

**A Special Thanks to:**

Susie Smith and the Minnie Howard staff for coordinating the facilities for the event.

Minnie Howard Food Services for lunch.

Mary Roman and the Career & Technical Education Office for funding for this event.

**For more information contact:**

Micki Coffman, Career Specialist, 703-824-6805, ext. 6199 or [Michele.coffman@acps.k12.va.us](mailto:Michele.coffman@acps.k12.va.us)

# Women in Technology Symposium

## Lighting a Fire in Future Technology Leaders



*Inspiring Girls Now In Technology Evolution*



**Thursday, February 28, 2008**

**10:00 am – 1:00 pm**

**Minnie Howard 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Center**

### ***What is IGNITE***

An acronym for **Inspiring Girls Now In Technology Evolution**.

### ***Mission***

To Inspire Girls to Consider High-Tech as a Positive Career Choice

### ***What We Do***

- Our goal is create chapters in every middle school, high school, and college in the United States and around the world.
- IGNITE works closely with schools, encouraging high school girls to consider careers in technology.
- Do presentations at schools, field trips to local companies, job shadows, conferences, and many other events to connect high tech women mentors with young women.
- Provide students with information on scholarships, internships, and community resources to help them succeed in the fields of engineering and technology.

### ***Why Girls Only***

- Girls are underrepresented in engineering and technology programs and careers.
- Only women can demystify technology for girls.
- Without boys present, girls can more openly explore new and different possibilities in technology and engineering.

### ***Our Websites***

- **ignite-us.org** - The IGNITE Seattle Chapter.
- **igniteworldwide.org** - A place to buy your IGNITE toolkit and get your IGNITE chapter started.
- **igniteworldwide.net** - Planned home of our national chapters and student resources.

### ***Today's Panelists***

### ***Elizabeth Hoover***

Ms. Hoover received her bachelors and masters degrees in teaching from University of Virginia. She earned a PHD in Instructional Technology from George Mason University while she worked as a teacher for Alexandria City Public Schools. She is currently Instructional Technology Coordinator for the Department of Curriculum and Instruction, Alexandria City Public Schools/

### ***Dawn Loper***

Ms. Loper received her bachelors degree from Catholic University and earned a PHD in Mechanical Engineering from Georgia Tech. She is currently employed by The Institute for Defense Analysis (IDA). IDA is a non-profit corporation that administers three federally funded research and development centers to provide objective analyses of national security issues.

### ***Carolyn Van Damme***

Ms. Van Damme received her bachelors in Industrial Engineering and masters in Public Policy from the Georgia Institute of Technology. She is the founder of The Round Peg Group, a women - owned solutions - focused consulting firm. The Round Peg Group serves its clients by offering: Project-based Consulting; Part-time professional staff augmentation; and Interim Executives.

### ***Paula Worthington***

Ms. Worthington received an associate degree from Northern Virginia Community College; a bachelors in Computer Information Systems from Mary Washington College; and a Masters in Information Technology from Strayer University. She is currently an Assistant Dean at Northern Virginia Community College, Woodbridge Campus. In addition to her duties as a Dean, she teaches IT courses and works on various grant initiatives.