

Office of  
Advanced  
Programs

# The College Connection

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Creating a College-Going  
Culture in WCPS



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## JHU Facts

Location  
Baltimore, MD

Undergraduate enrollment  
4,998

Mascot  
Blue Jay

Middle 50% SAT  
Reading 670–770  
Math 690–790  
Writing 670–770

Students Receiving Aid  
46%

Clubs & Organizations  
360+

[www.jhu.edu](http://www.jhu.edu)

## Why Go to College?

Students, parents, and even teachers often question the goal of college readiness for all. A broader definition of college may help address this question. We use the term "college" to refer to any postsecondary education or training institution, including two- and four-year colleges as well as technical and trade schools. In the 21st century, postsecondary education is a must. In the 1970's, only 12% of U.S. jobs required some postsecondary education or training, and only 16% required a bachelor's degree. In the next decade, however, 45% of jobs will require some postsecond-

ary education or training, while 33% will require a bachelor's degree or more. Students with only a high school diploma will have fewer opportunities, and the jobs available to them will offer low wages.

Adults with more education earn higher salaries and are less likely to be unemployed than those with less education. Furthermore, the availability of health benefits and pension plans increases with every level of educational attainment.

College provides other benefits as well, including relationships with diverse people, cultural enrichment, and personal growth.

## College of the Month

What do CNN anchor Wolf Blitzer, NYC Mayor and billionaire Michael Bloomberg, and horror filmmaker Wes Craven have in common? They are all graduates of the world renowned Johns Hopkins University. More impres-

sively, 34 Nobel Prize winners have either graduated from or taught at JHU, a research university whose mission is "Knowledge for the world." Hopkins students come from all fifty states and 71 nations, with 99% of freshmen living on

First in the Family  
YOUR HIGH SCHOOL YEARS

Website  
of the Month

[www.firstinthefamily.org](http://www.firstinthefamily.org)

"Believe in your right to college" is the motto of this website, which aims to inspire and support students who would be the first in their families to attend college. The site offers videos with advice from other first-generation students, facts and tips, inspirational quotes, planning checklists, and links to additional resources.

Check it out!



the 140-acre campus in downtown Baltimore.  
Go, Blue Jays!

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Providing world class educational  
opportunities for all students

[www.wcboe.k12.md.us](http://www.wcboe.k12.md.us)



# The College Connection

## Elementary School Spotlight:

Hickory Elementary School began the year "with the end in mind." A bulletin board displayed photos of staff with their educational backgrounds and their goals for students. The school requested pennants from various colleges and displayed them in the hallway. Enrichment students at **Old Forge** researched careers that interested them, learned the educational requirements for their careers, and connected their own character traits to the careers. They then created "career people," which were displayed in the school. **Pleasant Valley** has added "College Conversations" to its morning announcements, beginning with the basics, such as reasons to go to college and degrees that are earned in college. Thanks to Amy Norris, Jennifer Bausman, and Lisa Keyser for their updates and the photos below.



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Students at Old Forge Elementary with their "Career People."

How is your school creating a college-going culture? Send your activities and photos to Lori Parks-Murphy for publication in future issues of *The College Connection*.