

# Freshman Presentation



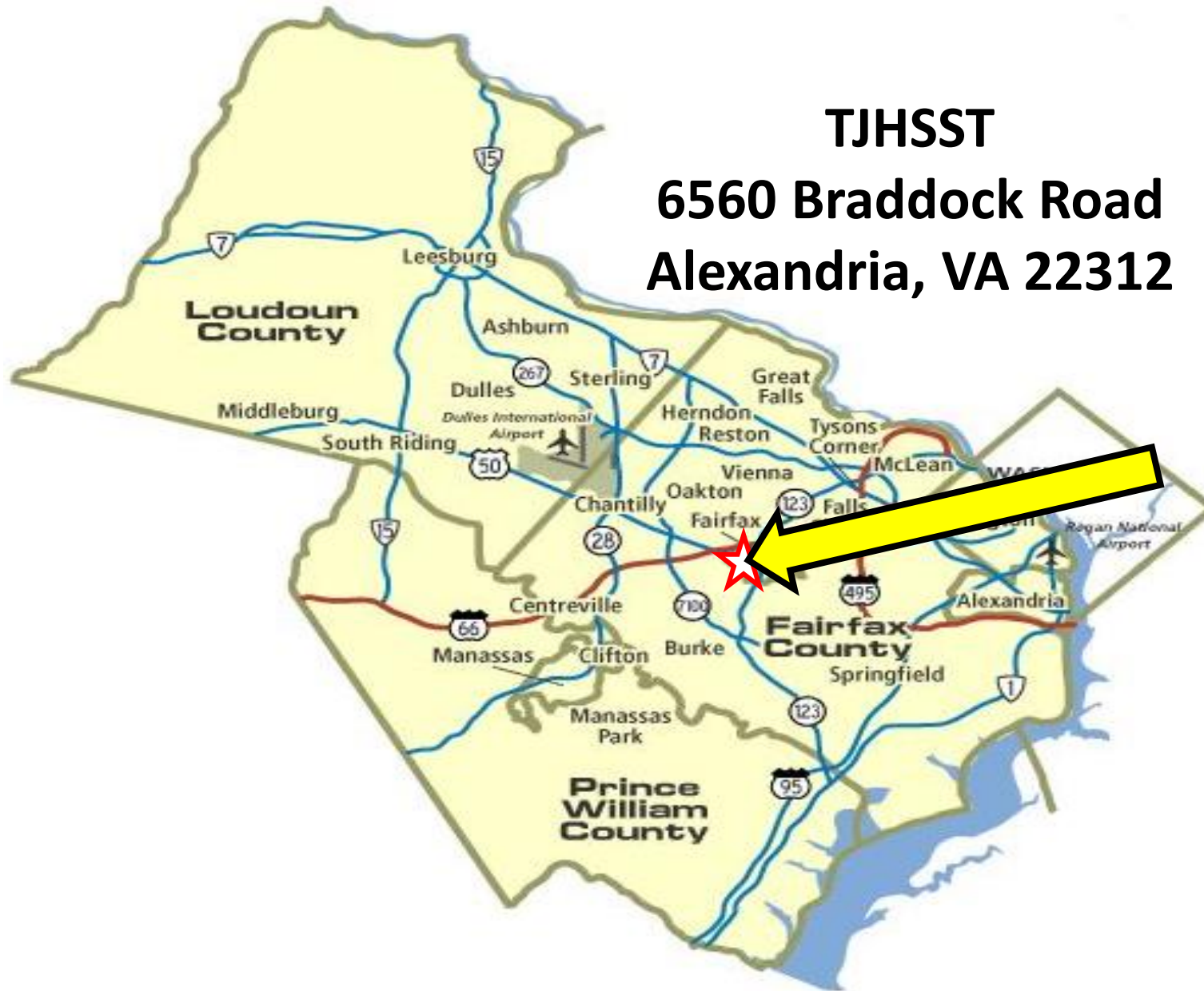
# Agenda

- Overview of TJHSST
- The Admissions Process
  - Part I: Steps for Application
  - Part II: Writing Components
  - Part III: Selection Process
  - Calendar of Events
- Answers to FAQs

# TJHSST Mission Statement

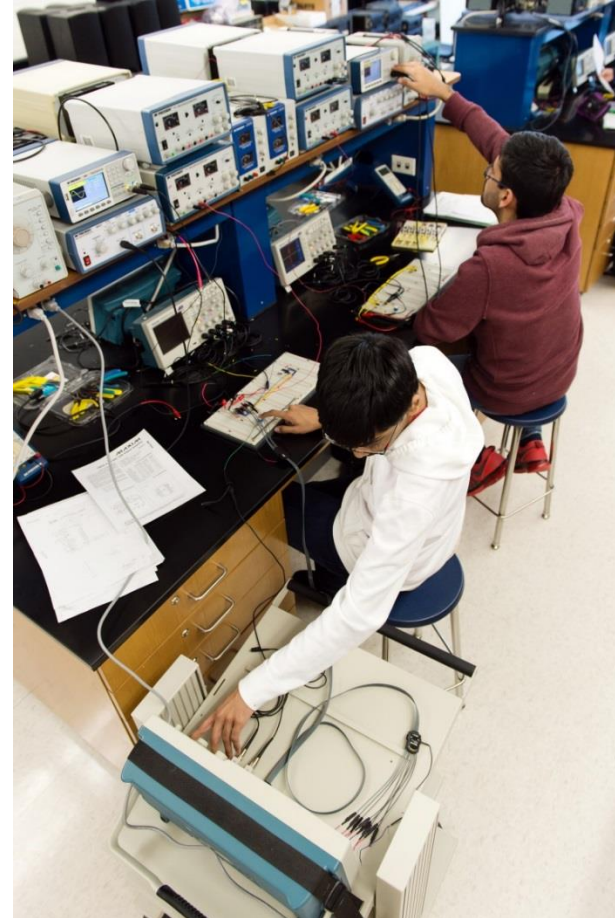
“The mission of Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology is to provide students a **challenging learning environment** focused on math, science, and technology, to **inspire joy at the prospect of discovery**, and to **foster a culture of innovation** based on ethical behavior and the shared interests of humanity.”

**TJHSST**  
**6560 Braddock Road**  
**Alexandria, VA 22312**



# What Makes TJ Different?

- Regional Governor's School for Science and Technology
- Students apply to attend
- All courses taught on honors, AP, or post-AP level
- Research-based learning beginning in 9<sup>th</sup> grade that focuses on connecting ideas and creating flexible class time



# IBEST

- Integrated Biology, English, Statistics & Tech (IBEST)
- Flexible class time
- Field trips
- Research-based learning



# Research-Based Learning

- STEM-Related Electives and Activities



# Senior – Research Laboratories

- Astronomy & Astrophysics
- Automation & Robotics
- Biotechnology & Life Sciences
- Chem Analysis & Nanochemistry
- Computer Systems
- Engineering Research
  - Energy Systems
  - Engineering Design
  - Microelectronics
  - Prototyping
- Microelectronics
- Mobile and Web Application Development
- Neuroscience
- Oceanography & Geographical Systems
- Quantum Physics & Optics

Mentorship: include but not limited to Children's National Medical Center, NIH, MITRE Corp, Naval Research Lab, GMU, GWU, Smithsonian, Northrop Grumman, Georgetown University Medical Center



# More Than Research-Based Learning

- Complete High School Curriculum
- Electives offered in all subject areas
- Fine Arts and Performing Arts
- Current World languages
  - Chinese, French, German, Latin, Russian, Spanish



# Eighth Period

- In-school activity period Wednesdays & Fridays
- Each week divided into four sections
- Over 180 clubs and activities such as Choir, Quiz Bowl, Rocketry
- Create your own!



# TJHSST Extra-Curriculars

- Full complement of competitive VHSL teams
- Tradition of Success
- Fine and Performing Arts



# What is TJHSST looking for?

- ❑ Evidence of academic achievement in school



- ❑ Demonstration of genuine interest/curiosity/creativity in STEM

# Eligibility Requirements

- ✓ 8<sup>th</sup> grade to apply to 9<sup>th</sup>
- ✓ Residency in a participating school division
- ✓ Honors Algebra I or higher in 8<sup>th</sup> Grade
- ✓ Along with Honors Science and One Additional Honors Course
- ✓ 3.5 GPA in core classes
  - ✓ Unweighted grades

*Can you answer these questions ....*

- ✓ What about **STEM** are you interested in and why?
- ✓ What have you done to pursue this interest?
- ✓ What did you learn or hope to learn from your **STEM** experience(s)?
- ✓ Why **TJ**?

# Expectations If You Attend TJ

- TJ Advanced Studies Diploma Requirements – English (4 credits), Math (4 credits that does not include Algebra 1), Lab Science (4 credits), History and Social Studies (4 credits), World Language (3 credits consecutive years in same language), Health & PE (2 credits), Fine Arts or Career & Tech Ed (1 credit), Economics & Personal Finance (1 credit), Electives (3 credits)
- 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Courses – IBEST (Biology, English, Statistics [1<sup>st</sup> Semester] and Math Placement [2<sup>nd</sup> Semester], Technology [Design & Tech]), Health & PE, World Language, Elective
- Course Flexibility – Since the curriculum is a programmatic approach to STEM at a higher level, there is limited ability to deviate from the set coursework described above. See TJHSST link below for Course Planning Resources:
  - <https://tjhsst.fcps.edu/student-services/curricular-resources>

Application Access – [www.fcps.edu/tjadmissions](http://www.fcps.edu/tjadmissions)



THOMAS JEFFERSON SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Thomas  
Jefferson High  
School for  
Science and  
Technology  
(TJHSST)  
Admissions

The admissions process to Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology.



# TJHSST Freshman Application Process



## TJHSST Class of 2029 (2024-2025 Applicants)

Application for the Class of 2029

Available October 21, 2024 at 4:00 pm [↗](#)

# First Screen of Application



Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology

## Admissions

## Welcome


Please select one of the options below and click "Next" to proceed to the designated login area.

- I am a student living in one of the five participating jurisdictions (Arlington, Fairfax, City of Falls Church, Loudoun or Prince William), enrolled in Algebra 1 or higher and applying to Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology (TJHSST).**  
Selecting this button will display the Applicant Portal Log In Page allowing the student to log into the TJHSST Admissions Online System and complete the online application process.
  
- I am the Parent/Guardian of a student applying to Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology (TJHSST).**  
Selecting this button will display the Applicant Portal Parent/Guardian Log-In Page allowing the parent/guardian to log into the TJHSST Admissions online system and assist your Applicant in the completion of their online application process.

Next

# Second Screen for Application (Log-In Page)

[Home](#)   [TJ Admissions](#)   [TJHSST](#)   [FCPS](#)   [Help](#)   [Contact Us](#)

 **Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology**  
**Admissions**

**Applicant Portal**

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## Log-In

If you are a Fairfax County Public School (FCPS) Student, enter your FCPS Student ID, Password and select the Log In button to access the Applicant Portal.  
If you are not an FCPS Student, select the appropriate check box below and follow the instructions to access the Applicant Portal.

Check here if this is your first time logging in and you do not have a user name. (This is for all applicants who are not FCPS students.)

**User Name:**

**Password:**

[Forgot Password?](#)   [Forgot User Name?](#)

# Steps for Application

1. The applicant must access the Log-In Screen prior to the parent and complete the initial log-in process that includes entry of a parent name and email address.
2. Parent receives an auto-generated email containing the link for them to log-in and create the parent account.
3. TJ Liaison Counselor from applicant's school verifies math course. (Allow minimum 24 to 48 hours for this to be completed.) An auto-generated email is sent to applicant and parent after verification advising they may complete the application.

# Steps for Application (Concluded)

4. Applicant and parent must both electronically sign.
5. Submit application.
6. Auto-generated email will be sent to applicant and parent advising them application has been submitted.
7. Be sure to check the calendar listed in this presentation for “What is next after submission of the application?”

# Application Deadline

**Friday, November 15**

Application must be submitted  
before 4:00 p.m.

# Administration of Writing Components

- Saturday, Feb 8 – Student Portrait Sheet and Essay
- Friday, Feb 14 – Student Portrait Sheet and Essay  
*[Accommodations & Make-up (Sick) Date ONLY]*
- Exhibit Portrait of a Graduate attributes and 21st Century skills in a Student Portrait Sheet
  - Display problem-solving skills and STEM aptitude by responding to a math or science problem-solving essay

# Portrait of a Graduate & 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills

- Collaborator
- Communicator
- Creative and Critical Thinker
- Ethical/Global Citizen
- Goal-Directed & Resilient Individual
- Innovator
- Leader
- Problem Solver



# Holistic Review Elements

- GPA
- Student Portrait Sheet
- Problem-Solving Essay
- Experience Factors
  - Economically Disadvantaged
  - English Language Learner
  - Special Education

# Seat Allocation Process

- Each public school within Fairfax County and each cooperating school division will be presumptively allocated a number of seats equal to 1.5% of that school's 8th grade student population ("Allocated Seats"),. The remainder of seats will not be allocated to any specific public school ("Unallocated Seats"). In the event a school has fewer eligible applicants than its number of Allocated Seats, the difference will be treated as Unallocated Seats.

# Seat Allocation Process

- **Allocated Seats**
  - Applicants attending public school will be first evaluated against other applicants from the same school, and students with the strongest evaluated applications from that school will be offered admission.
- **Unallocated Seats**
  - All remaining public-school applicants and applicants who do not attend public school in Fairfax County or in a cooperating division will be considered for the Unallocated Seats, which will be offered to the highest evaluated applicants in that group.

# Calendar of Events\*\*

- Oct 21 Application Available at 4:00 pm
- Nov 13 No New Application may be started after 4:00 pm
- Nov 15 Application Submission Deadline by 4:00 pm
- Dec 18 Notifications Sent for GPAs Below 3.5
- Feb 8 Essay and Student Portrait Sheet Administration
- Feb 14 Accommodations & Make-up Sick Date – ONLY
- Mar 3 Review Process Preparation Begins
- Apr 30 Final Decision Release (No Later Than)

\*\* Dates are subject to change

*All correspondence to applicants and parents is sent via the Applicant/Parent portal email system.*

# Additional Questions?



[tjadmissions@fcps.edu](mailto:tjadmissions@fcps.edu)

571-423-3770