Enriching Student Experiences

With a strong tradition of excellence, Western Albemarle High School is a comprehensive high school offering students the opportunity to excel in academics as well as extra-curricular activities.

School Highlights

Western Albemarle High School is dedicated to meeting the unique needs of all of its students by offering a wide range of authentic, interdisciplinary experiences for students. This philosophy can be seen in numerous ways throughout the school.

The Western Environmental Studies Academy is built around authentic, project-based experiences that allow students to have more ownership of their learning. The program builds students’ background knowledge and challenges them to apply that knowledge to solve real-world problems and capitalize on regional opportunities. Student learning is extended through community partnerships that allow students’ work to be validated by experts in the field in addition to their classroom teachers.

This instructional methodology is seen other areas of the school such as the American Studies program which has been a cornerstone of the eleventh grade experience but which continues to innovate and evolve. All eleventh grade students participate in an interdisciplinary approach to the study of US history and English. Classes are team taught with a thematic approach that allow students to see the interconnectedness of the content while also demonstrating their mastery through a wide range of assessments and projects such as simulations and the creation of podcasts. This model continues to expand with the recently developed global studies program which combines the curriculum of World History I and English 9 into an interdisciplinary, project-based approach.

WAHS shows its dedication to the individualization of the high school experience through the High School Change Makers program. This undertaking allows students to pursue passions that may not be reflected in the program of studies such as drone creation and movie production by finding community resources to connect students with mentors for a non-traditional course credit.

The school also instills the values of community service with student-led activities throughout the year that support the needs of the Western Albemarle community and central Virginia as a whole.

Facility Information

- Built in 1977
- 187,754 sq. ft.
- Last major renovation—1997