

## GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL FOR AREA HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

The Governing Board for the SWCC Governor's School for Science and Technology announced that plans are underway for the 2016 summer activities. The school will be held in the Ralph B. Davis building at Southwest Virginia Community College. Rising seniors and juniors from all high schools within the SWCC service area are invited to apply for candidacy to the school through their school coordinator for the gifted. Coordinated efforts on behalf of Southwest Virginia Community College, Buchanan, Dickenson, Russell and Tazewell County school systems and the Virginia Department of Education make it possible to provide the school at no cost to students. The goal of the Governor's School being to get local students interested in and excited about the areas of science, medicine, engineering, and technology.

Twenty-four participants will be selected from applications received and evaluated by each school system. Factors to be taken into consideration include teacher recommendations, types of courses taken, class grades, achievement test scores, extra-curricular activities, and an essay in which students explain their interest in science and technology.

The SWCC Governor's School is one of the pioneering Governor's School efforts in Virginia, having been in existence since 1985. The twenty-four students selected are divided into 2 groups, each one with an interest in a particular branch of science. The study experiences include the areas of Computer Fundamentals and Life Sciences. Each group studies under one of two lead faculty selected from exemplary instructors from the counties, as well as from the community college.

The school will start on Monday, July 11, and end on Friday, July 29, 2016. A capstone project and field trips are also included in the experience. Six semester hours of college credit will be awarded as part of the experience. The college credits have in the past transferred as electives to most colleges and universities on an individual basis. However, students are urged to consult with their prospective colleges and universities for questions on this matter.

The SWCC Governor's School has been highly commended for its excellence in delivering quality educational experiences to its students. Students who participated in the 2015 Governor's School expressed their appreciation for the opportunity afforded them to share in the many experiences from the study and travel associated with the program.

Parents recognized the Governor's School experiences as positive influences on their children's academic goals and expressed their appreciation to the local school divisions and the community college for making the school possible. This year the school has been enhanced through several innovations and changes to further bolster the experience.

Applications will be available at high schools in the SWCC service region beginning Monday, April 4.

Additional information can be obtained from your local high school principal or gifted coordinator or you can contact Mrs. Margaret Dye or Mandy Barrett- Co-Directors at [276-964-7277](tel:276-964-7277).