

Dear Potential Applicant,

Thank you for your interest in West Potomac High School. Our school is a unique place rich with diverse backgrounds, beliefs, cultures, and ideas. To meet these needs, it is important to give you a clear view of our expectations for teaching and learning, so you can make an assessment of if whether West Potomac is an environment in which you might want to work and grow professionally.

West Potomac is a **Professional Learning Community (PLC)** made up of **Collaborative Teams (CTs)**. Schools are at their best when both adults and students are in learning mode. We are developing a culture wherein each faculty member is equally responsible for the academic success of all students, not just those who are assigned to their roster. Teachers work in content teams, at least weekly, to unpack the standards for their courses, create a shared syllabus, maintain a common pacing/curriculum guide, and design common assessments. Our teams also develop **interventions** and shared strategies that target students who need additional support.

We fundamentally believe all students can and will learn at high levels through mastery learning; thus, we strive for every student to take advanced level classes. These include **honors, Advanced Placement, or dual enrollment** courses, which may be taken in numerous combinations pursuant to student interests and abilities. To challenge all students, **differentiation** is key. Also, as part of our **block schedule**, we have **Wolverine Time**, a dedicated intervention and enrichment period.

Faculty members email home **progress reports** every two weeks. We also maintain **FCPS 24/7 (Blackboard)** websites to post assignments, syllabi, lessons, and announcements. We maximize home/school **communication** and partner with families to build a stronger school **community**.

The process of hiring is a two-way street. We seek candidates who are knowledgeable in their content, practical in their pedagogy, and have clear answers to the following questions:

- Will you believe that all students, regardless of background, can learn at high levels?
- Will you help each child—from at-risk to gifted students—reach their full potential?
- Will you be a team player and work interdependently with your colleagues?
- Will you be committed to collective inquiry and seek out best practices from colleagues?

Our community has great expectations for our school, and we continue to seek, hire, and retain colleagues who maintain that same level of commitment to their practice. We hope if these values resonate with you that we can discuss how they match in an interview.

On behalf of the faculty,



Alexander B. Case  
Principal