

CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION



THE OPPORTUNITY ENGINE



Student Spotlight

Glenvar High School & Burton Center senior Tyler Curfiss, an intern at Lift Arc Studios, played an important role in creating Roanoke County's newest LOVE sign. His hard work and craftsmanship showcase the talent and dedication of our CTE students in action! [Click here](#) to view video!

IN THE WORKS



Burton Open House

October 20, 2025

Burton welcomes 8th graders and their families to tour opportunities at Burton Center for Arts & Technology. This is a Roanoke County Schools tradition and is much anticipated for middle school students.



Industry Insight Tour

November 6, 2025

P1 Technologies, in partnership with RCPS & Roanoke County Economic Development, will host teachers for a tour of their manufacturing facility.



DECA District Competition

November 13, 2025

DECA, organization for students participating in Marketing courses, will compete at Roanoke College in their first competition of the year!

Manufacturing Week 2025

Roanoke County Public Schools celebrated Manufacturing Week 2025 by highlighting the creativity, innovation, and technology that drive the manufacturing industry. The events connected manufacturers, educators, and students to showcase exciting career opportunities and hands-on experiences. Its purpose is to inspire the next generation of skilled workers and promote a better understanding of today's advanced manufacturing opportunities right here in the Roanoke Valley.

New Millennium hosted students from Glenvar High School



Novonesis hosted students from Hidden Valley High School



P1 Technologies hosted students from Cave Spring High School



WABTEC Graham White hosted students from William Byrd High School



Medeco hosted students from Northside High School



Valcom hosted students from Burton's Center for Engineering



Mack Trucks hosted students from Burton Center's Mechatronics Program



Marvin Windows and Doors hosted students from Burton Center's Mechatronics and Engineering Programs



Teacher Feature

Meet Command Senior Chief Shawn Wingle

After transitioning from a career in the U.S. Navy, he wasn't entirely sure what the next chapter would look like. But after spending his final six years of service stationed at the U.S. Naval Academy and the Virginia Military Institute (VMI), it became clear that he still had a strong desire to serve — just in a new way. After some discussions, he thought there was no better way to continue that mission than by helping shape and lead the next generation of leaders within the Roanoke County Corps of Cadets currently located at William Byrd High School.



"This school year has been full of memorable moments. ... With many more events on the horizon, including leadership training and community engagement activities, I'm incredibly proud of what our cadets have accomplished so far and excited for what's ahead."

—Command Senior Chief Wingle

Work-Based Learning News

Putting Learning to **Work!**

Work-Based Learning in Roanoke County Schools continues to grow as new businesses join our network to host interns and apprentices. We are actively building partnerships across a wide range of industries to create meaningful opportunities that not only meet workforce needs but also align with students' individual interests and career goals.

As part of our growing work-based learning efforts, Cooperative Education (Co-op) gives students the chance to take what they've learned in class and put it into action in a paid, real-world setting. Co-op connects CTE classroom instruction and practical work experience. The work experience relates directly to the student's individual interests, abilities, and goals as well as the CTE course in which the student is enrolled. Roanoke County CTE is proud to report a total 346 students participating in a co-op experience!

Please reach out to Amanda Painter (apainter@rcps.us) to get involved!

A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Observing our CTE students engaged with their learning is always a boost to my day! I enjoyed visiting CSMS and NHS teachers and students on 9/25. Then I helped judge a NMS student project on 10/2, which involved helping students build professional skills.

Jason Suhr



RCCTC UPDATE

On September 26, 2025, RCPS celebrated a major milestone with a "Topping Out" ceremony, with attendees getting to sign a ceremonial steel beam. This event symbolized the incredible teamwork and dedication behind building a state-of-the-art facility that will serve future generations of RCPS students and the Roanoke Valley at large.

See the latest updates at: www.rcps.us/RCCTC

CAMPAIGN FOR EXCELLENCE

The "Topping Out" ceremony marked the launch of the Campaign for Excellence. RCPS is undertaking this \$5.5 million campaign to raise additional funding for two primary purposes. First, in a fast moving economy, funds raised will help RCCTC stay cutting-edge with equipment and technology. Second, to fund an endowment to provide scholarships to our CTE graduates for tools, PPE, and other needs to launch their careers after high school.

We are collaborating with regional business, industry and individuals, to achieve this goal and we have raised over half a million dollars thus far! Please reach out to Carl York (cyork@rcps.us) to get involved!

**Opportunity
Engine
Podcast**

[Click here for Episode 1](#)



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