Key Features of the APPX Signature Program

APDS and APID classes will offer the following:

- A collegial college-preparatory learning environment composed of like-minded thinkers
- College Board approved and trained instructors, both at the Pre-AP and AP level, committed to high expectations and rigorous and creative instruction across the program levels
- A wide variety of AP course offerings to meet the strengths and interests of the individual
- AP instructors make available special preparation, to include tutorial sessions, for achievement and success on AP exams
- A strong community support group composed of teachers (by content), counselors, and the APPX coordinator for our students
- Unique opportunities and activities such as field experiences, college/career night and AP night
- APPX enrichment opportunities
- Special recognition, notation, cords and diploma seal for postsecondary education
- A technology-rich learning environment
- Opportunities to earn college credits through successful completion of AP courses and qualifying scores on the AP test
- Opportunity to earn AP Capstone Diploma or AP Capstone Certificate

The APPX program prepares our students to compete for admissions and scholarships from prestigious universities in Virginia and across the nation. Both APPX programs (APDS and APID) are College Board sponsored partnerships between the SCPS participating high schools and the colleges and universities.

“Scaling New Heights ... Achieving New Dreams”
Advanced Placement Programs of Excellence—APPX

The Advanced Placement Programs of Excellence (APPX) is a Signature Program available to high school students in Stafford County Public Schools striving to “scale new heights and achieve new dreams”. The program is based on interest, ability, and achievement in the arena of Advanced Placement (AP) courses through the College Board. APPX is designed to provide students with multiple AP course offerings taught by teachers specially trained by the College Board. The extensive AP courses offer high school students exposure to college-level materials and skills as well as providing students with the opportunity to earn college credit. The most unique aspect of APPX is that each student will also complete a service-learning research project through the AP Capstone Program to fulfill the goal of achieving Community Service Leadership and Service Above Self (C.L.A.S.S.). The AP Capstone Program is comprised of two courses: AP Seminar and AP Research. Students have the opportunity to follow one of two concentrations: Advanced Placement Distinguished Scholars (APDS) or Advanced Placement International Diploma (APID).

APDS

The Advanced Placement Distinguished Scholars (APDS) program is designed to encourage students to select courses based on their individual interests.

Students must complete six or more AP courses, including AP Capstone. Successful completion of a service-learning project through the AP Capstone Program is required. Students will be recognized in their senior year as a content-related Advanced Placement Distinguished Scholar.

APPX Concentration Areas

James Farmer: Global Studies Scholar – A concentration in Social Studies courses with a service-learning project through the AP Capstone program that reflects a theme/concept of that nature. AP exam scores in Social Studies and AP Capstone courses must be 3 or higher.

Sir Isaac Newton: Science/Mathematics (STEM) Scholar – A concentration of courses in the areas of Science and Mathematics (STEM), with a service-learning project through the AP Capstone program that reflects a theme/concept of that nature. AP exam scores in Science and Mathematics courses and AP Capstone courses must be 3 or higher.

Thomas Jefferson: Renaissance Scholar – A concentration in three core classes with a service-learning project through the AP Capstone program that reflects a theme/concept of the student’s choosing/passion. AP exam scores in the selected core areas and AP Capstone courses must be 3 or higher.

Palmer Hayden: Arts, Humanities, and Linguistics Scholar – A concentration in English, Fine and Performing Arts, World Language, and Humanities courses with a service-learning project through the AP Capstone program that reflects a theme/concept of that nature. AP exam scores in the English, Fine and Performing Arts, Linguistic, and AP Capstone courses must be 3 or higher.

APID

The AP International Diploma (APID) is designed to promote global competencies and perspectives while challenging students to display exceptional achievement on AP Exams across several disciplines. Students will take the AP Capstone courses to complete the C.L.A.S.S. project. It affords students an opportunity to obtain an international diploma, universities worldwide utilize the APID as a criterion for consideration in admissions.

The APID is available to students attending secondary schools outside the United States and for U.S. resident students applying to universities outside the country. Acknowledging that the APID is not a substitute for a high school diploma, the APID will provide students with an additional, internationally recognized certification of their outstanding academic excellence.

Service-Learning Project C.L.A.S.S.

The Community Leadership And Service above Self Project (C.L.A.S.S.) is a requirement for all APPX students at their respective high schools. C.L.A.S.S. can assist students in demonstrating leadership potential, aid in making a difference on a local and/or global level, and facilitate growth for the student as an individual.

AP Capstone Diploma Program

The C.L.A.S.S. requirement is achieved through the successful completion of the AP Capstone Diploma Program courses—AP Seminar and AP Research. The completion of the program will include a 50 hour service-learning component/portfolio focusing on and reflecting the student’s interest in a particular concentration area.

The C.L.A.S.S. project will also meet the volunteer service-learning requirements for the VA Board of Education’s Excellence in Civics Education Seal and the President’s Volunteer Service Award.