

Danielle Childress  
CFC Project  
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Danielle Childress, an eighth grader at John Rolfe Middle School, plans to become a student in the Center of Communications Class of 2016 at Varina High School.

As a “straight A” student, soccer player, and frequent volunteer in community service projects, Danielle thinks she has the characteristics and qualities to be successful in the Center for Communications.

"My experience working with others in class and on sports teams has helped me gain interpersonal skills. I'm definitely a people person," Danielle said.

Physical science teacher Marcus Agee taught Danielle during her seventh grade. He recognized her strong work ethic.

"She's a student with original ideas who is also hardworking," Mr. Agee said. "She knew the periodic chart better than any of her classmates."

Danielle is a reporter for her school newspaper. She has also created monthly bulletins and brochures for her 4-H Club.

"I love writing and graphic design. Being a part of the center would help me to improve my skills in both areas," she said.

Kendra Appleby has played soccer with Danielle for three years and has been in several middle school classes with her. Kendra went on a weeklong hurricane relief trip to Louisiana, which Danielle helped to organize.

"Danielle is an excellent planner, and she is excellent when it comes to working in groups," Kendra said.

At home, Danielle is the oldest of three girls. She regularly watches her sisters until her parents get home from work.

"Watching my younger sisters helped me develop a better sense of responsibility. I have to care for myself as well as others and use common sense," Danielle said.

Danielle's stepfather, Frank Sodano, has known her since she was a little girl. He married her mother seven years ago.

"She's mature for her age, and that maturity will set her apart from the other candidates applying to the center," Mr. Sodano said.

After high school, Danielle plans to continue studying communications at James Madison University to become a sports broadcaster for the Detroit Lions.

"Whether it's from in front of the camera or behind, I can't wait to study and practice in the area of communications for years to come," Danielle said.