

## PRESS RELEASE

## **Stafford County Public Schools**

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## Stafford Schools Hosts Fourth Annual Chart Your Future Expo

Event Connects Students with Local Businesses, Colleges, and Career Opportunities

**STAFFORD, VA** – Stafford County Public Schools hosted its 4th Annual Chart Your Future Expo at the Fredericksburg Convention Center, where more than 2,400 high school juniors and seniors explored opportunities for their futures. This is the first year juniors have attended the event.

Students from all five high schools and the Phoenix Center engaged with professionals in their fields of interest and participated in hands-on experiences tailored to their post-graduation plans. Sponsored by Branch Builds, the event welcomed 100 exhibitors, organized by career cluster, to provide meaningful connections to enrollment, enlistment, and employment (3E) opportunities. Each student received a booklet containing links to specialized 3E resources and a checklist to track their interactions with potential employers, colleges, and military representatives.

"Chart Your Future is an integral part of our Strategic Plan, ensuring every student has a clear plan toward being employed, enlisted, or enrolled after graduation," said Daniel W. Smith, Ed.D., Superintendent. "This event provides an important opportunity for students to explore their options and take practical steps toward what comes next."

Exhibitors provided students with the opportunity to ask questions, explore career paths, and even apply for jobs, internships, and college programs on-site. After returning to school, students will complete an exit survey validating their plans or detailing something new they learned at the event. Based on this exit survey and a random drawing, Branch Builds will provide \$100 Futures Awards to 25 students.

Stafford County Public Schools remains committed to preparing students for success by fostering connections with local employers, educators, and community partners. The Chart Your Future Expo will return next year, continuing its mission to empower students with the knowledge and tools they need for a bright future.

For more information about Stafford County Public Schools and the Chart Your Future Expo, visit https://www.staffordschools.net/chartyourfuture.



