

Fire Service Student Opportunities



Intro's & Department Background

Battalion Chief Alex Davis - LPFD

- **Mission Statement:** *To protect the life and property of the residents, businesses, and visitors of Lower Providence Township through effective and efficient fire and rescue services in conjunction with community engagement.*
- LPFD coverage area, facilities, fleet, weekly training & meeting nights

Battalion Chief Brandon Raquet - WVFD

- **Mission Statement:** *The mission of the Worcester Volunteer Fire Department is to protect lives, property, and the environment within Worcester Township and the surrounding communities by providing safe, efficient, and effective emergency services*
- WVFD coverage area, facilities, fleet, weekly training & meeting nights

Current Status of Junior Firefighter Programs

Beginning at the age of 14, both organizations offer the ability for youth in our community to join. These programs are governed by department leadership and PA State Labor laws. Under close supervision, junior members train and respond to calls alongside fully training firefighters, and operate in a restricted and supervised environment.

WVFD

- 10 current junior FFs
- 14 current FFs that started as JR FFs
- 5/9 operational officers started as juniors

LPFD

- 4 current junior FFs
- 4 junior FFs that just finished the fire academy and became senior FFs
- All 5 chief officers began fire service career before age 18

Volunteer Fire Service

- Most of the area and state rely on volunteer firefighters
- 90% of fire departments in Pennsylvania are volunteer
- 1970 there were 300,000 volunteer firefighters, today there are around 38,000
- Rise in dual income households and training standards has created recruitment challenges
- A need for an increased focus in volunteer recruitment campaigns, volunteer incentives, and hiring paid firefighters has become more prevalent

Methacton Engagement Model

By partnering with MSD administration and staff, we aim to create an engagement model that increases the rate of recruits from MHS.

- Students gain life skills by taking part in activities focused on teamwork
- Students are given more responsibilities as they progress in their time with their department
- Fire departments are a fantastic networking opportunity, members of all disciplines are positioned to help junior members in their professional careers
- These programs can be looked at just like any other extracurricular

May 2023 Recruitment Day

Both departments have each received two applicants from this event.



Upcoming Events

- 9th grade career day: October 1
- Fall Recruitment Day: October 25
- Spring Recruitment Day: May 8

Questions?