WLCS LEADERSHIP COUNCIL 2024-25

We are excited to announce We Lead CS virtual academy's first student-led leadership council and the development of our first chapter team at iLEAD Academy. Members of the leadership council will attend TechOlympics in Cincinnati, OH in February, and will plan computer science events for spring 2025. Congratulations to the following students!

WLCS Leadership Council:
President: Elias Cardoso, Carroll County-iLEAD Academy
Vice President: Emaleigh Bowman, Rockcastle County
Secretary: Lizzy Newell, Owen County-iLEAD Academy
Treasurer: Jack Lewis, New Horizon Academy
Reporter: Briton Stafford, Owen County

SAVE THE date

FEB 15-16, 2025
TechOlympics 2025
INSPIRE

FINISHING OUT THE YEAR WITH WLCS

During November, WLCS continued visited counties across the Commonwealth to raise awareness of educational opportunities and career readiness development that WLCS offers. Our staff visited Rockcastle County, Graves County, Owen County, and Spencer County. During December, several WLCS students will be taking certification exams before winter break. WLCS will also continue its college and career advising sessions and host one more virtual coding session.

Happy winter break and thank you for supporting WLCS!

Student Spotlight

Nathan Rowland
Junior at Rockcastle High School

Nathan Rowland is a junior at Rockcastle High School. He currently takes cybersecurity and programming classes with WLCS. He hopes to use his cybersecurity skills once he graduates while working within the military or at a cybersecurity company.
"Most of the stuff that I've learned about the programming is for cybersecurity but with any programming language, you begin to understand there isn't a big difference in programming languages for different things, it just how it works and acts in different environment/situations. I've also learned that programming works much differently than what I had originally thought but the challenge is fun.."
He said his favorite thing he has learned is programming Karel, a programming language, and learning how various programs run.

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Upcoming Events

DECEMBER 3	Certificate testing for all students in CIT 105, CIT 120, CIT 144, Hardware & Software & Cybersecurity students
DECEMBER 6	College & Career Coaching for all students
DECEMBER 10 & 12TH	KEDC Virtual Coding & Cyber Meetings Dec 10: 4-5 pm Middle School & 5-6 pm High School Dec 12th: 10-11 pm Middle School & 11-12 pm High School
DECEMBER 20	WLCS Winter Break Party
DECEMBER 23 - JANURARY 5	Winter break for all districts

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MEET ERIC GRAY

We Lead CS College & Career Readiness Advisor

Eric Gray is director of virtual learning for WLCS. He teaches the upper level classes for WLCS students and works directly with other teachers to ensure they have materials and support needed to teach their classes.

Prior to working at WLCS, Gray worked at iLEAD Academy for 6 years and previously spent 26 years working in computer science at State Farm, Humana and the Commonwealth of Kentucky. While Gray enjoyed working within the industry, he loves working with students and being able to introduce them to a career they could love.

"For me, I just want to try to spark that little bit of interest in a kid to see, okay, is this something I can do and love? Because I always tell kids in class, if you can find a career or a job that you love, you will never call it work. You will always be doing something you love, and then it never seems like work," he said.

Outside of work, Eric and Jenna, his wife and director of student success for WLCS, play in a golf league together and love visiting Disney World. They also love spending time with their two sons. They are expecting their second grandchild this winter.

Click on linked name below to schedule a meeting with WLCS College & Career Readiness Advisors:

Jenna Gray,
Director of Student Success

Sarah Mann:
Internships & resume writing

Amanda Ashcraft:
Scheduling & transfer plans

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