

John Handley High School

# Senior Newsletter

AUGUST 29TH 2025

## College & Military Visits

Randolph College - Sept 16<sup>th</sup>

UVA - Sept. 22<sup>nd</sup>

U.S. Army - Sept. 25<sup>th</sup>

University of Mary Washington - Sept. 25<sup>th</sup>

@Senior Area during Lunch



Class of 2026

## Scholarship News

Listed Below are links to apply for Scholarships & Current Applications that are available in Counseling



## Important Dates:

- \*Senior Portraits Retakes – September 10<sup>th</sup> & September 11<sup>th</sup> @PCT
- \*Senior Parent Night–Tuesday September 16<sup>th</sup> 6:00–7:00pm @ IC Forum
- \*VACRO College Fair–Wednesday September 24<sup>th</sup> 6:00–8:00pm –@Apple Blossom Mall
- \*Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences–Thursday September 25<sup>th</sup> 4:30–7:00pm



## Scholarships



### **THE GATES SCHOLARSHIP IS NOW OPEN DUE: SEPTEMBER 15, 2025**

**THE GATES SCHOLARSHIP (TGS) IS A HIGHLY SELECTIVE, LAST-DOLLAR SCHOLARSHIP FOR OUTSTANDING HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS FROM LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLDS. EACH YEAR, THE SCHOLARSHIP IS AWARDED TO EXCEPTIONAL STUDENT LEADERS, WITH THE INTENT OF HELPING THEM REALIZE THEIR MAXIMUM POTENTIAL.**

**SELECTED SCHOLARS WILL RECEIVE FUNDING FOR THE FULL COST OF ATTENDANCE TO EARN A BACHELOR'S DEGREE, THAT IS NOT ALREADY COVERED BY OTHER FINANCIAL AID AND THE STUDENT AID INDEX, AS DETERMINED BY THE FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID (FAFSA), OR THE METHODOLOGY USED BY A SCHOLAR'S COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY. COSTS COVERED INCLUDE TUITION, FEES, BOOKS, AND HOUSING AND FOOD, AND MAY INCLUDE ADDITIONAL PERSONAL COSTS.**

**TGS ALSO PROVIDES SCHOLARS WITH VARIOUS ONLINE SUPPORT SERVICES DESIGNED TO HELP THEM EXCEL IN THEIR DEGREE PROGRAMS, GRADUATE, AND MAKE A SUCCESSFUL TRANSITION TO THEIR CHOSEN CAREERS. THESE INCLUDE CAREER SERVICES, MENTORING, LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT, WELLNESS, AND KNOWLEDGE BUILDING.**

#### **ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:**

- **A HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR**
- **PELL-ELIGIBLE**
- **A US CITIZEN OR PERMANENT RESIDENT**
- **IN A GOOD ACADEMIC STANDING WITH A MINIMUM CUMULATIVE WEIGHTED GPA OF 3.3 ON A 4.0 SCALE (OR EQUIVALENT)**

**ADDITIONALLY, A STUDENT MUST PLAN TO ENROLL FULL-TIME, IN A FOUR-YEAR DEGREE PROGRAM, AT A US ACCREDITED, NOT-FOR-PROFIT, PRIVATE OR PUBLIC COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY.**

#### **AN IDEAL CANDIDATE WILL ALSO HAVE:**

- **AN OUTSTANDING ACADEMIC RECORD IN HIGH SCHOOL (IN THE TOP 10% OF HIS/HER GRADUATING CLASS)**
- **DEMONSTRATED LEADERSHIP ABILITY (E.G., AS SHOWN THROUGH PARTICIPATION IN COMMUNITY SERVICE, EXTRACURRICULAR, OR OTHER ACTIVITIES)**
- **EXCEPTIONAL PERSONAL SUCCESS SKILLS (E.G., EMOTIONAL MATURITY, MOTIVATION, PERSEVERANCE, ETC.)**

**APPLICATION DEADLINE: PHASE I OF THE APPLICATION OPENED JULY 15, WITH A SUBMISSION DEADLINE OF MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2025, 2:00 PM PT.**

**[HTTPS://WWW.THEGATESSCHOLARSHIP.ORG/](https://www.thegatesscholarship.org/)**



## Scholarships



**SENATE YOUTH PROGRAM SCHOLARSHIP DUE TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30TH 2025**

**2026 UNITED STATES SENATE YOUTH PROGRAM SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES FOR HIGH SCHOOL JUNIORS AND SENIORS**

**ARTICLE: 2025-30-407**

**AUDIENCE: SUPERINTENDENTS, DIRECTORS, SCHOOL PRINCIPALS, TEACHERS, HIGH SCHOOL COUNSELORS**

**CONTACT: CHRISTONYA BROWN, COORDINATOR OF HISTORY AND SOCIAL SCIENCE,  
CHRISTONYA.BROWN[AT]DOE.VIRGINIA.GOV**

**THE UNITED STATES SENATE YOUTH PROGRAM (USSYP) IS A NATIONAL NONPARTISAN INITIATIVE TO PROVIDE AN ANNUAL OPPORTUNITY FOR TALENTED HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS WITH DEMONSTRATED LEADERSHIP ABILITIES TO DEEPEN THEIR UNDERSTANDING OF AMERICA'S POLITICAL PROCESSES AND STRENGTHEN THEIR RESOLVE TO PURSUE CAREERS IN PUBLIC SERVICE. THE VDOE WILL SELECT TWO STUDENT DELEGATES TO REPRESENT VIRGINIA IN THE 64TH ANNUAL UNITED STATES SENATE YOUTH PROGRAM (USSYP) SPONSORED BY THE WILLIAM RANDOLPH HEARST FOUNDATION. EACH DELEGATE WILL RECEIVE A \$10,000 SCHOLARSHIP AND AN ALL-EXPENSE PAID TRIP TO WASHINGTON, D.C., FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 7-14, 2026, FOR WASHINGTON WEEK.**

**STUDENTS INTERESTED IN APPLYING WILL COMPLETE AN APPLICATION AND SUBMIT TWO ESSAY RESPONSES. BUILDING ADMINISTRATORS WILL BE ASKED AT A LATER TIME TO CERTIFY THE STUDENT'S APPLICATION. THE TOP CANDIDATES WILL BE INVITED TO INTERVIEW WITH A PANEL OF JUDGES APPOINTED BY THE VDOE AND ALSO TAKE THE PUBLIC AFFAIRS EXAMINATION PREPARED BY THE HEARST FOUNDATION. FINAL SELECTION WILL BE BASED ON THE STUDENT APPLICATION, ESSAY RESPONSES, EXAMINATION RESULTS, OUTSTANDING ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE, AND DEMONSTRATED QUALITIES OF LEADERSHIP AND COMMUNITY SERVICE.**

**DETAILED INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROGRAM MAY BE FOUND ON THE VDOE USSYPLINKS TO AN EXTERNAL SITE.WEBSITE. THERE ARE VERY SPECIFIC QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPECTATIONS FOR CANDIDATES SELECTED AS DELEGATES. VDOE STRICTLY ADHERES TO THE USSYP PROGRAMLINKS TO AN EXTERNAL SITE. QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPECTATIONS OUTLINED BY THE HEARST FOUNDATION. APPLICATIONS MAY BE ACCESSED AND SUBMITTED ONLINE VIA [THE ONLINE STUDENT APPLICATION PORTALLINKS TO AN EXTERNAL SITE. BEGINNING FRIDAY, AUGUST 15, 2025. APPLICATIONS AND ESSAYS ARE DUE BY 5 P.M. EST ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2025, THROUGH THE APPLICATION PORTAL.](#)**



## Scholarships



**VSBA BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGIONAL SCHOLARSHIP DUE: JANUARY 30TH, 2026 BY 4:00PM**

**THE VIRGINIA SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION (VSBA) IS THRILLED TO ANNOUNCE A BRAND-NEW SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY DESIGNED TO SUPPORT HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS ACROSS THE COMMONWEALTH! THE VSBA BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGIONAL SCHOLARSHIP RECOGNIZES STUDENTS WHO EXCEL IN ACADEMICS, LEADERSHIP, AND COMMUNITY SERVICE, PROVIDING THEM WITH FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO PURSUE THEIR POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION.**

### **KEY DETAILS:**

**WHO CAN APPLY? HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS GRADUATING IN SPRING 2026 WHO ATTEND A PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL IN A DIVISION THAT IS A MEMBER OF THE VSBA AND LOCATED WITHIN ONE OF THE NINE VSBA REGIONS.**

**SCHOLARSHIP AWARD: \$5,000 PER REGIONAL WINNER!**

**SCHOLARSHIP THEME: CHAMPION FOR IMPACT – SHARE HOW YOU PLAN TO USE YOUR EDUCATION TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE!**

**APPLICATION DEADLINE: JANUARY 30, 2026, BY 4:00 P.M.**

**SELECTED RECIPIENTS WILL BE HONORED DURING THE 2026 VSBA REGIONAL SPRING NETWORKING FORUMS. ATTENDANCE TO THE STUDENT'S RESPECTIVE REGIONAL SPRING NETWORKING FORUM IS REQUIRED TO RECEIVE THEIR AWARD. REGIONAL WINNERS WILL BE SELECTED AND NOTIFIED IN FEBRUARY 2026. A FULL LIST OF 2026 VSBA REGIONAL SPRING NETWORKING FORUMS IS INCLUDED IN THE SCHOLARSHIP PACKET LINKED BELOW.**

**IF YOU ARE UNSURE WHICH VSBA REGION YOUR SCHOOL DIVISION IS IN, PLEASE VISIT:  
[HTTPS://WWW.VSBA.ORG/VSBA-REGIONS/LINKS](https://www.vsba.org/vsba-regions/links) TO AN EXTERNAL SITE.**

**DON'T MISS THIS INCREDIBLE OPPORTUNITY! BE A CHAMPION FOR IMPACT AND TAKE THE NEXT STEP TOWARD YOUR FUTURE.**

**HAVE QUESTIONS? REACH OUT TO BELLA CORBO AT [BELLA@VSBA.ORG](mailto:BELLA@VSBA.ORG) OR CALL 434-295-8722 EXT. 2.**

**[CLICK HERE FOR SCHOLARSHIP GUIDELINKS](#) TO AN EXTERNAL SITE.**

**[CLICK HERE FOR ONLINE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION](#)LINKS TO AN EXTERNAL SITE.**



## Scholarships



# **Current Scholarship Applications** **Available in Counseling**

**\*Winchester Lioness Lions Club Memorial Scholarship**