

Dear Parents or Guardians,

Washougal High School is recruiting computer science or software engineering mentors for the Technology Education and Literacy in Schools (TEALS) program for the 2021-22 school year. If you or someone you know works in the computer science or software engineering field, we need your help supporting students!

This is our third year partnering with the TEALS program, which supports the AP Computer Science Principles (CSP) course and a new AP Computer Science A (CS A) course at WHS. These courses prepare students to take the College Board's exams and submit a digital portfolio of their work in May 2022. AP CS A is scheduled the first period of the student day, roughly from 7:50 AM to 9:00 AM on Monday and Thursday mornings. AP CSP is scheduled for the fourth period of the student day, roughly from 7:50 AM to 9:00 AM on Tuesday and Friday mornings.

MENTORS NEEDED

Are you a computer science or software engineer, or do you know one who might be interested in a mentoring opportunity? To learn about how you can share your expertise with students interested in these careers, please contact AP Coordinator, Hillary M. Marshall at hillary.marshall@washougalsd.org or call her office landline 360-954-3123 (M-F 8AM-2PM).

ABOUT THE TEALS PROGRAM

Microsoft Philanthropies TEALS is a program that recruits, mentors, and places passionate technology professionals into high school classrooms as volunteer instructors. These volunteers bring subject matter expertise & current industry standards directly into our classrooms. Volunteers have an opportunity to join a WHS teacher in a Co-Teach model for our AP CS A course in which the volunteer will be teaching Javascript computer programming to our students and modeling industry relevant troubleshooting tips to consider while working alongside our WHS teacher. Or, volunteers can choose to join Rob Yee in a Lab Support model to teach AP CSP together. TEALS provides virtual training for mentors and teachers, as well as rigorous curricula, and unique opportunities for students to continue their education outside of the classroom.

In 2019-2020, we had 2 seniors who graduated out of the class and are pursuing careers in computer science. Our 2020-21 students will submit their digital portfolios and take their exams in May 2021. Students who do well can earn college credit at more than 500 colleges and universities. There are more than 500,000 open computer science positions without qualified talent to fill them across all industries. We are trying to help ensure our students have access to the necessary education to ensure a successful future for them. You can learn more about TEALS on their website at <https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/teals/volunteers>.

Thank you for sharing this information and helping provide this exciting opportunity to our students!

Hillary M. Marshall, Washougal High School, AP Coordinator