when we will discuss "**Teacher Diversity in LCPS**". You do not want to miss it on December 9 at 7:00pm. **There is a special meet & greet at 6:30 for LEAP Delegates.***

*Thank you,
Rennea Butler
LEAP President*

So, at LEAP's last meeting...



Full house at LEAP - Veterans Day - November 2015

Dr. Charlotte Klaar served as LEAP's lead off speaker for our "**College Planning**" program.

She discussed the how and when of college planning including details on what's important, key elements to consider, types of colleges, campus visits and even standardized testing. [Dr. Klaar's presentation](#) is available at LEAP's website.

A full list of all presentations given that evening are also available here

==> <http://www.lcps.org/Page/161339>

College Planning

CHARLOTTE M. KLAAR, PH.D., CEP
LEAP PRESENTATION
NOVEMBER 11, 2015

College Planning Begins in Kindergarten

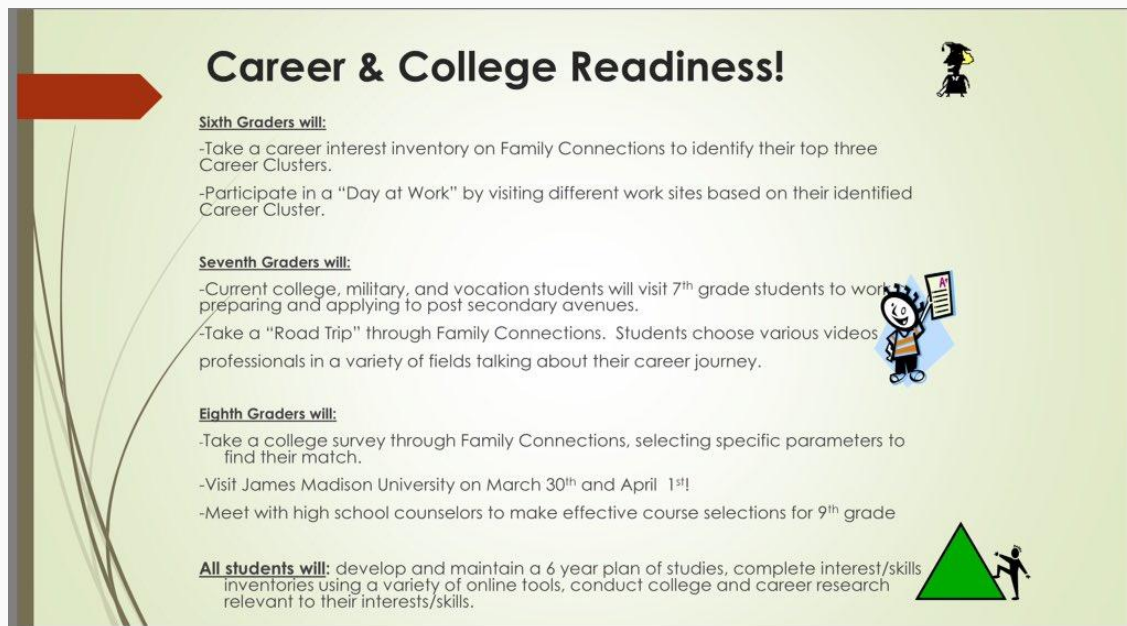


Dr. Charlotte Klaar speaking to parents & teachers at LEAP's November meeting.

Representing **J. Michael Lunsford Middle School** from the Dulles South part of Loudoun, principal **Carrie Simms** and counselors

Jennifer Calderone and **Sue Simpson** discussed several college planning concepts that would apply to the 6th, 7th and 8th grade middle school student.

Of specific interest, they discussed priority with which middle schoolers tend to take interest in college as compared to other pursuits. They detailed the "College in 6" program, the "Family Connections" online tool and **what parents of middle schoolers can do** to prepare. The [JML staff presentation on college](#) is available on LEAP's website.



Career & College Readiness!

Sixth Graders will:

- Take a career interest inventory on Family Connections to identify their top three Career Clusters.
- Participate in a "Day at Work" by visiting different work sites based on their identified Career Cluster.

Seventh Graders will:

- Current college, military, and vocation students will visit 7th grade students to work preparing and applying to post secondary avenues.
- Take a "Road Trip" through Family Connections. Students choose various videos professionals in a variety of fields talking about their career journey.

Eighth Graders will:

- Take a college survey through Family Connections, selecting specific parameters to find their match.
- Visit James Madison University on March 30th and April 1st!
- Meet with high school counselors to make effective course selections for 9th grade

All students will: develop and maintain a 6 year plan of studies, complete interest/skills inventories using a variety of online tools, conduct college and career research relevant to their interests/skills.

The slide features a green background with a red arrow pointing right at the top left. On the right side, there are three small icons: a graduation cap, a person holding a sign, and a person climbing a green triangle.

Cathy Hall, Outreach Coordinator for **Northern Virginia Community College** (NVCC or otherwise well known as "NOVA") offered her presentation to LEAP parents, both delegates and guests, in explaining some of the unique advantages NVCC has to offer right here in Loudoun and the Northern Virginia region.



The [NVCC presentation to LEAP](#) is available on LEAP's website. Cathy discussed the benefits of NOVA and their pre-admission requirements as well as a guaranteed admission program for further study "after the associate's degree" at some of Virginia's other well-known universities.

Get to Know NOVA

- The largest post-secondary institution in Virginia
- 2nd largest community college in US
- Associate degrees and certificates in over 100 areas of study
- Students from 180 different countries
- Flexible schedules
- Low tuition rates



Appearing from **Shenandoah University** and speaking about private colleges and the admissions process was **Rachel Sepelyak**. Rachel's [SU admissions presentation](#) is available on LEAP's website.

[Rachel's presentation](#) from the November meeting is available on LEAP's website. She included details about "application deadlines" and frequent "terms of art" in the college admissions process.

APPLICATION DEADLINES

- Rolling Admissions**
 - Accept applications year round
 - Receive Admissions Notification within weeks of a complete application
- Early Decision**
 - Binding – if accepted your are contracted to attend
 - Will receive an early Admissions Notification (November / December)
- Early Action**
 - Non-Binding
 - Will received an early Admissions Notification (January / February)
- Regular Decision**
 - Receive Admissions Notification around March

Long-time delegate and former LEAP president, **Maura Walsh-Copeland** gave a presentation to parents and teachers on a "**Parent's Perspective**" in preparing students for college. Of specific interest to parents, Maura focused on the path of actions parents & students can take during their time at LCPS.



[Maura's "Parent Perspective" presentation](#) from the November meeting is available on LEAP's website. She cited several resources on LCPS websites that are noted in her presentation -- see slide 11 for detail.

***PREPARING STUDENTS FOR
COLLEGE
AND THE FUTURE:***

***A PARENT'S
PERSPECTIVE***



***Maura Walsh-Copeland
LEAP President Emerita
November 11, 2015***



Coming Up at LEAP's Next Meeting ...

Teacher Diversity in LCPS

December 9

program start: 7pm

delegates meet & greet: 630pm

“BUILDING A STRONG TEAM” TEACHER DIVERSITY”

December 9, 2015 @ 7:00PM

Meet & greet at 6:30PM



What is LCPS doing to achieve a closer match between the demographics of the student and the licensed staff population? Will increasing teacher diversity in LCPS help minority students? LCPS and NAACP discuss their viewpoints of the diversity in Loudoun County.

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