

Dear Parents or Guardians,

Hardaway High School has an exciting opportunity to offer computer science next year. We are investing in our students by partnering with Microsoft Philanthropies TEALS to build and grow our CS program. 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.

Action We're Taking

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 and will join Mrs. Stephenson to teach computer science together. TEALS provides training for both parties, rigorous curricula, and opportunities for students to continue their education outside of the classroom.

We are applying to partner with TEALS. If our application is accepted, we will offer "Introduction to Computer Science", with the goal to add "Advanced Placement (AP) Computer Science" the following year. The introductory class is based on the award-winning University of California Berkeley CS10 course and is adapted specifically for high schools. The other course will prepare students to take the college board's AP computer science A exam in May.

As a TEALS partner school, Hardaway needs to assist with volunteer recruitment from the computer science and software engineering fields to team-teach these courses with our teachers. Hardaway would hold the courses first period to permit the volunteers to attend their jobs.

Please help --if you or someone you know works in the computer science or software engineering field and would be interested in making a difference in our students' future success, please contact 706-748-2766 and ask for Mrs. Valentine. You can read more about TEALS on their website at <http://www.tealsk12.org>.

I am excited about this opportunity and look forward to hearing from many of you.