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MOUNT ROGERS
Regional Adult Education Program
www. mrraep.com 800-322-7748



Please Note the August GED testing dates

Bristol Public Library

August

9 -Friday

17- Saturday

28- Wednesday

Galax/Crossroad

August

10-Saturday

20- Tues

29-Thurs

Student Shout Out!

Labrisca Hamm

MRRAEP is very proud of our IET Student LABRISCA HAMM!



I had always been in various avenues of retail sales until Covid changed everything, like it did for millions of others. I found myself morally needing a change of employment. I've known my landlord for 20+ years; she was my high school History/English teacher. I was talking to her one day and she suggested that right now would be the perfect time for college due to Covid, and that a maintenance position on the HVAC team had come available where I live. She provided the spark that created a fire under my feet.

Since enrolling, I've been amazed by the amount of love, positivity and support I've received – even from complete strangers! These boosts have made me more confident in all aspects of my life, most importantly my self-esteem.

I would definitely recommend the MRRAEP "Tools For Success" scholarship to future students. It is a great program for young people who are unaware of their skills and older people who may need a refresher. Some of my most valuable takeaways have been how to be more financially stable and confident in my abilities. We have implemented the financial aspects I learned about goal-setting and making budgets into our goal/vision boards and budget at home.

I also learned that the way we speak to ourselves internally or out loud have impacts in both life and work. I'm all about positive thought and speaking, but I had never thought about "I cannot" in a career aspect. I am motivated to apply what I learned this semester about Job Seeking and Job Keeping as I move forward. Now that I have completed my degree and am looking for a job, I am now able to confidently create a proper resume and communicate with potential and even current employers.

I was kept well-updated throughout the "Tools For Success" program with a great amount of contact. My instructor Tamara Grimm was very nice, relatable and helpful during testing. The coordinator Hannah Ingram was exceptionally helpful with questions and provided praise and motivation throughout my time. She really cares about people and what they're experiencing – not just in the program, but in life as well.

I'd like to give a special shout-out to my mentor. None of this would've been possible had that conversation not happened. I also couldn't have asked for a better teacher/instructor than Bruce Olivo. He is willing to go above and beyond to help and really cares about each of his students.

My next steps are to start servicing and troubleshooting equipment, working my way to earning my Journeyman. My end game is to become licensed for business. I am so excited to start working in the field of HVAC.

Staff Spotlight!

Edison Jennings

“I am a teacher. Teaching is my jam.”

Edison Jennings has been working in education for 19 years, 15 of those years at the college level and he says, “nothing is more satisfying than helping an adult earn an academic degree.” He is now a few months into his second year working as an instructor with MRRAEP.



When asked what led him to adult ed, he had this to say:

“While serving active duty in the Navy I accumulated enough college credits for my BA through Dantes and CLEP testing followed by a GRE in English and political science. That makes me an adult student, too. When I first started at Virginia Intermont College, I taught in the Adult Education Program, which I found very rewarding. As a result, I am an energetic proponent of adult education.”

He recommends Adult Ed to those who need need skills to be more employable or be eligible for furthering their current career, and those that feel their lives would be enriched by

“knowledge for the sake of knowledge.”

Edison’s class is located in the Damascus Library. He is learning so much about the digital programs we use and says he much appreciates the help of a more experienced teacher/tutor to help with these if needed. He says his favorite part of his job is getting to know and encouraging his students. One of his best times in Adult Ed was seeing one of his students finish their degree and getting to celebrate with the new graduate. “That was a high”, he said. If Edison could have one superpower it would be “Infinite Patience” and says it is something he is learning working in Adult Education.

As a child, Edison wanted to be either a steeplechase jockey or baseball player. If he were asked by a child what he does now, he would tell them, “I teach grownups about things they want to learn. We are all teachers, in a sense. You, too. You teach me and I teach you.”

Ed likes to noodle with his guitar, but says he really likes to talk with people. He loves to read and says that Winning the National Book Award is number one on his “fat chance” Bucket List ;-). He knows a lot about horses and was an ace ping-pong player when he was younger.

He has been told he was kind and generous and he says “I hope it is true”. I believe it is. I have shared emails back and forth with Edison on occasion and I must say he knows how to carry a bit, I love that!

I will end by sharing the best piece of advice Edison has been given, something we should all embrace...“learn to be grateful.”



Celebrating
OUR GRADUATES



***Isis Bruce--Hillsville Class--Sue Dickens
Tammy Fleeman--Hillsville Class--Sue Dickens
Haylie Strickland--Hillsville Class--Sue Dickens
Celeste Williams--St. Paul Class--Diana Johnson
Amanda Paquette--Galax Class--Mattie Robinson
Brandon Rabon--Galax Class--Mattie Robinson***



Morgan Felts—Hillsville Class--Sue Dickens

Not Pictured:

Gabriella Calloway--Hillsville Class--Sue Dickens

Skylar Ice--Hillsville Class--Sue Dickens

Shelby Brown--Galax Class--Mattie Robinson

FROM THE DESK OF...

SHANNON MUTTER

PROGRAM MANAGER



August is here...and it is an odd place. Still trying to hang onto summertime and also looking forward to the fun times of Fall. I will say that in the office, we are happy to see August because July was a very busy month for us with end of year reporting. I am looking forward to seeing our students back in class on a regular basis and seeing you at in-service in September.



Fall Inservice

September 21, 2024

Wytheville Meeting Center

333 Community Blvd

Wytheville, VA 24382

- Pastries, coffee, and water for breakfast
- Boxed lunch (sandwich variety)



August Reminders:

- As you are settling back into a regular schedule, be sure to contact students who have not been to class in a while.
- Move inactive student folders to a different filing drawer or to the back of the filing cabinet drawer. You may also shred any student paperwork from 2018-2019.
- Please check student records to be sure they have a valid TABE test.
- Be sure to get a current, signed ASPD from students as they are returning to class. Remember the new ASPD also includes the two release signatures, so those forms are no longer required once the new ASPD is complete and in the folder.
- You do not have to dropbox TABE scores or GED scores. Our new system will pull these scores in automatically.

- If I sent you a data audit form, please make the corrections, initial and email or text a picture of the signed form to me.

Kayla Hagy

Data Specialist

Happy August!

It's a new program year, which means new ASPD's should be signed and submitted for all returning and new students.

July attendance and any ASPD's that haven't been submitted yet are due Monday, August 5th.

Everyone's new attendance sheets have been shared, if you can't locate it just let me know and I can send you a link. 😊

With the end of the year data I haven't been able to keep up with the great things coming through, but here are the few things I have caught: (pictures are included)

Sue Dickens had a GED completer! 🎉👤

Mattie had a GED completer! 🎉👤

Don had a GED completer! 🎉👤

We're starting out strong!

Thanks for all you all do and welcome back!

August

Please Be Good



Hannah Ingram



LEARN A NEW SKILL OR FIND A NEW CAREER IN WEEKS

Commercial Driver's License Program

During this FastForward program, students learn the most effective methods for operating, maintaining, and managing a truck. Upon successful completion of the course, students will test with the Division of Motor Vehicles for their Class A Commercial Driver's License (CDL-A).

Program Length: 160 hours of classroom instruction and on-the-road training.

Course Fee: \$6,000.00

FastForward Price: \$2,000.00 | Financial Assistance Price: \$200.00

Photovoltaic-Entry Level (NABCEP)

Do you want a career in solar energy?

This FastForward program leads to a credential awarded by the North American Board of Certified Energy Practitioners (NABCEP).

Program Length: 40 hours

Course fee: \$1,875.00

FastForward Price: \$625.00 | Financial Assistance Price: \$62.50

Remote Airman Training

Fascinated by drone technology?

This program covers the five main testing areas (Regulations, National Airspace System, Weather, Loading/Performance, and Operations) to prepare you for the FAA Part 107 UAS (Unmanned Aerial Systems) certification test.

Program Length: 9 hours

Course Fee: \$534.00

FastForward Price: \$178.00 | Financial Assistance Price: \$17.80

Fiber Optics Technician Program

Students will learn the skills required to install and maintain the "outside plant", consisting of fiber optic telephone systems & fiber optic line work. Successful students will earn the Certified Fiber Optic Technician credential through the Fiber Optic Association.

Program Length: 10 Weeks

Course fee: \$4,500.00

FastForward Price: \$1,500.00 | Financial Assistance Price: \$150.00

Certified Production Technician (CPT)

This training program prepares students for advanced placement as a new employee in a manufacturing environment.

After successful completion of the training program, students are awarded the CPT credential by the nationally recognized Manufacturing Skills Standards Council Association.

Program Length: 96 Hours

Course fee: \$1,890.00

FastForward Price: \$630.00 | Financial Assistance Price: \$63.30

ESCO EPA 608 Technician

All individuals who maintain, service, repair or dispose of appliances that contain regulated refrigerants must be certified in refrigerant handling techniques. This course is intended to help the student prepare for the EPA 608 Technician Certification Examination.

Program Length: One day – 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. (review and test)

Course Fee: \$429.00

FastForward Price: \$143.00 | Financial Assistance Price: \$14.30

Six Sigma Yellow Belt (ASQ)

Six Sigma is a set of techniques and tools for process improvement that is used by many manufacturing industries. Yellow Belt training provides insight into the techniques of Six Sigma, its metrics, and basic improvement methodologies.

Program Length: 7 weeks, 4 hours & 15 minutes/week

Course Fee: \$1,500.00

FastForward Price: \$500.00 | Financial Assistance Price: \$50.00

Six Sigma Green Belt (ASQ)

Ready to take your Six Sigma knowledge to the next level? The Six Sigma Green Belt course presents the Lean Six Sigma Green Belt body of knowledge in a simulation workshop and application-oriented manner. This advanced training follows a Six Sigma Yellow Belt certification.

Program Length: 5 weeks, 4 hours/week

Course Fee: \$2,700.00

FastForward Price: \$900.00 | Financial Assistance Price: \$90.00

For more information, to register, or for financial assistance questions visit www.vhcc.edu/workforce or call (276) 739-2430.



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 Si necesita ayuda en español, marque el número 276-739-2559.
 Updated December 2022

If you have students who might like to know more about enrolling at Virginia Highlands Community College in one of their trade programs, there are a number of exciting new options... and financial aid is readily

available! Reach out to me if you'd like to know more so that you can share with your students... and feel free to refer them to me for more career coach guidance!

I also learned about an incredible new regional nonprofit resource -- they're called Huddle Up Moms and their focus is to help young and perhaps inexperienced mothers find the resources they need (they're literally taking donations for a regional diaper bank) and guidance/help when they need it, no strings attached. I figure this could be an organization to which instructors might like to donate OR could be a place/resource they could share with any students who are mothers...

Also: here is a direct link to donate to their diaper bank fundraiser:

<https://huddleupmoms.networkforgood.com/projects/220614-project-huddle>

LORRAINE HEDGEPEETH

CINDY CAMPBELL

INSTRUCTIONAL SPECIALISTS



Here's a video that would be great to watch on a night you don't have students. It gives a lot of pointers for how to get students those few extra points in math.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EcPU7Im4Amg>

Thanks,

Cindy

Culturally Responsive Adult Education—Embracing the Power of Experience, Collaboration, and Collective Action



I believe one reason our MRRAEP programs is so successful is because we continue to be aware of cultural differences in our program. CRE is an asset-based framework that centers on what the learner knows and how they construct knowledge. Culturally responsive education recognizes and intentionally takes into account learners' diverse needs. Zaretta Hammond, in her book [Culturally Responsive Teaching and the Brain](#) outlines four areas of a culturally responsive teacher.

Awareness: Recognizing how our culture lens can impact on how we evaluate and interpret others' behavior and knowledge.

Learning Partnership: Balance- giving students both care and push • Help students cultivate a positive mindset and sense of self-efficacy • Support each student to take greater ownership for his learning • Give students language to talk about their learning moves

Information Processing: Help students process new content using methods from oral traditions • Provide students authentic opportunities to process content • Teach students cognitive routines using the brain's natural learning systems • Use formative assessments and feedback to increase intellectual capacity

Community Building: Create an environment that is intellectually and socially safe for learning • Make space for student voice and agency • Build classroom culture and learning around communal (sociocultural) talk and task structures



August

**3rd Beverly Eason
9th Rodney Alderman
17th Donna Musick
29th Brenda Otey
31st Rick Combs**



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Our mailing address is:
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