

Specialized Education



John G. Wood (JGW) School, was established in 1974. We teach students with emotional and behavioral health challenges. These challenges impact their academic success. Our goal is to transition students back to their public school as soon as possible.

- ▶ JGW includes a broad range of elementary, middle, and high school courses for children in kindergarten through grade 12. The school year coincides with the Henrico County public school calendar and Extended School Year (ESY) services are available during the summer.
- ▶ JGW is part of a therapeutic neighborhood located on 30+ park-like acres that include group homes and a therapeutic resource center. Some residents of VHBG's group homes attend JGW in addition to students who commute from multiple localities in the Richmond region.
- ▶ JGW is licensed by the Virginia DOE, accredited by VAISEF, and aligned with Virginia SOLs. Teachers and trained behavior specialists incorporate the Teaching-Family model into the curriculum. This evidence based, trauma informed care model is facilitated by a VHBG practitioner and is characterized by the belief that children in crisis benefit from nurturing, family-style environments.
- ▶ A school-based therapist is on-site for individual and group counseling as needed and therapy is integrated into our art program with an on-site art teacher. A data-informed Positive Behavior support program is facilitated by trained behavior specialists and a reading specialist is available for children with this need.
- ▶ Students get physical activity every day through the use of our full gymnasium, playing fields, swing and jungle gym equipment, and an indoor recreation room with weight equipment and game tables. Students are involved in service learning projects by volunteering in the community and supplement their lessons by going on educational outings. Each child receives the tools and support they need to be successful including a JGW uniform, school supplies, and lunch/snack every day.

JOHN G. WOOD I

Elementary School: Kindergarten - Grade 5

- 5:1 Student-teacher ratio is small and accommodates individual learning styles.
- Daily communication with parents/guardians ensures continuity of students' progress.
- Multi-purpose room creates a calm, relaxed, sensory experience.
- Warm and inviting home-like classrooms with modern Promethean board.
- Incorporation of weekly cooperative learning activities centered around social-emotional leadership to support interpersonal skills.
- Outdoor and indoor tactile exercises encompass multiple learning styles and allow students to be physically active while learning.
- Yoga class nurtures mindfulness in students.

Middle and High School: Grades 6-12

- 8:1 student-teacher ratio is small and accommodates individual learning styles.
- Programs are designed with practices addressing behavioral, social, emotional, and academic needs.
- Full academic curriculum with ability to earn or work toward a Standard, Alternative, or General Education Diploma (GED).
- Career and Technical Education (CTE).
- Individual Student Alternative Education Plan (ISAEP)/GED program.
- Blended learning in core academic and elective classes via Edgenuity allows for more differentiation of instruction.
- GRASP counselor works with seniors to complete FAFSA, apply for college, and find scholarship opportunities.
- Richmond Alternative School Sports League (RASSL) available.

JOHN G. WOOD II

Self-Contained Classrooms: Grades 6-12

- 5:1 student to teacher ratio is small and accommodates individual learning styles.
- Separate classrooms designed to meet students' individual needs requiring more intensive social, emotional, behavioral, and academic support.
- Individual counseling as needed to support social and emotional growth.
- Virginia Alternative Assessment Program (VAAP) instruction provided.

