



WASHINGTON-LEE HIGH SCHOOL

An IB World School

1301 North Stafford Street, Arlington, Virginia 22201

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www.apsva.us/washingtonlee

This school is fully accredited by the State of Virginia and through the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

Visit www.apsva.us and click on "About Us" for information about test results and the school population.

Washington-Lee was the first of three comprehensive high schools to be established in Arlington. Now in its 87th year of operation, the school boasts a diverse student population representing more than 50 countries across the globe.

Washington-Lee is proud of its history and traditions, which include honors by the U.S. Department of Education, The Virginia Board of Education, the Virginia Department of Education, *The Washington Post* and *Newsweek* magazine. Washington-Lee's new building, completed in the summer of 2009, has been awarded Gold certification in the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) program by the U.S. Green Building Council.

Students entering Washington-Lee in ninth grade participate in the Freshman Connection, a transition program designed to ease the process of entering high school from middle school. Students are divided in Small Learning Communities with four core subject area teachers and a special education teacher. The teachers for each community meet regularly to provide support for students as they adjust to the rigors of academic and social life at the high school level. Guidance counselors and a designated assistant principal work closely with the communities.

The International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma was first offered at Washington-Lee in 1998, when the first cohort of 13 students graduated. Since that time, nearly 455 students have earned the prestigious IB Diploma in conjunction with the Virginia Advanced Studies Diploma. Successful completion of IB courses and exams may lead to college credit and/or advanced standing at colleges and universities.

Washington-Lee also offers an extensive selection of Advanced Placement (AP) courses which require students to complete an exit exam that may lead to college credit.

Washington-Lee graduates in 2011 earned more than \$5.2 million in scholarship awards. Ninety-four percent of graduates go directly on to higher education, with more than 59.2 percent enrolling in four year colleges and universities

Washington-Lee provides an opportunity for seniors to pursue a career interest or complete a special project during the final three weeks of the senior year. The Senior Experience Program, *Exploring Work from Theory to Practice*, is now in its seventh year. It is open to any senior who has a 2.0 grade point average or higher as well as the recommendation of senior year instructors. Participants are required to complete a minimum of 100 hours of field work and maintain a daily journal and time sheet. Ninety percent of seniors participated in the 2011 Senior Experience Program.

GOALS

- One hundred percent of students in the W-L community will participate in at least one AP/IB course within grades 9-12 by the 2015 school year. Participation rate for 2011-12 is 80 percent.
- W-L will meet or exceed the Federal requirements for AYP for on-time graduation.
- The W-L staff will provide ALL students with a responsive education as measured by parent and student surveys.

INSTRUCTIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

- International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Program
- Advanced Placement (AP) classes in math, English, art, music, foreign language, social studies and science
- Freshman Connection: ninth grade transition program
- Exploring Work from Theory to Practice program for seniors
- Spanish for fluent speakers classes
- Integration/team teachers in special education
- Summer reading and math assignments
- Exchange programs with Costa Rica and France
- Foreign exchange programs such as AFS and YFU
- Professional Development School with Virginia Tech, George Washington University and Marymount University
- Seventy-six percent AP/IB participation
- Zero Period, AM Period, Saturday Academy and lunchtime and after-school extra-help labs for core classes available for academic support
- Cyber Café bridging the digital divide

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

- Virginia Board of Education VIP Competence to Excellence Award 2008 - 2010
- National Merit Semi-finalists (1988 to present-133)
- One of *Newsweek* magazine's Top 100 High Schools
- Nationally-recognized literary magazine, *The Penman*