To: Students who wish to place out of Introductory Computer Science into AP Computer Science  
From: Stephen R. Rose, Computer Science Teacher and CS Placement Test Coordinator  
Stephen.Rose@fcps.edu  

Spring 2005  

In order to attempt the test you must meet the following criteria:  

1. have earned A’s in all previous high school level math courses  
2. currently have a 97% average in your math class  
3. have your math teacher’s verification that you are a good problem solver and independent thinker  

If you elect to attempt the placement test, you must complete the attached form and return it to me no later than May 31. The first year computer science curriculum is on a CD. This includes a JAVA compiler and the PcGrasp environment. You must provide a blank CD-R and request the CD on the attached form. Enclose this request with your Computer Science Placement Test request.  

If you should pass this test, you must still earn one credit of Computer Science to meet the graduation requirements. The assumption is that you will enroll in AP Computer Science in the fall. The placement test has both a written and on-line portion utilizing the language JAVA.  

Please note the very important following items:  

- The placement test is given only once. It is scheduled for Friday, August 26 from 9 a.m. to noon. The test site is room 243.  
- You will earn placement into AP Computer Science if you achieve a 90% on the exam. You will not earn a computer science credit. You will then be moved into an AP Computer Science class.  
- You must return your Test Request and CD Request forms no later than May 31. The address is  

Stephen Rose, TJHSST  
6560 Braddock Rd.  
Alexandria, VA 22312
Information about the Computer Science Placement Test

The test will be held on Friday, August 26, 2005 at 9 a.m. The test will be in two parts, a written part and a programming part. You will have one hour for the written part (40 points) and two hours for the programming part (60 points). The written part can include any concept in the packets. There are seven packets: 5 programming packets plus Computer Number Systems and Boolean Algebra. The programming packets do not stand alone. You may need to read Java books to understand the concepts. There are several textbooks on the CD.

The programming part will be in Java. It is open book and open notes. You may bring a disk with you containing any programs that you have written from the packets. You may not just bring programs that you have not written or that are not solutions to packet problems.

There is a sample program included on the CD. The programming part of the placement test will be similar to the sample. Among the required concepts, the sample requires use of a class from another class, arrays and textfiles. In the sample folder, you will the sample problem and sample textfile.

You may email me procedural questions about the placement test or about the Computer Science CD. I will not answer Java questions. Your CD is FCPS CS CD V 3.14P. If you do not have Word and cannot read Sample.doc, email me for a written copy.

I want you to do well and pass the Computer Science placement test. From past experience, it is unlikely that you will pass this demonstration of your knowledge unless you have worked at least the sample problem. That is the minimum. To increase your chance of passing the placement test, review all of the packets and work at least some of the programs in each packet. In addition, you may meet with me once for up to one hour to discuss your solution to the sample program. Email me at least one week in advance to set up a mutually convenient time.

This is a serious undertaking and I wish you every success.
TJHSST Computer Science Test Request/Verification Form

Please print.

Name______________________________________________________________

Address__________________________________________________________

Street      City    Zip

Home Phone________________________________________________________

e-mail____________________________________________________________

Current grade level________________________________ Current Math Class __________________________

Please verify the following criteria in order to take the Computer Science placement test.

1. A’s in all high school level math classes. Verification by guidance counselor upon review of transcript.

2. 97% average in your current math class. Verification by current teacher.

3. Verification by current math teacher that you are a good problem solver and independent thinker.

By my signature below, I am indicating that I understand and will abide by the Placement Test policy:

❖ The placement test is given only once. It is scheduled for Friday, August 26 from 9 a.m. to noon. The test site is room 243.
❖ I will earn placement into AP Computer Science if I achieve a 90% on the exam. I will not earn a Computer Science credit.
❖ I must take AP Computer Science to fulfill the one credit requirement of Computer Science credit for graduation.

____________________________________________________________________  ________________________________
Student Signature            Parent/Guardian Signature

Date______________________________

You must return your test request and CD request forms no later than May 31.

Stephen Rose, TJHSST
6560 Braddock Rd.
Alexandria, VA 22312
Subj: PcGrasp/JAVA CD Request

I request a copy of the FCPS Computer Science Placement CD. I realize installation is at my own risk and while there has not been a problem in the past, there are no guarantees. FCPS and its employees will not assist me or pay for any damage caused by installing this CD. I will obtain permission from the owner of the computer system before installing the CD on it. I realize the programs require at least a compatible PC with Windows 98.

I am enclosing a new CD-R (650 or 700 MB). The CD-R has been labeled exactly as shown below:

***YOUR CD MUST HAVE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:
***IN ADDITION, PUT YOUR NAME ON YOUR CD CASE.

_______________________________________(Your Name)

4 Feb 05 – V 3.14
FCPS Computer Science CD
PcGrasp
JAVA SDK 2 ver 1.41_03
JKarel

***YOUR CD MUST HAVE THE ABOVE INFORMATION: