

SCHOOL PROFILE

Washington County Technical School

HISTORY

Washington County Technical School opened in 1938 as a result of the School Board's effort to train young people to secure gainful employment. There were more students than the school could enroll. During the depression years, money was scarce so the School Board gave approval to purchase materials and let students build additional buildings. The school was designed by school staff; plans and specifications were drawn by drafting students. All work in masonry, plumbing, carpentry, electricity, concrete, welding, and glazing was performed by students under the supervision of trade and industry instructors. Over the years, the Washington County Technical School established a reputation of turning out quality skilled students.

Due to advanced technology and increasing enrollment, the School Board built a new school (1975) – the William N. Neff Center to house students in the eleventh and twelfth grades. The Washington County Technical School presently has career and technical education programs for ninth and tenth grade high school students.

The Washington County Technical School actively supports the Virginia SkillsUSA (VICA) and Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) co-curricular programs. After more than twenty-five years of not competing in skills competition, students from the school competed in 2003 and had a District 1st Place in Masonry.

SCHOOL INFORMATION

Vision

Washington County Technical School's vision is to provide each student with opportunities and experiences that will enable them to make intelligent decisions about future career endeavors.

Mission

Washington County Technical School will provide students Career and Technical Education opportunities that expose them to a variety of occupational areas. While participating in these activities/classes students will develop workplace readiness skills, appropriate workplace safety procedures, and experience an assimilated work environment. Our ultimate goal is to play a role in developing a productive member for our community.

The Physical Plant

The Washington County Technical School has three buildings that house our students and staff. The main building was built in 1938 with additions completed on several occasions to meet student population gains. This building houses the administrative offices, several classrooms, a meeting room, and our Auto Body program. The building is shared, as well as other parts of the complex, with the Washington County Skills Center. A small, three room building, adjacent to

the main building houses our Health/Cosmetology programs. The front building was added in 1964, and houses our Carpentry, Masonry, and Computer Maintenance classes.

The Staff

Current staffing for the 2004-05 school year is as follows:

- Principal – 1
- Assistant Principal – 1
- Mathematics – 2
- General Education Development – 2
- Crossroads Academy – 1
- Auto Body -1
- Carpentry – 1
- Cosmetology Careers - 1
- Computer Maintenance -1
- Health Careers - 1
- Masonry – 1
- Resource Teacher - .5
- Resource Aide - .5
- Bookkeeper/Secretary – 1
- Custodial – 1

Community and School Demographics

The Washington County Technical School serves students enrolled in Washington County Public Schools' four high schools. Enrollment figures for the 2004 school year, in these schools, are as follows:

Abingdon High School	1005
Holston High School	317
John S. Battle High School	588
Patrick Henry High School	472
Total	2382

Current enrollment in the Career and Technical Education classes at the Washington County Technical School is one-hundred sixty-five students. Maximum enrollment in these programs is set by Virginia Department of Education guidelines. The maximum number is currently fifteen for each program. This equates to one-hundred eighty maximum student enrollment.

Attendance percentages are maintained daily in the morning and afternoon programs. During the 2002-03 school year the Technical School had a 90.2% attendance rate. During the 2003-04 school year the school had a 88.7% rate.

PROGRAM OF STUDIES INFORMATION

Washington County Technical School is a Career and Technical Center that serves ninth and tenth grade students from Washington County's four high schools (Abingdon High School, Holston High School, John S. Battle High School, Patrick Henry High School of Glade Spring/Emory). Students will either attend in the morning sessions from 8:35-11:40 AM or in the afternoon sessions from 12:20-2:40 PM. During a session, a student will spend two class periods in their Career and Technical Education class and one period in their assigned mathematics course. Students will receive as many as credits for their Career and Technical class and one credit for their math course. Washington County Technical School provides the skills needed for entry level jobs in local industries and the necessary background for career advancement and continued education.

Career and Technical Education One Year Classes

Auto Body Repair

This program provides instruction in collision repair, body panel repair, flexible parts repair and refinishing, fiberglass repair, interior trim and glass replacement, enamel refinishing, urethane single-stage base coat/clear coat refinishing, spot and panel repairs, rust repair, and estimating. Students will analyze all types of body damage and then restore vehicles to their original appearance.

Computer Maintenance

This course provides students with opportunity to develop skills needed to begin a career in building, installing, and repairing computers. During this course, students study computer hardware, operating principles, system configuration, operating systems, and troubleshooting concepts. Hands-on laboratory exercises, computer-aided instruction, and various reference materials are used to supplement the classroom instruction.

Bricklayer

This course provides knowledge and hands-on instruction in brick/block laying as well as concrete construction and design. This class involves estimating, masonry of a house, which includes veneering, foundation, concrete repair/design, and detailed work. Instruction is given in power/hand tool use, accurate measurement, safety procedures, estimates, and blueprint reading.

Basic Carpentry

The basic carpentry course covers topics on lumber, hand tools, and stationary and portable power tools. The students will also build small projects designed to help them understand and master the tools and machines of the trade. This program will provide students with the knowledge needed to work in residential construction, and create relationships with other segments of the construction industry.

Career and Technical Education Exploratory Classes

Automotive Careers

An introductory course in auto body and service technology. Instruction is given in proper use of tools and equipment, panel repair, priming, painting, servicing, and preventive maintenance. Additional instruction is given in safety and leadership skills.

Cosmetology Careers

An introductory course relating to human anatomy and the necessity for cleanliness and safety. Instruction is given in utilizing mannequins in demonstrating skills in facials, manicures, shampoos, haircutting, hair styling, and permanent waving. Additional instruction is given in leadership development.

Computer Careers

An introductory course to develop beginning skills in building, installing, and repairing computers. Hands-on laboratory exercises, computer-aided instruction, and various reference materials used to supplement the classroom instruction.

Health Occupations Careers

An introductory course relating to the exploration of careers within the Health Care field. Instruction is given in human anatomy and body systems. CPR and first aid Training, universal precautions, and learning job skills at the entry level. Special emphasis is placed on employability as well as leadership skills.

Masonry Careers

An introduction to masonry, including the nature of technology, materials and supplies required related skills such as mathematics and employability skills. Specific instruction is given in safe practices and skills in layout, the tools to spread mortar, leveling, plumbing, use of straightedge, jointing brick and block in wall construction, corners, and piers. Additional instruction is given in work safety and leadership development.

Carpentry Careers

An introductory course to develop knowledge of lumber, hand tools, stationary, and power tools. The students build small projects to help them understand the tools and machines of the trade. Hand and machine woodworking, wood finishing, and the use paint spray guns are some examples.

Academic Classes

Algebra I, Part I & II, and Geometry

Algebra, geometry, statistics, and logic are presented as tools for investigating phenomena and exploring new math concepts. Data collecting and organizing into graphs, operations of whole numbers, decimals, fractions, and integers, ratio proportions, percents, area and volume, and equations are the main concepts taught in Algebra I, Part I.

Functions, equations, and inequalities, linear functions, matrices, exponents, polynomials and factoring, quadratic functions, and coordinate geometry are many topics in Algebra I, Part II. Students complete activities in small groups, helping one another, discussing approaches and solutions with each other and with the teacher. These concepts are also used to teach Geometry, along with computer programs and various textbooks.

PLATO Mathematics Computer Lab

Math Elective and Algebra I, Part I and II, are taught in the lab. The lab is designed to give individual attention and extra help to the students. The program assesses the students' knowledge, and places them on their current academic level. By using the PLATO program, students are learning basic computer skills, building self-esteem, and mastering the basic math concepts needed for higher levels of mathematics.

Crossroads Academy

The Crossroads Academy is a multi-level alternative program that is designed for students who are experiencing behavioral and academic difficulties in the general education environment. Students are provided direct academic instruction that is enhanced with a multi-media approach and computer assistance. Additionally, career and technical education components are available. The length of student placement ranges from a minimum of three weeks to a maximum of one year.

Resource

The Resource Department is designed to improve educational outcomes for all individuals. The resource teacher is an advocate, helps students attain self-fulfillment, and promotes meaningful participation in quality education. The resource teacher also helps collaborate with other teachers to improve the delivery of instruction.

General Education Diploma Program

The GED/ISAEP (Individualized Student Alternative Program) provides an educational opportunity for students who desire to increase their knowledge and skills in academic areas, obtain their GED credential, and build their basic skills essential for success in the workplace. Each student is provided with an individualized learning plan, which includes relevant text materials, customized computer curriculum, and Internet instruction. The mission of the GED Lab is to instruct and facilitate successful learning by building student confidence and creating a positive learning atmosphere. Students must also be enrolled in a career and technical education program, currently employed or else in work experience, or meet other career guidelines. During the 2002-03 school year thirty-two students completed the requirement for a General Equivalency Diploma. During the 2003-04 school year forty-two students completed the General Equivalency Diploma.