



CENTER I

03/07/2025

Director's Note:

As I think most of you know, the decision was made to not renew my contract here at Center I for 2025-26. School leaders help set the vision and direction for a school, ensuring that every decision and initiative is aligned with the goal of supporting all students academically, socially, and emotionally. And I have zero regrets and am proud that my decisions and actions have always been student-centered and around increasing experiences for our learners. Like this last weekend where Center I crushed the competition at the TSA and the Cyber Security Competitions (see below for more information).

I am proud of the fact that Center I students have garnered more industry certifications than the rest of the school division combined. I am proud of the staff here at Center I that continues to challenge and embrace students every single day. I am proud of the students and their efforts and how they connect with one another. And I am proud that on average student grades and attendance are higher here at Center I than at their base schools, showing that the students appreciate the space, and our Center I culture.

On another note, as many of you know there is a significant budget gap for 2025-26. And as a budget savings, I have been instructed to replace our nurse position here at Center I (Annie Richardson) with a CNA. I have written central office staff who made this decision, along with the school board as I consider this an immoral directive. .

A portion of my most recent letter to the school board -- I am also hoping to keep the FLES program, but you can see the Center I portion below: .

In addition, some of you may have seen the segment on NBC29 on Monday (<https://www.29news.com/video/2025/03/03/school-nurses-can-see-warning-signs-youth-mental-health-issues/>) discussing the importance of full-time nurses in all our schools. In fact Miles Nelson (coordinator of Mental Health and Wellness for ACPS) is in the segment. While I have been instructed to hire a CNA for the Center I space, I have not done so as this is an immoral directive – specifically due to the complexity of our student population's medical needs and the level of care required on a daily basis. I have spoken with numerous experts and medical professionals who quite frankly are amazed that this is any way is even being considered.

While my concerns have been ignored at the division level (in fact it was suggested to me that nurses just give out band aids and ice) this is not only insulting but it fails to recognize the varied issues with so many of our students.

As you may be aware, Center I serves students who present with a wide range of health conditions, some of which involve chronic, acute, and potentially life-threatening diagnoses. These needs often include:

- Medication administration, including controlled substances.
- Management of seizure disorders and emergency response planning.
- Diabetes care, including insulin administration and blood glucose monitoring.
- Wound care, catheterization, and other skilled nursing procedures.
- Development and oversight of Individualized Healthcare Plans (IHPs).

While CNA's play a valuable role in health care, their scope of practice is not designed to independently manage these higher-level medical tasks or make critical health assessments in emergent situations. In contrast:

- **RN's** are trained to assess, plan, and evaluate complex care, respond to medical emergencies, and coordinate directly with physicians and families.
- **LPNs** provide skilled nursing care under the supervision of an RN, including medication administration and routine procedures that exceed CNA qualifications.

Given the unpredictable and sometimes urgent health needs of our students, having a licensed nurse on-site is not just a best practice—it is a matter of safety, compliance, and ensuring equitable access to education. Without appropriately credentialed medical staff, there is a risk of delayed care, increased emergency service calls, and potential violations of students' health rights under their IEP or 504 plans.

As student health profiles continue to grow more complex, I urge the board to prioritize hiring an RN, or, at minimum, an LPN for Center I. This decision will protect student well-being, support staff, and give families the confidence that their children are cared for by qualified professionals.

Please add the Center I facebook page to your list of favorites:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/422549493202862/>

Thanks

Jeff Prillaman

CENTER OF ATTENTION



Deebo Morse

He/Him
Grade 10, AHS

Pathway
Cybersecurity

"It's pretty fun and interesting. We are learning networking and what the different paths of a network do". "I like my teacher".

Spare Time

"I am part of a Robotics team"

Looking Forward To...

"I am having friends over tonight"!



Ivania Giron

She/Her
Grade 11, AHS

Pathway
Cybersecurity

"It's pretty cool, I like it". "I am definitely learning a lot about computers". "It can be confusing because it's new to me, but it's also a lot of fun"!

Spare Time

"Reading, playing guitar and playing games"!

Looking Forward To...

"Being successful in school".



Michael Lazlo

He/Him
Grade 12, AHS

Pathway
Media Communications

"We are doing a TSA project. We are building a drone. It's been a process". "It's been fun. There's been a lot of setbacks but we have been doing our best".

Spare Time

"I fly drones and take nature videos at different parks". "I also do photography and gaming".

Looking Forward to...

"Attending college and getting a degree"!

School Counselor's Note:

The roots of education are bitter but the fruit is sweet. - Aristotle

To our seniors who are feeling the stresses of their final year - hang in there! Do your best to dig deep and put in the necessary effort now so you can soon reap the rewards of graduation. In less than three months you will be celebrating your future selves as high school graduates. You got this!

Center One Graduation

Mark your calendars now for **Thursday, May 29, 1-2:30**

Students and their families are encouraged to attend our brief and intimate ceremony and celebration. We will follow up closer to the date with more details.

Center One Attendance Buybacks

Center 1 is now offering students the opportunity to make up excessive absences every Tuesday afternoon from 3:30 - 4:30 and Wednesday morning from 8:30 - 9:30. Students who attend will be expected to work on assignments in the offices of either Mr. Prillaman or Ms. Fink.

Nurse Note:

If your student takes medication on a regular basis, or occasionally as needed, please print and send a completed [Medication Request Form](#) to me. Students will not be able to receive any medication without this completed form on file. Paper copies are available at Center I.

Covid Guidelines can be found here: [Mitigation Strategies - Albemarle County School District](#)

Please contact me if you need additional information: **Annie Richardson** or 434-244-8900 x 64012

Thank you,

Annie Richardson RN



As a way to fund the awesome things we have and do at Center One, we invite parents and stakeholders to contribute when they can to our Donors Choose fundraising efforts. Last year, Mrs. Blevins built a library for Center One through the funding of eight Donors Choose projects. Additionally, our CTE teachers secured several amazing items through Donors Choose.

(Schultz) English 10, 11, 12: This week in **Micah Schultz** 's classes we began in earnest our study of *Slaughterhouse-Five*, shifting our focus on New Historicism literary theory. We'll use a New Historicist lens to explore how Kurt Vonnegut's experiences as a World War II soldier and prisoner of war shaped the novel's portrayal of trauma and the absurdity of war. By examining the historical context, including the bombing of Dresden and post-war anxieties, we'll discuss how the novel reflects and critiques the cultural and moral

complexities of its time. If anyone is interested in support my Donor's Choose project, which includes some classroom library books and a class set of our final text for the year, please follow [this link](#). I appreciate your help.

English AP11: This week in Micah Schultz 's class students completed their first timed synthesis writing assignment and worked with partners to evaluate their essays based on the AP Lang Test criteria/rubric. Students will soon complete a second timed writing assignment and work with partners and AI to evaluate their products.

(Blevins) English 10, 11, 12: In [Mrs. Blevins's](#) class, students wrapped up their linguistic coding unit by taking a summative quiz. After that, 10th, 11th, and 12th grade all began working on new units. 10th graders have been reading John Green's *The Anthropocene Reviewed* and will write a review-style essay based on the collection. 11th graders are engaging in last-minute SOL prep to make sure they are ready to succeed. 12th graders have begun a leadership-based unit on *Lord of the Flies* and are aiming to wrap up the unit shortly after spring break.

Dual Enrollment English: This week in [Mrs. Blevins's](#) PVCC English class, students have focused on writing their analytical theme essays. They have read all five short stories from Jocelyn Nicole Johnson's *My Monticello* and will select a theme to analyze in their essay before the class moves on to reading the novella. We have spent the majority of this quarter bolstering students' analysis skills and are excited to read the nuanced and engaging essays they are writing.

World History 2 and AP World

This week, Dr. Mound's (jmound@k12albemarle.org) World History II history students worked on the second state- and district-required DBQ (document based question) assessment, which replaces the previous SOL exam. This DBQ assignment focuses on the Reconstruction period. It asks students to answer the question, "How did revolutions change Latin America?" using a combination of state-provided primary- and secondary-source documents. Before students began writing DBQ, Dr. Mound read the sources aloud, and the class discussed potential responses to the prompt. Students are encouraged to use the instructor-provided [graphic organizer](#) that walks them through the [step-by-step process](#) of writing a solid, source-based paragraph. However, those who prefer to write a traditional five-paragraph essay may do so.

Since our last update, in [Mr. Peck's](#) AP World History class students completed their study of independence movements on both sides of the Atlantic, including focus on the American and French revolutions and the enlightenment ideas that inspired them. Last week students completed their second SOL essay of the year answering the question, "How did revolutions change Latin America", in which they analyzed the political, social and economic changes brought about by the independence movements in those countries. This week, students took a close look at the Industrial Revolution through "The Urban Game", an activity in which they must map out the changes in an English village as it transforms from an agrarian society to one based on manufacturing and heavy industry.

US/VA History and Dual Enrollment US History

This week, Dr. Mound's (jmound@k12albemarle.org) U.S. history students worked on the second state- and district-required DBQ (document based question) assessment, which replaces the previous SOL exam. This DBQ assignment focuses on the Reconstruction period. It asks students to answer the question, "To what extent did the lives of freedmen improve from 1865 to 1890?" using a combination of state-provided primary-

and secondary-source documents. Before students began writing DBQ, Dr. Mound read the sources aloud, and the class discussed potential responses to the prompt. Students are encouraged to use the instructor-provided [graphic organizer](#) that walks them through the [step-by-step process](#) of writing a solid, source-based paragraph. However, those who prefer to write a traditional five-paragraph essay may do so.

US/VA Government and Dual Enrollment Government

In Mr. Peck's (tpeck@k12albemarle.org) Dual Enrollment government class students are completing the third week of our unit on the presidency and the executive branch of government. This week our focus was on the president's domestic policy powers. Students engaged in a current event discussion activity for which there are many topics to choose from given the volume of presidential executive orders issued within the last month. For better or for worse, this is a great time for students to grapple with the extent and/or limits of presidential power.

Mr. Peck's (tpeck@k12albemarle.org) US/VA government class students continued our unit on the judicial by focusing on criminal law and justice, including: the various types of crimes; the potential pitfalls of overly relying on certain evidence, such as eyewitness testimony and confessions; Miranda rights and the circumstances under which they must be given; and the criminal process from arrest, arraignment, preliminary hearing and jury trial. Next week students will wrap up this unit on the judicial system by completing a common assessment that has them analyze the problem of mass incarceration in the United States.

GAME DESIGN

Game Design - Year 1

Students are currently working on creating a mini game in which a cat must pass multiple obstacles in order to get to a fish bone. They are programming everything through visual scripting to make the game run. In addition to basic movement, the students must program gates that unlock, pressure plates, and levers.

Game Design - Year 2

All students have taken the Unity Associate Game Developer certification at this point with 88% remaining as the pass rate. There are 3 tiers of Unity certifications; User, Associate, and Pro. I'm proud of all my There will be a few students that will be retaking the exam soon, all with the expectation of passing.

In the preparation coursework for the Unity Certified User: Programmer certification exam they have just wrapped up the 1st unit. This entailed getting a vehicle to drive forward, backward, and turning while smashing through obstacles.

Mr. Stalker and Mr. Sills would like to extend our heartfelt congratulations to the Game Design students on their impressive victories at the TSA Valley Region Competition! Your creativity, teamwork, and dedication truly shined through, and we couldn't be more proud of your achievements. Keep up the great work, and we look forward to seeing even more success at States! A special shout-out to our board game team of Bridgit, Lauren, Bryce, Logan, and Dante for taking 1st place, and our Video Game Design team of Daniel, William, and Jahmel for earning 2nd place!





CYBERSECURITY

Ms. Heather Schmidt, instructor [hschmidt2 @ k12albemarle.org](mailto:hschmidt2@k12albemarle.org)

Need help? Students please submit [this form](#) to schedule tutoring, report trouble with platforms/tools, or request recommendation letters.

Commonwealth Cyber Cup Final Round

Germanna Community College, Culpeper March 1, 2025

Congratulations to both teams for dedicating their Saturday to an intense cybersecurity challenge, demonstrating incredible cognitive endurance while competing against 32 of Virginia's top teams. I'm thrilled to share that our beginner team secured an impressive **2nd place finish**, with **Greg earning the highest individual score in the Beginner tier overall!**

As a result of his outstanding performance, Greg has been awarded a **scholarship for the SEC275: SANS Foundations course**, along with a test voucher for the [GIAC Foundational Cybersecurity Technologies \(GFACT\) certification](#). This is an incredible achievement—well done to all! 🎉💻🔒

2nd Place

Beginner Team



2025
COMMONWEALTH
CYBERCUP CAPTURE
THE FLAG



Upcoming & Current Events:

- RUSecure CTF Qualifying Round:
 - 8AM Feb 24th - 12PM March 7th (virtual)
 - Teams 3 to 5 students
 - Competing nationally with K12, homeschool, community college students
 - High performers advance to Final Round
 - Current stats (out of 83 teams actively participating):
 - **Twix Left** 25th place with 33,950 points
 - **The Real Twix Left** 31st place with 28,950 points
 - **Sparkle & Syntax** 44th place with 25,600 points

- **Misclick** 🖱️ 48th place with 24,950 points
- **LeCyber Raymone James Sr** 55th place with 21,700 points

Cybersecurity - Year 1 [Ms. Schmidt](#)

- **IT Fundamentals** - Students are showcasing their knowledge of computer hardware in an exciting PC Build Showdown! For this summative project, teams are designing custom PC builds, balancing performance, budget, and compatibility. Their designs will compete in a bracket-style tournament, where the school community will vote on the best build in a "Battle of the PCs" showdown. The winning team's design will be assembled by students and raffled off, bringing hands-on experience and real-world stakes to the project. We are also working on our employability skills by updating our resumes.
- **Cybersecurity Fundamentals** - Students spent class competing in the **RUSecure CTF**, which will run until **noon on March 7th**. Top scoring teams will receive an invitation to the final round TBA.

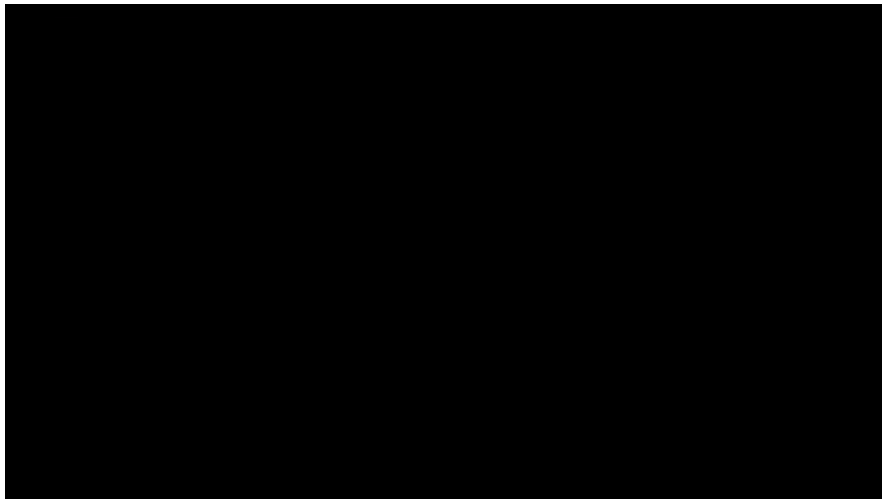
Cybersecurity - Year 2 [Ms. Schmidt](#)

Students began our Networking Operations unit, focusing on performance metrics and alerts. They engaged in hands-on practice using Cisco's Packet Tracer virtual network emulation software where they configured SNMP monitoring as well as learned how to monitor interface errors.

Cybersecurity - Year 3 [Ms. Schmidt](#)

It's almost certification test time! Students taking the Security+ test on April 21st have been asked to verify that they have the necessary identification. Test registration has begun. A Day Students have selected the following dates for after-school study sessions: Mondays 3/10, 3/17, 3/24, and 4/14 3:30-4:30 PM.

MEDIA COMMUNICATIONS



Save the date: our showcase, [Creativus III](#) takes place on April 19th, 2025 at IX Art Park.

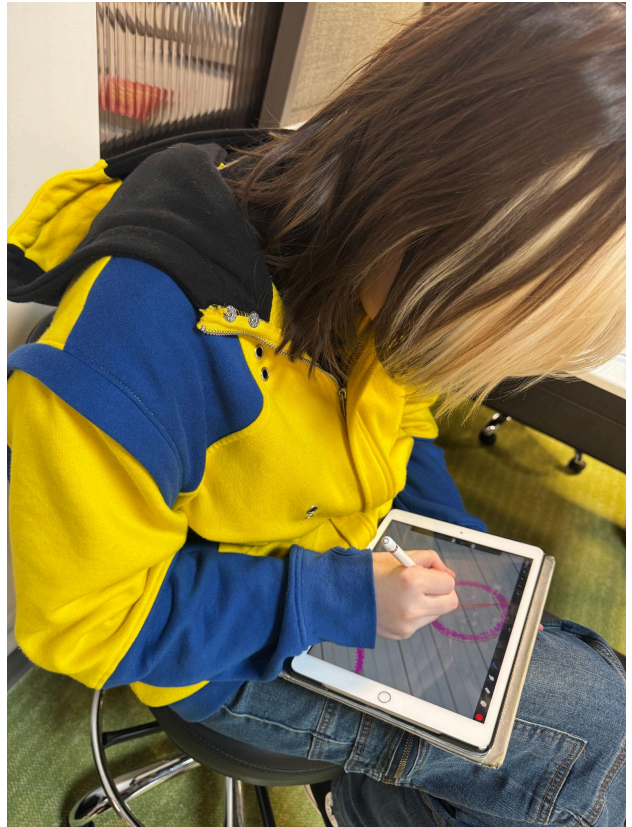
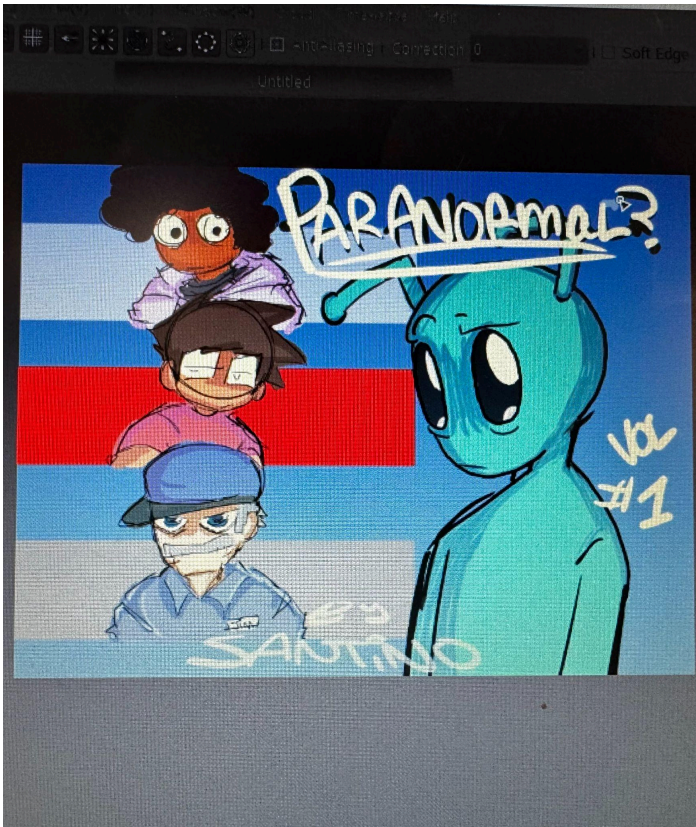
Welp, we did it. We had a 5 day school last week. Despite all of the interruptions to our routine and schedule, media students are continuing project work that will headline our second semester showcase.

Major shouts to Jonas and Lewis, for placing 1st and 2nd in the TSA regional competition for music production last weekend! Also, Jacky recently completed a Pro Tools certification at The MRC.



More shouts to Brody and Finn. Their film, Class President, was accepted into the [2025 PXX film festival!](#)





If you need anything, please do not hesitate to shoot me an email: [Mr. Glover](mailto:Mr.Glover)



Link Studio

Information & Communication Technologies