The LCPS Business Partnerships Network currently includes 800+ organizations from the public and private sectors. The LCPS Business Partnership Network collaborates with the Loudoun School-Business Partnership Executive Council, which seeks to be a progressive leader in establishing effective and creative partnerships.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

March is:
- Asset Management Awareness Month
- National Nutrition Month
- National Social Work Month
- Women’s History Month

[Click here for more information.](#)

- March 2 Professional Learning Day
- March 4 National Hospitalist Day
- March 5 National Speech and Debate Education Day
- March 5 National Employee Appreciation Day
- March 6 National Dentist’s Day
- March 10 National Registered Dietitian Nutritionist Day
- March 14 Daylight Savings Time Starts
- March 16 World Social Work Day
- March 17 St. Patrick’s Day
- March 18 School Business Partnership Executive Council Meeting
- March 27 International Medical Science-Leadership Day
- March 2 National Mem and Pop Business Owners Day
- March 30 National Doctors Day

[Click here for more information.](#)

### SPRING TECH CONNECT INTERNSHIP FAIR

**Computer Science, Second Virtual Internship Fair**

On March 24, 2021, the Computer Science Office will be hosting its second virtual internship fair. The event will take place from 4:00 pm - 7:00 pm. The first virtual internship fair was a huge success, and we could not have done it without the help of our partners! Huge shout-outs to BlackBoiler, Custom Software Systems, iQuasar, GDIT, Lyftron Data, and Google for Education for making this event so memorable for all! The upcoming spring event will consist of a variety of computer science-related sessions. As we plan for the second virtual internship fair, we are seeking additional community partners to participate and host sessions! If you are interested in presenting and hosting a session on March 24, 2021, please complete this brief [survey](#).

### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY #2

**Community Connections, Resume & Interviewing Skills**

Our students have gained great experiences and skills to add to a professional resume, and they could benefit from additional assistance translating their experiences and skills into tangible phrases for their resumes. We are looking to support students with refining their professional resumes in addition to practicing interviewing skills. Are you interested in supporting students by critiquing their resumes with common tips and "do's and don'ts" from your professional point of view? All interested individuals should complete this brief [survey](#).

Please share this information with others who may be interested in participating!

### MORE INFORMATION

- [lcps.org/LCPSPartner](http://lcps.org/LCPSPartner)
- [LCPSPartner@lcps.org](mailto:LCPSPartner@lcps.org)
- [@LCPSPartner](https://twitter.com/LCPSPartner)
CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

CAREER CLUSTER - ARTS, A/V TECHNOLOGY & COMMUNICATIONS

"The Arts, A/V Technology and Communications cluster is all about flexing your creativity, design, writing, performing, and multimedia skills. Prepare for careers from graphic design to broadcast journalism through a focus on advanced technologies used in venues including corporate boardrooms, hotels and convention centers, classrooms, and museums." VDOE.

This career cluster includes the following career pathways.

- A/V Technology & Film
- Journalism & Broadcasting
- Performing Arts
- Printing Technology
- Telecommunications
- Visual Arts

PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

Julie Holstein, Broadlands Community Outreach Coordinator, has partnered with Briar Woods Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) and the Briar Woods community to support ComfortCases, a nonprofit organization that supports children in foster care. Over the past five years, Julie, Broadlands Community Outreach, Briar Woods FBLA, and the Briar Woods community have been able to donate hundreds of backpacks for children in foster care. Two years ago, they were all invited to showcase the project on Capitol Hill at the Association of Career and Technical Education (ACTE) conference. Julie has been paramount in working with Briar Woods students and the community making the event successful every year.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Briar Woods High School Senior, Sanchya Kansal, shared a few words about her passion for business. “Since my freshman year, business has transformed my self-confidence and love for my community. Through FBLA and CTE classes, I have come to learn different areas of business such as entrepreneurship and marketing. I have a goal of intersecting business with community service to make a social impact with innovative, diverse, people-centered tactics. As a business leader and activist, I believe that my business skills empower me to direct socially responsible change in my community through entrepreneurship and innovation. I plan on furthering my passion by attending the University of Virginia’s McIntire School of Commerce with a minor in Politics. It is my goal to work with a consulting firm to implement a better social enterprise role in companies through product/service innovation. I envision a future of business that values the importance of social responsibility in which I am leading change that better the lives of others.”

TEACHER SPOTLIGHT

Nancy Cooley is a Business and Information Technology teacher at Briar Woods High School and currently serves as the CTE Department Chair. She has a BS and MS in Business Education from Utah State University and has been teaching high school for 27 years. Nancy taught for two years in Idaho, ten years in Utah (including nine at Utah State University), and 13 years in Virginia at Briar Woods. She has taught most of the courses offered in the Business and Information Technology programs, and her favorites are Accounting and Computer Information Systems. She believes that those two courses will help students be successful throughout their lives. This year, she is teaching the new PTE Honors course – App Development I. Her favorite part of teaching is being an FBLA Adviser. She has been an FBLA adviser for 27 years and has worked with and mentored hundreds of students. She is inspired by being able to watch students become successful and confident young adults. She has taught some amazing students who have gone on to accomplish some incredible things. She loves going to school every day and is so happy she has been able to spend her career teaching others!
**COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS**

**LCPS Vaccination POD**

The Loudoun County Health Department has partnered with Loudoun County Public Schools (LCPS) to help vaccinate over 10,000 LCPS employees. The Health Department and Dr. Goodfriend, Director of Loudoun County Health Department, meet weekly to discuss CDC recommendations, monitor metrics, and provide timely updates that impact the return to in-person learning. The Loudoun County Health Office has worked closely with LCPS Student Health Services Staff, Student Services, Student Support Services, and the Department of Digital Innovations to coordinate a vaccination POD (points of dispensing) at Brambleton Middle School. Through the efforts of this collaboration, it is anticipated that all LCPS employees who wish to have a vaccine will be vaccinated against COVID-1 by mid-March. This partnership continues to have a significant impact on the students, staff, families, and community stakeholders in Loudoun County!

**PARTNER SPOTLIGHT**

Sara Shemonsky is a high school Division Instructional Facilitator (DIF) who is both honored and excited to serve as one of the CTE “Content Liaisons” supporting the wonderful work of the LCPS Business Partnerships Network! Sara has had the pleasure to work with and for the LCPS Partner Team on the monthly newsletter, helping in the proofreading and editing efforts to get the newsletters officially “published” to the public. Sara has greatly enjoyed supporting this work, and she is looking forward to continued collaboration with the CTE, Computer Science, and Community Connections offices in the Department of Instruction! This is Sara’s second year in LCPS serving as a Division Instructional Facilitator. She previously served as a middle school English Language Arts and social studies teacher, a high school Instructional Coach, and Advanced Academic Program Specialist in Fairfax County Public Schools.

**STUDENT SPOTLIGHT**

Dominion High School's AVID (Advancement Through Individual Determination) program, supports students who have a desire to be first generation college students. AVID class of 2021 includes those who have participated in this college and career readiness program since 9th grade. Students are in the middle of applying for post-secondary opportunities. Their freshman year “college and careers” unit is finally becoming a reality as they research and choose a path to pursue following June 2021 graduation.

**SBP Council Spotlight**

Peter Kidd, a two-year member of the SBP Executive Council, is Vice President of Human Resources at Perspecta. Perspecta is comprised of 14,000 engineers, analysts, investigators, and architects who create innovative solutions in defense, civilian, healthcare, and state and local markets. Recently, Perspecta was acquired by Peraton, a portfolio company of leading private investment firm, Veritas Capital. Peter resides in Leesburg with his wife and four children who have all attended Loudoun County Public Schools.
**COMPUTER SCIENCE**

**COMPUTER-SCIENCE TRAINING HUB**

LCPS will soon be hosting a Computer-Science Training Hub through a partnership with CodeVA. The hub will help ensure access to free professional development for teachers in Loudoun County and across Northern Virginia. The Training Hub will connect a network of sites throughout the area to help develop new best practices in K-12 computer science curriculum and teacher professional development. This will also help establish essential points of contact and collaboration with regional corporate interests vested in computer science by their need for a future-ready workforce. To read more about this new partnership, please click here.

**PARTNER SPOTLIGHT**

**Loudoun Codes** is a nonprofit with a mission of providing extracurricular and supplemental computer science curriculum to K-12 students right here in Loudoun County. "When I started volunteering at school with my own kids, I realized I missed my calling," says David Bock, Executive Director of Loudoun Codes. Loudoun Codes supports teachers in the classroom with guest lecturers on topics related to the curriculum, helps organize events such as the "Hour of Code," coaches high school teams for programming competitions, and holds educational events at Loudoun's public libraries. "Loudoun's parents represent some of the most highly educated technologists in the country. We're here to channel that into volunteer activity in our K-12 classrooms," Mr. Bock says.

**STUDENT SPOTLIGHT**

Riverside High School Sophomore, Elizabeth Sanden, shared a few words about her experience in Computer Math. Elizabeth says, "I chose to take this elective last year because I was interested in the Computer Science career field. So far, I have loved learning the basics of Java and overcoming programming challenges assigned to us. A few months into the course, I applied for and was accepted into an IBM Quantum Computing course offered by MIT and other top-tier schools. In the coming months, I will be applying what I have learned in these courses by programming a piece of software for my dad's company. Both courses have shown me the amazing opportunities this emerging field has to offer, and I'm excited to be a part of it!"

**TEACHER SPOTLIGHT**

Douglas Poland is currently in his 17th year of teaching in LCPS and has taught a variety of math and computer science courses. This is his first year teaching at Riverside High School. He has previously taught at the Academies of Loudoun’s Academy of Engineering and Technology (AET) and at Stone Bridge High School. In addition to his teaching commitments, he has coached football and basketball.

Douglas says, “Learning to program gives students a unique outlet to unleash their creativity. Typically, if someone can think of an idea, there’s a way to program it to make it happen.” He enjoys engaging with students and helping them think through the problem-solving process. Douglas finds it rewarding when a student asks, “How can I get this to happen?,” or “I’m trying to get the program to do this...,” and he can help them work through their own challenge.

**FUN FACT**

The LCPS Computer Science Office officially became a department on July 1, 2020. Our office is composed of six team members: One Supervisor, two Elementary School Instructional Facilitators, two Middle School Instructional Facilitators and one Experiential Learning Coordinator. Click here to meet the CS team!

**SAVE THE DATE**

**SPRING TECH CONNECT VIRTUAL INTERNSHIP FAIR**

March 24, 2021
4:00 PM - 7:00pm
Virtual: Sched
More details coming soon.

@CSforLCPS

CSforLCPS @csforlcps - Feb 12
Our CT Crew has gained a new member! Along with the #AlgorithmCrew are proud to introduce Penelope the Programmer. Watch Penelope explain how abstraction can be used while playing Pokémon, building @LEGO_Group, and even when we recycle. youtu.be/ca2KS4f4h_Y

The Computer Science computational thinking crew recently gained a new crew member, Penelope the Programmer. Click here to watch Penelope as she explains how abstraction can be used while playing Pokémon, building with @LEGO_Group, and even when we recycle.

#LCPSPARTNER
PROJECT BASED LEARNING

It’s Halftime - How has distance learning made me stronger?

Elementary Division Instructional Facilitators (DIFs), Michelle Armentrout, Emily Dubrowski, Laura Rahn, and Instructional Facilitator of Technology (IFT) Janie Stockton, at Waxpool Elementary created a PBL project during the PBL101 pilot workshop. This workshop was both launched and completed at the start of the second semester. The students were asked to answer the driving question, “How has distance learning made me stronger?” The public products have been posted on this LCPS Google site that has served as a “landing space” for teachers to upload their students’ work, progress, products, and reflections from this unique and meaningful PBL experience. This site highlights voices from elementary students about what they feel they have accomplished and are proud of during the first semester of this very different year. This site will continue to grow as other teachers and facilitators continue to add student products and reflections. Join the conversation on Twitter using #LCPSHalftime.

CAREER EXTENSION ACTIVITY

Virtual Loudoun / Personal Finance & Economics

Laura Boyd Smidt teaches Economics and Personal Finance for Virtual Loudoun. Students in her Virtual Loudoun Economics and Personal Finance classes all completed the Holland Code assessment. This specific assessment is based on “a theory of personality that focuses on career and vocational choice. It groups people on the basis of their suitability for six different categories of occupations.” Students researched careers based on their individualized results from the Holland Code assessment. Each student created a presentation highlighting three potential careers including a reflection of why the career was chosen. The most valuable element of the assignment is the final cumulative reflection. Students are often surprised to learn that careers they thought they were interested in are quite different from their preconceptions. Understanding the education requirements, daily tasks in a career, average salaries, and job growth outlook allows students to better evaluate their interests and opportunities for their future. Learning more about their personal interests and preferences as they relate to a career allows students to make better course selections as they move on to vocational training or higher education.

VIRGINIA’S 5 C’S

Communicators express ideas clearly, use active listening skills, and anticipate and adjust to audience types, purposes, and settings by using appropriate resources to enhance that expression. Becoming an effective communicator allows learners to successfully navigate school and other settings by exchanging ideas in a variety of situations, considering diverse perspectives, and developing positive relationships.

Communicator Criteria:
- Verbal Expression
- Written/Visual Expression
- Listening Skills
- Communicate in Diverse Environments and/or for Multiple Purposes
- Utilize Technology Effectively to Enhance Communication
- Engage in Feedback, Reflection, and Revision

TO BE FEATURED IN THE NEWSLETTER

EMAIL LCPSPARTNER@LCPS.ORG.
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The LCPS Business Partnerships Network is supported by the following offices within the Department of Instruction. Click on Career and Technical Education, Community Connections, or Computer Science to learn more.

**COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS**
Job for a Day, School Business Partnership Executive Council

**COMPUTER SCIENCE**
Experiential Learning

To get involved, click below to complete the brief **BUSINESS PARTNERSHIPS NETWORK PLACEMENT SURVEY** to connect with the appropriate LCPS point of contact!

For additional information please email LCPSPartner@lcps.org