



THE GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL for SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

2011 Graduating Class Profile

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Community

The Governor's School for Science and Technology (GSST) serves the approximately 490,000 residents of the Virginia peninsula, reaching from the Chesapeake Bay to the historic Williamsburg area. The region is home to NASA Langley Research Center, Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility, Northrop Grumman Newport News, Canon Virginia, Veterans Administration Medical Center, Hampton University, The College of William and Mary, Christopher Newport University, Virginia Institute of Marine Science, and installations of all branches of the United States Military.

High School

GSST was founded in 1985 and is one of nineteen Governor's Schools in Virginia that serve as regional magnet programs for gifted students. GSST provides high-achieving students with advanced courses in math, science, and technology along with a rigorous grounding in research methodology and a community of their peers. Students are drawn from 21 high schools in seven school divisions (Hampton, Newport News, Poquoson, Williamsburg-James City County, York County, Gloucester County, and Isle of Wight County) and spend approximately half of their school day (3.25 hours) at the GSST. In addition to rigorous, college-level course work, seniors conduct an Honors Research/Mentorship project outside school hours. Students completing the program earn a Virginia Governor's Seal.

Faculty

The rigor of the GSST program rests on the exceptionally strong math and science backgrounds of its eleven faculty members. All hold degrees in mathematics, science, or computer science; six hold masters degrees and five hold doctorate degrees.

Curriculum

All courses are taught at a college level and many are accredited as dual enrollment courses by local colleges. Curricula promote active scientific learning through extensive laboratory investigations which incorporate advanced scientific technologies. Communication skills are developed through multimedia presentations to peers and professionals.

Admissions

The admissions process is a competitive one based on mathematics and science achievement, teacher recommendations, and standardized test scores.



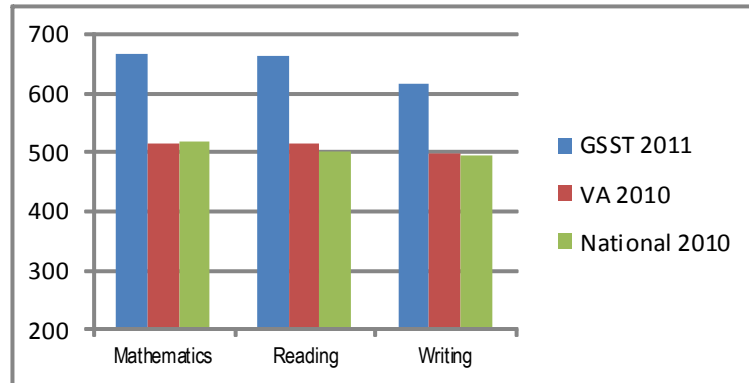
The Governor's School at New Horizons is a current and a founding member of the *National Consortium for Specialized Secondary Schools of Mathematics, Science and Technology* (NCSSSMST).

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62 Seniors

National Merit Scholar - Semi-Finalist 1

SAT 1 Scores
Comparison of SAT scores for GSST Class of 2011



Class Rank at the Students' Home High Schools

Valedictorians4 Salutatorians1

College Acceptances

Scholarships Earned: \$3,885,040

Appalachian State U	1	N Y University Polytechnic	1	U Illinois	1
Auburn U	1	North Carolina State U	1	U Louisville	1
Boston College	1	Northeastern U	1	U Mary Washington	3
Bridgewater C	1	Old Dominion U	15	U Maryland	1
Brown U	1	Oregon State U	1	U Massachusetts	1
Campbell U	1	Penn State U	3	U Miami	1
Case Western U	1	Princeton U	1	U Michigan	1
Christopher Newport U	5	Randolph-Macon College	1	U Notre Dame	2
College William & Mary	6	Rensselaer Polytechnic Inst	1	U Pittsburgh	2
Dartmouth U	1	Rice U	1	U Richmond	2
Drexel U	1	Rochester Inst Technology	1	U South Florida	1
ECPI	1	Southern Methodist U	1	U Southern CA	1
Embry-Riddle U	1	Sweet Briar College	1	U Vermont	1
Ferrum College	1	Tulane U	2	U Virginia	21
George Mason U	1	U California-Berkeley	3	U Washington	1
Georgia Tech	5	U California-Los Angeles	1	U S Air Force Academy	1
Hampden-Sydney College	2	U California-Riverside	2	U S Military Academy	2
James Madison U	14	U California-San Diego	1	U S Naval Academy	1
Johns Hopkins U	1	U California-Santa Barbara	2	Vanderbilt U	1
Longwood U	3	U California-Santa Cruz	1	Villanova U	1
Lynchburg College	1	U Connecticut	1	VA Commonwealth U	15
Mass. Institute Technology-MIT	1	U Dayton	1	Virginia Tech	39
Montana State U	1	U Delaware	1	Washington & Lee U	1
N C Agriculture & Technology	1	U Florida	2		

Program of Study

Course Offerings All offerings are college level courses.

Science Courses:

- Biology
- Chemistry
- Physics I - Calculus-Based
- Physics II - Calculus-Based
- Scientific Programming I / Physics
- Scientific Programming II / Physics

Mathematics Courses:

- Pre-calculus
- Calculus
- Statistics
- Multivariable Calculus & Linear Algebra

Research Courses

- Research Methods and Ethics
- Environmental Science/Honors Research & Mentorship (2 courses; 5 hours/week with mentor)

Honors Research and Mentorship Program

Program Description

A primary goal of the GSST is to provide students with an opportunity to conduct serious scientific research. All students take a junior year course in Research Methods and Ethics, which introduces research methodology, statistics, critical thinking skills, and skills of scientific writing and presentation. In their senior year, students design and conduct a year-long research project under the direction of a scientific, engineering, medical or other professional in the community. The field component is supported by formal course work which guides students through the entire process, from the selection of a problem to the final presentation. In addition to their outside mentor, each student is assigned a faculty advisor to assist and evaluate mentorship research.

The Project

Major aspects of the mentorship experience include preparation of a formal written proposal for their project, oral presentation of proposal and status report at mid year to GSST faculty and evaluators, final research document, and presentation of final results to a panel of professionals in appropriate fields at the GSST Spring Research Symposium. In addition, many students present their findings at local, regional, and national science competitions and symposia. Exceptional work has been published in professional journals.

Research Sites

Research sites that have participated in the GSST Honors Research/Mentorship program include NASA Langley Research Center, Thomas Jefferson National Acceleration Facility, Virginia Institute of Marine Science, Veterans Administration Medical Center, Eastern Virginia Medical School, Hampton University, Christopher Newport University, Virginia Living Museum, local engineering firms, hospitals, and a variety of individual medical and professional firms.

***Extracurricular
Activities***

In addition to its academic offerings, the GSST offers students the opportunity to participate in a number of extracurricular activities and competitions. Highlights of previous school years include a trip to Costa Rica's Scientific Research Centers and participation by a GSST team in the Pete Conrad Spirit of Innovation Competition in Los Angeles. The Construction Challenge team also distinguished itself, placing 1st and 3rd in the Regional competition. In addition to these national competitions, students competed successfully in the Great Computer Challenge and Tidewater Science Fair at Old Dominion University and a regional mathematics contest at Christopher Newport University. Students also competed successfully in the Virginia Junior Academy of Science, state, local and national Science Fairs, NCSSSMST Student Conference and Symposia, Young Epidemiology Scholars Competition, and a variety of other academic challenge competitions.

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