January 9, 2015

Dear Governor’s School Applicant and Parents:

The Summer Regional Governor’s School at the MathScience Innovation Center is one of more than twenty summer programs for gifted students sponsored state-wide by the Virginia Department of Education. Students currently enrolled in grades 6, 7 or 8 who have been identified by their school divisions as gifted are eligible to apply. There is no tuition charge for participation in the Center's Summer Regional Governor's School. It is supported by the State of Virginia and the school boards of the MathScience Innovation Center’s consortium school divisions. Participation in Governor’s School is an exciting opportunity and a special privilege. Our students are selected from the most able and motivated students in the Richmond area. This year's program will be held on June 29, 30, July 1, 2, 6, 7, 8, 9, 2015 from 8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

The MathScience Innovation Center’s Summer Regional Governor’s School serves students from thirteen counties and cities (both public and private schools.) Because of the great number of students who are interested and the limited number of spaces available, the selection process is competitive, and not everyone who applies can be accepted. Completed applications are to be sent to your school division’s gifted education supervisor who will select nominees and alternates for each place allotted to your school or school division. Nominations and applications will then be sent to the MathScience Innovation Center by the school division.

In some cases, students are designated as alternates. If a Summer Regional Governor’s School student decides not to participate, the first alternate from his or her division is accepted. If the first alternate cannot attend, the second alternate is notified, and so on. Alternates are not admitted if a student drops out after the program has begun.

Please call me at (804) 343-6525 ext. 246 if you have any questions. I wish you success in your efforts!

Sincerely,

Daphne Schmidt
Director, Summer Regional Governor’s School
Read this page first!

1. Discuss the Summer Regional Governor’s School program with your parent or guardian and make sure you understand what the Summer Regional Governor’s School is, and that you will be able to participate if you are accepted. If you have questions, talk to your counselor, your gifted program teacher, and with other students who have attended a Governor’s School in the past. You may also call Daphne Schmidt at the MathScience Innovation Center, 343-6525 ext. 246.

2. Read the entire application packet before you begin to fill it out. The packet has three important sections:

   A. Applicant Information
      Don’t forget to read the “Parent’s Permission Statement” and have your parent sign it.

   B. Student Essay
      Read the directions carefully and give yourself plenty of time to do your best.

   C. Teacher Recommendation Forms
      Be sure to have your parent or guardian sign both of the teacher recommendation forms before you give them to your teacher. You should give these to your teachers as soon as you decide to apply for Governor’s School so that they will have enough time to complete the forms and return them to the appropriate person in your school. These two forms are to be filled out by teachers who know you well enough to be able to give complete answers to the questions. You may choose any two teachers you wish, including teachers you had last year. If there is a scout leader, tutor, or other adult (not a family member) who you feel can give a more complete evaluation of you than a teacher, you may ask this person to complete an evaluation form. At least one of the two evaluations must come from a classroom teacher, however.

3. Send Parts A and B of the application to either your gifted program teacher or your guidance counselor on or before the deadline which has been set by your school. If you do not know the deadline, ask your teacher or call the Gifted Program Supervisor at your school board office.

4. If you are selected by your school division as a nominee, your application will be sent to the MathScience Innovation Center. You will receive a notification via e-mail from the Center on or before April 2, 2015 notifying you of your acceptance status.
A. Applicant Information
MathScience Innovation Center
Governor’s School 2015

Name ____________________________________________________________

School ___________________________ School Division ________________

Present Grade in School ________________________________

Class for which you are applying (please indicate first and second choice with a 1 & 2):

CSI: Student Academy (grade 6 & 7) _______ A River Runs Through It (grade 7 & 8) _______

Prototyping Nature’s Design (grade 6 & 7) _______ From the Ground Up (grade 7 & 8) _______

RoboQuest (grade 6 & 7) _______ I am Nano (grade 7 & 8) _______

Address and phone information:

Home Address _______________________________________________________

City ___________________________ State __________ Zip _____________

Home Phone ___________________________ Emergency Phone ______________

E-mail ___________________________

(Acceptance notification will be sent to this email address)

Race/Ethnic Background (optional - for statistical purposes only)

Black/Non-Hispanic _______ White/Non-Hispanic _______

American Indian/Alaskan Native _______ Asian/Pacific Islander _______

Hispanic _______

Parent’s Permission Statement

Name of Parent or Guardian ____________________________________________

(Student’s name)

has my permission to participate, if selected, in the 2015 Summer Regional Governor’s School at the Math Science Innovation Center. I understand that, if accepted, my child will be required to attend every day during the program, and participate in all program activities. I understand that daily transportation to and from the Center is my responsibility. Absence (except in case of personal illness or family emergency) and infraction of rules and regulations may result in immediate dismissal. Students who miss more than one day of the program will not be eligible to receive a certificate of completion.

Signature of Parent or Guardian ___________________________ Date ________________
B. Student Essay
MathScience Innovation Center
Governor's School 2015

Directions:

Complete by typing or neatly writing on separate sheets of paper. Write your full name in the upper right corner of each page, and attach to the “Applicant Information” page.

The essay question on this page is very important. Remember that nearly all students who apply for Governor’s School make excellent grades and have high test scores. This essay question will give you a chance to “stand out from the crowd.” Your response should showcase your special talents, accomplishments, knowledge, and creativity. You are welcome to supplement your response in any style you wish (artwork, video, etc.) The essay should be between 200-300 words (1-2 typewritten pages). The essay will be evaluated on creativity, clarity of expression, and completeness. You may have someone else type your essays for you, but you must do the original writing yourself!

Why should you be considered for this program? (For example: CSI: Student Academy, Prototyping Nature’s Design, RoboQuest, A River Runs Through It, From the Ground Up, or I am Nano). You may include information on any of your special interests / activities, hobbies, or school projects which you feel qualify you for this experience.
C. Teacher Recommendation 1  
MathScience Innovation Center  
Governor's School 2015

To The Student: Items A, B, and C below should be completed by your parent before this form is given to your teacher.

A. Student's Name ________________________________

B. Course applied for ________________________________

C. Parent Permission Statement:

Permission is hereby given for the release of the information requested concerning my child.

Parent's Signature ________________________________ Date ________________________________

To The Teacher:

This student is applying for a science course at the Center's Summer Regional Governor's School for gifted students sponsored by the Virginia Department of Education. The information requested on this form will be used in the selection process. Your description of this student's interests, abilities, and special talents will be extremely helpful. The selection team will be seeing this student through your eyes, so your comments are very important!

This recommendation should be returned to the gifted program teacher or your guidance counselor, as soon as possible. The student's application cannot be processed without this form. If you have any questions, call your Gifted Program Supervisor, or call Daphne Schmidt at the MathScience Innovation Center, 343-6525 ext. 246. Thank you for your help!

1. What course or program of studies under your supervision has the student taken? In what year(s)?

________________________________________________________________________

2. Please estimate the extent to which the student has demonstrated in your classes the qualities listed below:

(Scale: 4 = superior; 3 = good; 2 = fair; 1 = poor)

   a. intellectual curiosity   4 3 2 1
   b. academic ability       4 3 2 1
   c. capacity for analysis and synthesis  4 3 2 1
   d. attitude toward learning  4 3 2 1
   e. organizational skills   4 3 2 1
   f. ability to work with peers & teachers 4 3 2 1
   g. initiative              4 3 2 1
   h. maturity and dependability 4 3 2 1

(Continued)
3. All applicants for this program are among the top students in their school in academic achievement. Cite examples which explain why this student is outstanding among other outstanding students. Please be specific and do not cite grades and test scores.

4. Please add other comments about the student, which would be helpful to the selection committee. For example, how motivated is the student to accept and follow through with academic challenges? How does the student relate to others when working in a group? How much interest and enthusiasm has the student shown toward science?
C. Teacher Recommendation 2
MathScience Innovation Center
Governor's School 2015

To The Student: Items A, B, and C below should be completed by your parent before this form is given to your teacher.

A. Student's Name ____________________________________________

B. Course applied for__________________________________________

C. Parent Permission Statement:

Permission is hereby given for the release of the information requested concerning my child.

_________________________  ____________________________
Parent’s Signature          Date

To The Teacher:

This student is applying for a science course at the Center's Summer Regional Governor's School for gifted students sponsored by the Virginia Department of Education. The information requested on this form will be used in the selection process. Your description of this student’s interests, abilities, and special talents will be extremely helpful. The selection team will be seeing this student through your eyes, so your comments are very important!

This recommendation should be returned to the gifted program teacher or your guidance counselor, as soon as possible. The student’s application cannot be processed without this form. If you have any questions, call your Gifted Program Supervisor, or call Daphne Schmidt at the MathScience Innovation Center, 343-6525 ext. 246. Thank you for your help!

1. What course or program of studies under your supervision has the student taken? In what year(s)?

________________________________________________________________________

2. Please estimate the extent to which the student has demonstrated in your classes the qualities listed below:

(Scale: 4 = superior; 3 = good; 2 = fair; 1 = poor)

a. intellectual curiosity  4 3 2 1
b. academic ability  4 3 2 1
c. capacity for analysis and synthesis  4 3 2 1
d. attitude toward learning  4 3 2 1
e. organizational skills  4 3 2 1
f. ability to work with peers & teachers  4 3 2 1
g. initiative  4 3 2 1
h. maturity and dependability  4 3 2 1

(Continued)
Teacher Recommendation 2
Page 2

(You may use a separate sheet for your responses if you wish. Please include the student's full name on each additional page.)

3. All applicants for this program are among the top students in their school in academic achievement. Cite examples which explain why this student is outstanding among other outstanding students. Please be specific and do not cite grades and test scores.

4. Please add other comments about the student, which would be helpful to the selection committee. For example, how motivated is the student to accept and follow through with academic challenges? How does the student relate to others when working in a group? How much interest and enthusiasm has the student shown toward science?

_________________________  ________________________
Signature of Teacher               Date

_________________________  ________________________
School                          School Division
Summer Regional Governor’s School
For Middle School Youth 2015

The Virginia Department of Education and the MathScience Innovation Center support this special program for students in grades 6, 7, and 8 who are identified as gifted by their school divisions.

Choose from among six course offerings and explore the exciting worlds of math, science, and technology. All classes meet for 8 days at the MathScience Innovation Center.

**CSI: Student Academy**
In order to solve crimes, it takes the efforts of many individuals. Experience the different roles of crime scene investigators, detectives and forensic scientists and examine how the teamwork of these individuals can exonerate the innocent and convict the guilty. Become a crime scene investigator and search a simulated crime scene to collect evidence using authentic evidence collection procedures. Learn about techniques used by forensic specialists in a lab setting such as obtaining and examining latent prints, using serology, DNA and drug analysis and more to determine “who dunnit.” Field trips and guest speakers will enhance this fascinating experience.

**Prototyping Nature’s Design**
The fields of medicine and engineering are converging in a battle against the ravages of age, disease, and physical trauma. Join us as we explore concepts and techniques in biomechanics, biomedical engineering, and computer modeling. Become a biomedical engineer as you design, build, & test prosthetic devices using rapid prototyping technology such as 3-D printing. Come discover how new advances in tissue and body “replacement” may affect the quality of your life in the future.

**RoboQuest**
Imagine yourself as a robotics expert, seeking to meet the challenges of today’s world: climate change, micro-engineering, and much more. Be one of the first to discover PicoCrickets®, tiny computers that you will program to react, interact, and communicate with lights, motors, and sensors. Learn to program the LEGO NXT® robot brain to overcome challenging obstacles as you work with a dynamic robotics team. Experience the latest in robotic innovations as you enter the world of RoboQuest!

**A River Runs Through It**
Flowing through Virginia from the mountains of the Blue Ridge to the salt marshes of the Chesapeake Bay, the James River tells a special story about the people, farms, towns, and cities that line its banks. To begin the story, you’ll need to put on your wet boots and hop on a research vessel. Through a variety of lab experiments and outdoor field studies on and around the water, you will use probeware linked to GIS to conduct water quality and aquatic habitat research. Using math modeling techniques, you will predict the environmental impact of natural and man-made disasters and see how innovative technologies like nano-iron and nano-paper are being used to maintain health and restore damaged river ecosystems. Be an eco-innovator and share and compare your data with Chesapeake Bay scientists while you work with other students to develop a creative plan to rehabilitate the Bay and its river. Please note that this course may include an overnight stay at a research facility.

**From the Ground Up**
How do architects, interior designers and artists create buildings, rooms, and artistic products “from the ground up”? What skills are needed to turn inspiration into reality? Discover the language of architecture and the palette of design. Bring your knowledge of math, architecture, and art together and create a unique scale structure of your own. Watch your original creation rise up from blueprints, to elevations, to a 3D model. Make your own stained glass and floor coverings as you develop ideas for an interior design board. Interact with professionals and learn their secrets for creating and implementing a successful project. Perhaps you will be the next Frank Lloyd Wright!

**I Am Nano**
Get the real scoop on nanobites and nanobots. Explore what’s hot and what’s really not nano in our world today. From the tiniest scale, learn how gecko’s climb and why mood rings really work. Find out how gold nanoparticles play a role in cancer medicine. Take a trip to a tissue engineering lab and watch how humans use biomimicry to recreate a silk worm’s thread. Check out your skills as a nanotechnologist as you filter gold nanoparticles, build liquid crystal thermo sensors, and spin “nanofibers.” Discover why nanoscience is the hot topic in today’s science world!
Registration Information

1. The Summer Regional Governor’s School 2015 will be held on June 29, 30, July 1, 2, 6, 7, 8, and 9. All classes will be held at the MathScience Innovation Center. Classes will meet from 8:30 am to 3:00 pm. Students from 13 school divisions are eligible to participate: The counties of Charles City, Chesterfield, Dinwiddie, Goochland, Hanover, Henrico, New Kent, Powhatan, Prince George and the cities of Colonial Heights, Hopewell, Petersburg, and Richmond. Students are expected to attend every day. Check your calendar carefully!

2. Your school’s gifted program teacher or guidance department has application packets. The application packet consists of teacher recommendations and a written essay. You may also download the packet from www.myMSiC.org. Note that this program is for students identified as gifted by their school divisions.

3. Return the completed application packet to the gifted program teacher or guidance counselor in your school by February 19, 2015 or by the date set by your school.

4. The MathScience Innovation Center will notify students of acceptance through email or US mail by April 2, 2015.

5. For Additional Information: Debbie Mitchell. Phone (804) 343-6525, Ext 243. Email: dmitchell@myMSiC.org
   Daphne Schmidt. Phone (804) 343-6525, Ext 246. Email: dschmidt@myMSiC.org

Division Gifted & Talented Program Contacts

Charles City County
Dr. Pat Alexander
804-829-6723

Hanover
Ms. Connie Foreman
804-365-4615

Powhatan
Ms. Patty Haskins
804-598-5782

Chesterfield
Ms. Susan Albaugh
804-594-1767

Henrico
Ms. Patricia Griffin
804-652-3765

Prince George
Mr. Willie Elliot
804-733-2700

Colonial Heights
Mr. Joseph Douglas
804-524-3400

Hopewell
Ms. Sheila Bailey
804-541-6400

Richmond
Mr. Anthony Washington
804-780-7805

Dinwiddie
Dr. Yardley Farquharson
804-469-4197

New Kent
Mr. Ross Miller
804-966-9636

Goochland
Ms. Raye Rector
804-556-5613

Petersburg
Ms. Stephanie Harvell
804-862-7044

Registration Form

Secure an application packet from your school’s gifted program teacher or guidance department, or download the packet from the MSiC website: www.myMSiC.org

Equal Opportunity Statement

"In accordance with federal laws, the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia and the policies of the School Board of the City of Richmond, the Richmond Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, age, religion, disabilities or national origin in the provision of employment and services. The Richmond Public Schools operates equal opportunity/affirmative action programs for students and staff. The Richmond Public Schools is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. The School Board also supports equal opportunities and treatment of all individuals regardless of sexual orientation. The Section 504 Coordinator is Ms. Michelle Boyd, Richmond Public Schools, 301 North Ninth Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219, (804) 780-7911. The ADA Coordinator is Ms. Valerie Abbott Jones, 2015 Seddon Way, 1st Floor, Richmond, VA 23230-4717 (804) 780-6211. The Title IX Officer is Ms. Angela C. Lewis, Richmond Public Schools, 301 North Ninth Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219, (804) 780-7716. The United States Department of Education’s Office of Civil Rights may also be contacted at P. O. Box 14620, Washington, DC 20044-4620. (202) 308-2545."