



# IT CENTER OF EXCELLENCE

WESTERN MARYLAND

## Virtual Quarterly Update

### February, 2018

- **Girls Who Code update**  
We have submitted our Letter of Intent with Girls Who Code and are officially a Partner! The partnership has several benefits including the ability to host more than one club in our area as well as the opportunity to apply for funding each semester (\$400/club) to cover the cost of equipment, snacks, even t-shirts for our club participants. We have been working closely with Melissa Kaye, ACPS, to find the best way to maximize our accessibility for middle school girls. We may possibly meet at each of the middle schools, but another option lies in having the clubs meet at libraries, ACM, or FSU. We have several female coders interested in becoming Facilitators for the clubs. We anticipate launching the clubs in the Fall 2018 semester, with possibly doing a day camp this summer. Melissa is planning Girls Who Code nights in March at each of the middle schools to help with P-TECH recruitment and will be asking for volunteers once the dates are set. To showcase the incredible work that GWC Clubs across Maryland are doing, and to bring attention to the need to expand computer science to all girls across Maryland, the Governor will be hosting a Clubs Showcase for all of our Maryland Clubs at the Maryland State House in Annapolis on March 15, 2018 at 10am. At this event, Clubs will have the opportunity to demonstrate their coding skills and their Impact Project for the Governor, State Legislators, Cabinet Secretaries and business leaders. Autumn and Melissa plan to attend the event to learn more about the existing Maryland clubs. Our next meeting date is scheduled for late March.
- **Governor Hogan's ACCESS initiative update**  
Governor Larry Hogan recently announced a comprehensive computer science education and workforce development plan, including a new executive order, proposed legislation, and \$5 million in new education funding. The governor's plan, known as the ACCESS Initiative (Achieving Computer Science Collaborations for Employing Students Statewide), is committed to strengthening computer science education across states for all students in order to meet the demands of a 21<sup>st</sup> century workforce and prepare students for the jobs of the future.  
Bills related to this initiative include:

- *Achieving Computer Science Collaborations for Employing Students Statewide (ACCESS) Act of 2018*  
[SB 300](#) - Establishes the MD Center for Computing Education (MCCE). The Governor's FY 2019 budget provides \$5 million to the MCCE train teachers to offer computer science. Creates K-12 computer science standards and develop an implementation plan. Requires that all high schools offer computer science course by school year 2020-21, and all elementary and middle schools by 2022-23.
- *Education - Computer Science - Curriculum and Professional Development (Securing the Future: Computer Science Education for All)*  
[HB 281](#) - Expands and assists with professional development for teachers in computer science by providing \$1 million a year for FY 2020 and 2021; provides mechanism for private industry support. Requires that all high schools offer computer science and recommends that school districts integrate computer science into public elementary and middle schools.
- *Achieving Computer Science Collaborations for Employing Students Statewide (ACCESS) Act of 2018*  
[HB 350](#) - Same as SB 300 but heard by the House

- P-TECH Update

Recruitment for the 2018-19 P-TECH Cohort has started. School counselors are working with 8th grade students on their high school programs of study selection and Melissa Kaye is visiting middle schools and presenting to the 8th grade students. A parent meeting will take place on **Wednesday, March 7, from 6:00-7:30 p.m., CCTE Auditorium**, to discuss P-TECH. If you would like to participate/speak to parents at this event, please contact Melissa Kaye by March 1. Employers don't need to talk specifically about P-TECH; you can just share a few minutes of your passion about Cyber Security in Allegany County and something interesting the kids can relate to about your job. Currently, the first P-TECH cohort has 20 students. ACPS has seven other 9th graders interested in joining the cohort. Melissa is going to meet with them to determine interest and eligibility. P-TECH Career Awareness breakfast meetings for students in the first cohort have been taking place at the CCTE, Culinary Cafe. Upcoming meetings will be held on March 28 and May 2 from 9 a.m. until 11:30 a.m.

A P-TECH Stakeholder meeting is tentatively scheduled for **Thursday, April 12, 2018, 1:30 p.m.**

- REACT update & Sponsorship Opportunity

REACT has been hard at work establishing new clubs across the County and securing funding to purchase the proper kits and equipment for each club. They are actively seeking donations from corporate sponsors at a variety of levels to fund their 2018 goals: new programs development, such as the Allegany County 4-H Robotics Challenge Tournament; new areas of the county to reach, such as Frostburg; and to make significant progress on a major long-term goal: to locate and move into a building that will serve as a robotics education center for the entire county. Please refer to the attached sponsorship request letter to review the many levels of sponsorship available.

- QTR2 FY18 Reports  
Attached are the most recent quarterly reports submitted to DLLR on 1/15/18. If any partner has questions or needs printed copies, please contact Autumn.
- Workforce Training Plan schedule reminder! Employers will be contacted to provide names and email addresses for rosters as the training date approaches.

TRAINING	DATE & TIME
CompTIA Network+ *certification voucher included	March 12-16, 2018 8:30am- 4:30pm
Certified Ethical Hacker (EC Council) * certification voucher included	April 16-20, 2018
Microsoft 2012 Server * certification voucher included	May 7-11, 2018 8:30AM- 4:30PM
Certified Network Defender (EC Council) * certification voucher included	Sep-18

- Tech at the Gap Update  
The date for our 2018 conference is set for Wednesday, October 24, 2018 at Rocky Gap Casino Resort. The planning committee will be meeting on a monthly basis. Theme development is in the works and 2018 Sponsorship levels have been determined. Attached is the sponsorship request letter and tiers- partners are encouraged to send to colleagues to encourage new sponsorships!
- **NEXT MEETING:** April, 2018