WCPS PATHWAYS

Purpose Driven Curriculum and Pathways Program
An essential portion of our purpose driven curriculum will be the Pathway Program. The goal of our Pathway Program for WCPS High School Students is to ensure that our experience and course work has a purpose and that our curriculum is preparing students to attend a four-year college, attend a two-year technical college, transition into the workplace, or acquire functional life skills. We want our students, in conjunction with their parents, to begin formulating an idea of what they want to do after high school. This program is an integral part of our purpose driven curriculum, which identifies different academic pathways for our students. These informed decisions will assist students to register in the appropriate coursework and ultimately enable them to be successful in their post-secondary endeavors. The first step to success is to pick a Pathway below.

Which pathway will be your journey to graduation?

Honors Academy
This program will involve a small number of students, selected from all three high schools, who will demonstrate exceptional academic ability and talent. These students will be enrolled in dual credit classes, will participate in Governor's School or WCC Scholars Program, and will focus on STEM initiatives. These students will be challenged with a rigorous curriculum. This pathway is designed for our most advanced students.

College Scholars
This program will involve students who have completed most of their high school requirements and who want to focus on gaining college credits. Students will be required to take a specific set of dual-enrollment classes that will prepare them to enter a four-year college.

College Readiness
This program will involve students who plan to attend college, but who are not ready or interested in a full load of dual enrollment credits during high school. We will ensure these students have all of the necessary coursework to successfully enter most two or four-year colleges.

Transition to Work
A - Students who want to transition to work with an Advanced Diploma
B - Students who want to transition to work with a Standard Diploma
This program is designed for students who possess a clear understanding of what vocation they want to engage in after high school. We will create a partnership with various local businesses to ensure that students are ready to enter the workplace having completed the necessary training and/or obtained the prerequisite certification to begin a job soon after high
school graduation. **Career Readiness**
This program is designed for students who are focused on earning a certification or license for a specific vocation. Students in this pathway will be ready for work immediately after graduation. Students will enroll in classes at WCTC and we will determine if work is appropriate. Consequently, students may opt to register in dual-enrollment vocational courses. Release time to work may be granted while earning high school credits.

**Life Skills/Graduation**
This program will address students who are struggling with the traditional high school curriculum. These students will focus on functional academics which will help them gain independence, basic job skills, and daily living skills.

**Exploring the Pathways to your Future**
Does the phrase "Your choices will affect the rest of your life" sound familiar? It is no exaggeration to say the elective choices you make in high school could pave a gratifying path to your future. As you begin to plan your academic pathway, you will need to make important decisions on what training you want to receive in high school. Educational opportunities in Wythe County can prepare you for your ideal career path. Good careers don't just happen. Careful planning along with good choices and hard work will lead you to a happy and productive adult life as well. The first step on this journey is understanding what your options are and how to make your personal interests fit in the options you have in high school when it comes to coursework.

To simplify this decision making process, the US Dept. of Education developed 16 Career Clusters with their own instructional focus and skill requirements clearly defined.

The Career Cluster framework is useful for students to help connect their required coursework towards a career interest.

Since you are required to take a certain amount of credits in high school, you might as well use your time effectively to obtain the basic skills needed to put you on the path towards a productive career.

Within each cluster, there are elective courses that correspond to a collection of educational opportunities to prepare you for your chosen career.

**Important steps to take to make the most out of your high school career:**

Step 1: Log in and take the Student Interest Inventory on MajorClarity.com to help determine what career choices are available based on what activities you enjoy, your personal qualities, and the subject you like.

Step 2: Explore the 16 career clusters listed in this booklet that best match your interests and talents.

Step 3: Investigate what type of education or training your selected career clusters require. Will you need to pursue a College pathway or a career readiness pathway?
Step 4: Decide which WCPS pathway listed below that will lead you towards your career path:
Honors Academy
College Scholars
College Readiness
Transition to Work
Career Readiness
Life Skills

Step 5: Talk with your school counselor about which high school core classes and electives you will need to take to better prepare you for your career aspirations.

Use the electives on following pages to see which electives your high school can offer you based on your career interests.

How WCPS High School Electives Fit Into the Career Clusters

Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources

Description
The production, processing, marketing, distribution, financing, and development of agricultural commodities and resources including food, fiber, wood products, natural resources, horticulture, and other plant and animal products/resources.

Sample Occupations

WCPS Electives
AGR8073 Applied Ag Concepts
AGR8034 Horticulture Science
AGR8035 Horticulture Science II
AGR8008 Intro Animal Systems
AGR8010 Ag Prod Technology
AGR8088 Veterinary Science
AGR8080 Equine Management
AGR8014 Operating Farm Bus
AGR8040 Intro to Natural Res
AGR8041 Fisheries and Wildlife Management
AGR8042 Forestry Management
AGR8010 Ag Prod Technology
AGR8012 Ag Prod Management
AGR8014 Operating Farm Bus
CTE8672 Welding I
CTE8673 Welding II
ENG2315 Appalachian Studies
Architecture & Construction

Description
Careers in designing, planning, managing, building and maintaining the built environment.

Sample Occupations
Architect, Carpenter, Block/Brick Layer, Civil Engineer, Construction Manager, Contractor, Computer Information System, Manager/Designer, Education and Training Director, Electrician, Mechanical Engineer, Urban Planner/Designer, General Contractor/Builder, Interior Designer, Plumber, Safety Director, Solar Energy Technician

WCPS Electives
CTE8515 Building Trades I
CTE8516 Building Trades II
CTE8530 Computer Aided Design I
CTE8531 Computer Aided Design II
ART 9120 Foundations of Art I
ART9120 Art I
ART9130 Art II
ART9140 Art III
ART9145 Art IV
ART9146 Art V
ART9190 Digital Photography
ENG2315 Appalachian Studies
HPE7640 Adv. PE
CTE8672 Welding I
CTE8673 Welding II

Arts, A/V Technology & Communications

Description
Careers in designing, planning, managing, building and maintaining the built environment.

Sample Occupations
Graphic Designer, Writer, Author, Editor, Photographer, Multimedia Design, Architect, Film Career, Performing Arts, Journalism, Broadcasting, Telecommunications, Radio Broadcaster, Interior Design, Home furnishing coordinator, Curator or Gallery Manager, Costume Designer, Video Editor, Video Production, Stage Designer,

WCPS Electives
ART9120 Art I
ART9130 Art II
ART9140 Art III
ART9145 Art IV
ART9146 Art V
ART9190 Digital Photography
BUS6630 Design Multimedia & Web Tech
MUS9222 Music Appreciation
MUS9225 Music Theory
MUS9233 Intermediate Band
MUS9234 Adv. Band
MUS9245 Guitar Lab
MUS9250 Percussion Ensemble
MUS9255 Piano Lab
MUS9297 Piano Lab II
Business Management & Administration

Description
Business Management and Administration careers encompass planning, organizing, directing and evaluating business functions essential to efficient and productive business operations. Business Management and Administration career opportunities are available in every sector of the economy.

Sample Occupations
Accountant, Advertising Sales, Analyst Sales, Analyst, Auditor, Bookkeeper, Business Consultant, Certified Public Accountant, Chief Executive Officer, Corporate Trainer, Entrepreneur, Facilities Manager, Financial Analyst, Finance Director, General Manager, Human Resources Manager, Investment Executive Legal Secretary, Marketing Analyst, Meeting and Convention Planner, Office Manager, Paralegal, Personnel Recruiter, Public Relations Manager, Receptionist, Sales Representative, Wholesale and Retail Buyer

WCPS Electives
BUS6152 Keyboarding
BUS6621 Office Admin
BUS6612 Computer Info Systems
BUS6630 Design Multimedia & Web Tech
BUS6320 Accounting
BUS6131D DE Business Law
BUS 6810D DE Into to Business
BUS6120 D DE Personal Finance
LAN5110 French I
LAN51200 French II
LAN5130 French III
LAN5140 French IV
LAN5510 Spanish I
LAN5520 Spanish II
LAN5530 Spanish III
LAN5540 Spanish IV
LAN5550 Spanish V
MKT8110 Intro to Marketing
MKT8120 Marketing
MKT8130 Adv. Marketing
MKT8130C Marketing Co-op
ENG1448 Forensics
MTH 3190D Intro to Elem Stats (SVETN)
CTE 6120 Finance (SVETN)

Education & Training

Description
Planning, managing and providing education and training services, and related learning support services.
Sample Occupations
Elementary Teacher, High School Teacher, Middle School Teacher, Principal, Administrator, Teacher Assistant, Coach,
School Counselor, Librarian, Assessment Specialist, Occupation Tech Administrator, Child Care Worker, College/ University
Faculty, Counselor, Curriculum Developer, Education Researcher, Psychologists (Clinical, Development, Social), Social
Worker, Speech-Language, Pathologist/ Audiologist

WCPS Electives
CTE8285 Early Childhood 1
CTE8286 Early Childhood 2
BUS6152 Keyboarding
BUS6612 Computer Info Systems
BUS6630 Design Multimedia and Web Tech
LAN5110 French I
LAN51200 French II
LAN5130 French III
LAN5140 French IV
LAN5510 Spanish I
LAN5520 Spanish II
LAN5530 Spanish III
LAN5540 Spanish IV
LAN5550 Spanish V
MIL7913 JROTC LET 1
MIL7916 JROTC LET 2
MIL7918 JROTC LET 3
MIL7919 JROTC LET 4
MIL7920 JROTC LET 5
MIL7922 JROTC LETA 6
ART9120 Art I
ART9130 Art II
ART9140 Art III
ART9145 Art IV
ART9146 Art V
ART9190 Digital Photography
MUS9222 Music Appreciation
MUS9225 Music Theory
MUS9233 Intermediate Band
MUS9234 Adv. Band
MUS9245 Guitar Lab
MUS9250 Percussion Ensemble
MUS9255 Piano Lab
MUS9297 Piano Lab II
MUS9285 Intermediate Chorus
MUS9289 Adv. Chorus
ENG1215 Yearbook
ENG1410 Drama I
ENG1420 Drama II
ENG1445 TV Production
ENG1448 Forensics
ENG2315 Appalachian Studies
HPE7640 Adv. PE
SOC2900 Principles of Psychology (SVETN)
SOC2500D Principles of Sociology (SVETN)
ENG1171D DE Creative Writing
Finance

Description
Planning, services for financial and investment planning, banking, insurance, and business financial management.

Sample Occupations
Accountant, Actuary, Auditor, Financial Manager, Bank Teller, Commodities Representative, Controller, Credit Analyst, Debt Counselor, Economist, Financial Planner/Analyst, Foreign Exchange Manager, Fund Raiser, Insurance Broker, Internal Auditor, Investment Advisor, Loan Officer, Non-Profit Manager, Personal Financial Advisor, Tax Examiner/Preparer, Title Researcher and Examiner, Treasurer

WCPS Electives
BUS6152 Keyboarding
BUS6621 Office Admin
BUS6612 Computer Info Systems
BUS6630 Design Multimedia and Web Tech
BUS6320 Accounting
BUS6302 Cyber Security
BUS6131D DE Business Law (SVETN)
BUS 6810D DE Into to Business (SVETN)
BUS6120 D DE Personal Finance
MKT8110 Intro to Marketing
MKT8120 Marketing
MKT8130 Adv. Marketing
MKT8130C Marketing Co-op
MTH 3190D Intro to Elem Stats (SVETN)
CTE 6120 Finance (Dual Enrollment)

Government & Public Administration

Description
Executing governmental functions to include Governance; National Security; Foreign Service; Planning; Revenue and Taxation; Regulation; and Management and Administration at the local, state, and federal levels.

Sample Occupations
Postal Service Employee, Interpreter, Translator, Compliance Officer, Tax Preparers, Occupational/Safety Specialist, Real Estate Appraiser/Assessor, Foreign Services Officer, Cryptographer, Intelligence Analyst, Lobbyist, Policy Analyst, Government Auditor, Congressional Aide, tax Examiner, Auditor/Assessor, Investigator/Examiner, Court Administrator, Court, Municipal, and License Clerks,

WCPS Electives
CTE8702 Criminal Justice I
CTE8703 Criminal Justice II
BUS6302 Cyber Security
BUS6131D DE Business Law
LAN5110 French I
LAN51200 French II
LAN5130 French III
LAN5140 French IV
LAN5510 Spanish I
LAN5520 Spanish II
LAN5530 Spanish III
LAN5540 Spanish IV
LAN5550 Spanish V
MIL7913 JROTC LET 1
Health Science

Description
Planning, managing, and providing therapeutic services, diagnostic services, health informatics, support services, and biotechnology research and development.

Sample Occupations
Acupuncturist, Athletic Trainer, Audiologist, Biomedical/Clinical Engineer, Chiropractor, Dietary Technician, Doctor, Dental Hygienist, Dentist, Nurse, Home Health Aide, Medical Lab Technologist, Microbiologist, EMT and Paramedic, Pathologist, Pharmacist, Physical Therapist, Physician, Registered Nurse.

WCPS Electives
CTE8357 Practical Nursing 1
CTE8358 Practical Nursing 2
FAM8210 Individual Development
FAM8219 Independent Living
FAM8227 Life Planning
FAM8229 Nutrition & Wellness
LAN5110 French I
LAN5120 French II
LAN5130 French III
LAN5140 French IV
LAN5510 Spanish I
LAN5520 Spanish II
LAN5530 Spanish III
LAN5540 Spanish IV
LAN5550 Spanish V
HPE7640 Adv. PE
SOC2900 Principles of Psychology (SVETN)
SOC2500D Principles of Sociology (SVETN)
CTE8383D Medical Terminology (SVETN)
LAN5310 Latin I (Virtual VA)
LAN5320 Latin II (Virtual VA)
LAN5330 Latin III (Virtual VA)
LAN5340 Latin IV (Virtual VA)

Hospitality & Tourism

Description
Hospitality & Tourism encompasses the management, marketing and operations of restaurants and other foodservices, lodging, attractions, recreation events and travel related services.
Sample Occupations
Restaurant Cook, Server or Host, Bartender, Recreation Worker, Hotel/Motel Management, Cruise Ship Management, Executive Chef, Food Service Manager, Amusement and Recreation Attendant or Manager, Golf Management, Manager, Resort Owner, Sales Professional, Event Planner, Interpreter, Travel Agent, Club Manager, Wedding Planner

WCPS Electives
CTE8275 Culinary Arts 1
CTE8276 Culinary Arts 2
BUS 6810D DE Into to Business (SVETN)
BUS6621 Office Admin
FAM8210 Individual Development
FAM8219 Independent Living
FAM8227 Life Planning
FAM8229 Nutrition & Wellness
LAN5110 French I
LAN51200 French II
LAN5130 French III
LAN5140 French IV
LAN5510 Spanish I
LAN5520 Spanish II
LAN5530 Spanish III
LAN5540 Spanish IV
LAN5550 Spanish V
MKT8110 Intro to Marketing
MKT8120 Marketing
MKT8130 Adv. Marketing
MKT8130C Marketing Co-op
ART9120 Art I
ART9130 Art II
ART9140 Art III
ART9145 Art IV
ART9146 Art V
ART9190 Digital Photography
MUS9222 Music Appreciation
MUS9225 Music Theory
MUS9233 Intermediate Band
MUS9234 Adv. Band
MUS9245 Guitar Lab
MUS9250 Percussion Ensemble
MUS9255 Piano Lab
MUS9297 Piano Lab II
MUS9285 Intermediate Chorus
MUS9289 Adv. Chorus
ENG1215 Yearbook
ENG1410 Drama I
ENG1420 Drama II
ENG1445 TV Production
ENG1448 Forensics
ENG2315 Appalachian Studies
HPE7640 Adv. PE
CTE 6120 Finance (SVETN)
Any Foreign Lan not offered by WCPS
Human Services

Description
Preparing individuals for employment in career pathways that relate to families and human needs.

Sample Occupations
Personal Care Aide, Social Worker, Rehabilitation Counselor, Occupation Counselor, Child Care Workers, Clergy, Director or Assistant Directors for Child Care Facilities, Marriage or Family Counselor, Hairstylist, Nail Technician, Fitness Trainer, Massage Therapist, Mental Health Counselor, Personal Trainer, Teacher, Psychologist, Rehabilitation Counselor, School Counselors, Sociologists

WCPS Electives
CTE8285 Early Childhood 1
CTE8286 Early Childhood 2
CTE8527 Cosmetology I
CTE8528 Cosmetology II
FAM8210 Individual Development
FAM8219 Independent Living
FAM8227 Life Planning
FAM8229 Nutrition & Wellness
CTE8275 Culinary Arts 1
CTE8276 Culinary Arts 2
LAN5110 French I
LAN51200 French II
LAN5130 French III
LAN5140 French IV
LAN5510 Spanish I
LAN5520 Spanish II
LAN5530 Spanish III
LAN5540 Spanish IV
LAN5550 Spanish V
ENG1448 Forensics
ENG2315 Appalachian Studies
HPE7640 Adv. PE
SOC2900 Principles of Psychology (SVETN)
SOC2500D Principles of Sociology (SVETN)

Information Technology

Description

Sample Occupations
Computer Programmer, Data Communications Analyst, Database Administrator, Instructional Designer, Multimedia Developer/Specialist, Network Analyst/Architect/Engineer/Manager, Online Publisher, Senior Database Administrator, Systems Engineer, Technical Writer, Web Developer, Web Administrator, Software Designer, Game Developer, App Developer,

WCPS Electives
BUS6152 Keyboarding
BUS6612 Computer Info Systems
BUS6630 Design Multimedia and Web Tech
BUS6621 Office Admin
BUS6302 Cyber Security Fundamentals
ENG1215 Yearbook
Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security

Description
Planning, managing, and providing legal, public safety, protective services and homeland security, including professional and technical support services.

Sample Occupations
Security Guards, Police, Sheriff, Deputy, Fire Fighter, Detective, Legal Secretary, Computer Security, Computer Forensics Examiner, Corrections Educators, Corrections Officer, Criminal Investigator, Special Agent, EMT, Emergency Management and Response Coordinator, Judge, Lawyer, Paralegal, Rescue Worker, Cyber Security

WCPS Electives
BUS6302 Cyber Security Fundamentals
CTE8702 Criminal Justice I (DE option avail)
CTE8703 Criminal Justice II (DE option avail)
CTE8702D DE Survey of Criminal Justice (SVETN)
CTE8702D DE Survey of Criminology (SVETN)
BUS6131D DE Business Law
MIL7913 JROTC LET 1
MIL7916 JROTC LET 2
MIL7918 JROTC LET 3
MIL7919 JROTC LET 4
MIL7920 JROTC LET 5
MIL7922 JROTC LETA 6
ENG1448 Forensics
ENG2315 Appalachian Studies
HPE7640 Adv. PE
SOC2900 Principles of Psychology (SVETN)
SOC2500D Principles of Sociology (SVETN)
CTE8702 Criminal Justice I (SVETN)
CTE8703 Criminal Justice II (SVETN)

Manufacturing

Description
Planning, managing and performing the processing of materials into intermediate or final products and related professional and technical support activities such as production planning and control, maintenance and manufacturing/process engineering.

Sample Occupations
Industrial manufacturing, Machinists, Biomedical Equipment Technician, Computer Installer/Repairer, Engineer, HVAC Technician, Plumbers, Pipe-fitters, Inspector, Labor Relations Manager, Manger, Supervisor, Machine Technology, Medical Equipment Manufacturing, Appliance Maker, Production Managers, Safety Coordinators, Welder, Solar Energy Technology,
Marketing

Description
Planning, managing, and performing marketing activities to reach organizational objectives.

Sample Occupations
Retail Salesperson or Manager, Real Estate, Account Executive, Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Entrepreneur, Interior Designers, Marketing Managers, Market Researchers, Public Relations Specialists, Sales Representative, Sales Executive, Webmaster, Public Relations Specialist

WCPS Electives
BUS6152 Keyboarding
BUS6621 Office Admin
BUS6612 Computer Info Systems
BUS6630 Design Multimedia and Web Tech
BUS6320 Accounting
BUS6131D DE Business Law (SVETN)
BUS 6810D DE Into to Business (SVETN)
BUS6120 D DE Personal Finance (SVETN)
LAN5110 French I
LAN51200 French II
LAN5130 French III
LAN5140 French IV
LAN5510 Spanish I
LAN5520 Spanish II
LAN5530 Spanish III
LAN5540 Spanish IV
LAN5550 Spanish V
MKT8110 Intro to Marketing
MKT8120 Marketing
MKT8130 Adv. Marketing
MKT8130C Marketing Co-op
ENG1215 Yearbook
ENG1410 Drama I
ENG1420 Drama II
ENG1445 TV Production
ENG1448 Forensics
MTH 3190D Intro to Elem. Stats (SVETN)
CTE 6120 Finance (SVETN)
Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics

Description
Planning, managing, and providing scientific research and professional and technical services (e.g., physical science, social science, engineering) including laboratory and testing services, and research and development services.

Sample Occupations
Anthropologist, Archaeologist, Civil Engineering, Environmental Scientist, Chemical Engineering, Chemist, Geologist, Computer Network Support, Computer Specialist, Computer Analyst, Statistician, Mechanical Engineer, Electronics, Any occupation listed in the HEALTH SCIENCE, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, or AGRICULTURE clusters above

WCPS Electives
CTE8357 Practical Nursing 1
CTE8358 Practical Nursing 2
CTE8450 Engineering Explorations
CTE8451 Engineering Analysis & App II
CTE8452 Engineering Concepts and Proc III
CTE8530 Computer Aided Design I
CTE8531 Computer Aided Design II
CTE8539 Precision Machine Technology I
CTE8540 Precision Machine Technology II
BUS6152 Keyboarding
BUS6612 Computer Info Systems
BUS6630 Design Multimedia and Web Tech
MTH 3190D Intro to Elem. Stats (SVETN)
MTH_TBD_D College Algebra (SVETN)
CTE8383D Medical Terminology (SVETN)
CTE 6640 Intro to Game Design & Develop. (Virtual VA)

Students Should Take Math all 4 Years
Students Should Take Science all 4 Years

Transportation, Distribution & Logistics

Description
Planning, management, and movement of people, materials, and goods by road, pipeline, air, rail and water and related professional and technical support services such as transportation infrastructure planning and management, logistics services, mobile equipment and facility maintenance.

Sample Occupations
Flight Attendant, Airline employee, Air Traffic Controller, Consultants, Delivery Driver, Mail Carrier, Electrician, Engineer, Marketing, Manager, Pilot, Sales Manager, Shipping and Receiving Supervisor, Technician, Truck Driver, Urban and Regional Planner, Warehouse Distribution, Sales and Service, Automotive Service Technicians, Logicians, Dispatchers, Bus Drivers, Military Career

WCPS Electives
CTE8506 Automotive Technology I
CTE8507 Automotive Technology II
CTE8508 Automotive Technology III
MIL7913 JROTC LET 1
MIL7916 JROTC LET 2
MIL7918 JROTC LET 3
MIL7919 JROTC LET 4
Additional Online Electives

Students may wish to pursue additional electives from any of our online options listed below. Online courses provide students with exposure to academic subjects that support their chosen career cluster beyond what is available in the school building. All online courses require an approval process. Please check with your school counselor to receive the most recent and updated information regarding WCPS online classes.

Apex Learning
All WCPS Pathways
Grades: 9 - 12 pre-approval
Pre-requisite: see WCPS Program of Studies
Link: https://www.apexlearning.com/digital-curriculum/courses/catalog

Virtual Virginia
All WCPS Pathways
Grades: 9 - 12 pre-approval
Pre-requisite: see WCPS Program of Studies
Link: https://www.virtualvirginia.org/courses/catalog/index.html

SVETN
Elite Learning
WCPS Pathways 1, 2, 3
Grades: 11 - 12
Pre-requisite: Virginia College Placement Test (VPT) in Reading and/or Math
More information: See School Counselor and WCC Career Coach for additional pre-requisites
Link: http://svetn.org/elite-learning/courses/

Linwood Holton Governor's School WCPS
Pathways 1 and 2
Grades: 11 - 12
Pre-requisite: Virginia College Placement Test (VPT) in Reading and/or Math See School Counselor and WCC Career Coach for additional pre-requisites
Link: http://www.hgs.kl2.va.us/Courses_Page.htm

What to Know Before Taking Online Courses

Value an independent learning experience.
Be organized from the beginning.
Manage your time wisely. Don't get behind! Don't procrastinate!
Reserve the same time each day to work on your assignments
Have a dedicated work pace.
Become familiar and follow the instructor's expectations
Identify learning objectives and goals.
Build a Study Plan
Ask for help when you need it.
Virginia Graduation Requirements for Students Entering as Freshman in 2017, 2016, 2015 or Prior

Three Diploma Options
There are three diploma options available for students who were first-time ninth graders in, and prior to, the 2017-2018 school year. Those three options are the Advanced Studies Diploma, Standard Diploma, and the Applied Studies Diploma.

Advanced Studies Diploma
The first diploma we will discuss is the Advanced Studies Diploma. The Advanced Studies diploma requires 26 standard units of credit and 9 verified credits. For students who see themselves attending a four year college such as JMU or VA Tech this diploma would be very helpful. For students with IEPs it should be noted, after graduating with an Advanced Studies Diploma, students will no longer qualify for free appropriate public education or FAPE, and will not be able to receive ongoing services through the public school system after graduation.

Standard Diploma
The Standard Diploma requires 22 standard units of credit and 6 verified credits. Although both the Advanced Studies and Standard Diploma are designed to prepare students to be college and career ready, this diploma allows students the opportunity to attend 2-year colleges including community colleges and some 4-year colleges. Also, for students that would like to master a trade or enroll in an apprenticeship such as welding or cosmetology this is the diploma that is often requested as a minimum requirement. For students with IEPs, it should be noted that after graduating with a Standard Diploma, students will no longer qualify for FAPE and will not be able to receive ongoing services through the public school system.

Applied Studies Diploma
The Applied Studies Diploma is for students who have completed the requirements of their IEP and who do not meet the requirements for other diplomas. Students who earn this diploma will be eligible for ongoing services, FAPE, through the age of 21.

Additional Requirements
Additional requirements for students earning an Advanced Studies or a Standard Diploma are that they must complete one virtual course and be trained in Emergency First aid, CPR and the use of an AED. If you are earning a Standard Diploma you must also complete two sequential electives and earn a career and technical education credential. For questions regarding either of these requirements, consult your school counselor.

For additional information please visit the VDOE website at http://www.doe.virginia.gov/instruction/graduation/index.shtml
Three Diploma Options
There are three diploma options available for students who are or were first-time ninth graders in 2018-19 and beyond. The three options are the Advanced Studies Diploma, Standard Diploma, and the Applied Studies Diploma.

Advanced Studies Diploma
For students who see themselves attending a four year college such as JMU or VA Tech, this diploma would be very helpful.

- English: 4 standard units of credit required; 2 verified credits
- Mathematics: 4 standard units of credit required; 1 verified credit
- Science: 4 standard units of credit required; 1 verified credit
- History/Social Science: 4 standard units of credit required; 1 verified credit
- World Language: 3 standard units of credit required
- Health & Physical Education: 2 standard units of credit required
- Fine Arts or Career & Technical Education: 1 standard unit of credit required
- Economics & Personal Finance: 1 standard unit of credit required
- Electives: 3 standard units of credit required

Total: 26 standard units of credit required; 5 verified credits required

Standard Studies Diploma
Diploma are designed to prepare students to be college and career ready, this diploma allows students the opportunity to attend 2-year colleges including community colleges and some 4-year colleges. Also, for students that would like to master a trade or enroll in an apprenticeship such as welding or cosmetology this is the diploma that is often requested as a minimum requirement.

- English: 4 standard units of credit required; 2 verified credits
- Mathematics: 3 standard units of credit required; 1 verified credit
- Science: 3 standard units of credit required; 1 verified credit
- History/Social Science: 3 standard units of credit required; 1 verified credit
- Heath & Physical Education: 2 standard units of credit required
- World Language, Fine Arts, or Career & Technical Education: 1 standard unit of credit required
- Economics & Personal Finance: 1 standard unit of credit required
- Electives: 4 standard units of credit required

Total: 22 standard units of credit required; 5 verified credits required

If you are earning a Standard Diploma, you must also complete two sequential electives and earn a career and technical education credential.

Applied Studies Diploma
The Applied Studies Diploma is for students who have completed the requirements of their IEP and who do not meet the requirements for other diplomas. Students who earn this diploma will be eligible for ongoing services, FAPE, through the age of 21.

Additional Requirements
Additional requirements for students earning an Advanced Studies or a Standard Diploma are that they must...
complete one virtual course and be trained in Emergency First aid, CPR and the use of an AED. For questions regarding either of these requirements, consult your school counselor.

It should be noted for students with IEPs, after graduating with an Advanced Studies Diploma or Standard Diploma, students will no longer qualify for free appropriate public education or FAPE, and will not be able to receive ongoing services through the public school system after graduation.

For additional information please visit the VDOE website at http://www.doe.virginia.gov/instruction/graduation/index.shtml

**Virginia Graduates Shall Acquire and Demonstrate the Foundational Skills in “The Five C’s”**

**Critical Thinking, Creative Thinking, Collaboration, Communication, and Citizenship.**

Wythe County Public Schools will integrate and promote the five C’s in all core and elective subject areas. The life-ready student will experience the following during his or her K-12 education in Virginia: Content Knowledge, Workplace Skills, Community and Civic Responsibility, and Career Planning.

**Frequently Asked Questions**

**How do I determine which career cluster is right for me?**

Students were given a career interest inventory in Middle School to help identify their top three potential Career Clusters. The interest inventory will help students explore career options based on their likes and dislikes. Students can find a career they will love based on their personality and work values. Some sample Career Cluster Inventories can be found at:

https://careertech.org/sites/default/files/Student Interest Survey-English.pdf

https://www.vawizard.org/wizard/careersAssess

**If students change their minds, will they be able to change their pathways?**

Absolutely! The WCPS Pathways or Career Clusters are not a permanent commitment. Students will continue to change their minds as their interests, likes, dislikes, and college and/or career aspirations change with their age and maturity. But it is good to get the discussion started now so students can use their time in high school to explore different career options.

**Where can I find more information about career clusters?**

The VA Department of Education has provided guidance on College and Career Readiness to prepare VA students for postsecondary education and employer expectations. For more information on their initiative go to http://www.doe.virginia.gov/instruction/collegecareerreadiness/index.shtml

The VA Department of Education has also provided information and links to help students investigate the
16 Career Clusters to advance their career goals. To find out more about options for your career choice go to: http://www.doe.virginia.gov/instruction/career_technical/career_clusters/index.shtml

The VA Education Wizard is a wonderful website to help secondary and post-secondary students in Virginia to career and/or college readiness. The IMAGINE tab on their website guides students to the reality of how much income is needed to live their preferred lifestyle. VA Wizard will help lead you down the path to building a career. For more information go to: https://www.vawizard.org/wizard/home

The VA Career and Technical Education Resource Center has provided students a way search for meaningful occupations either by browsing career clusters or by their favorite academic subject. To get more help finding a career to fit your interests, go to: http://www.cteresource.org/lep/g

The Wytheville Community College website has a fantastic link on to career pathways in our local region. Students can explore what the required criteria are for their career interests as well as what the salary range is for our region. For more information go to: http://www.wcc.vccs.edu/pathways