

[View this email in your browser](#)



**Please Note the October GED testing dates**

**Bristol Public Library**

**October**

**4 Friday**

**16 Wednesday**

**26 Saturday**

\*\*\*\*\*

Galax/Crossroad  
**October**  
**5 Saturday**  
**17 Thursday**  
**29 Tuesday**

---



In case you missed it, our team came together at the Wytheville Meeting Center on Saturday, September 21st, for fall in-service. It was a fantastic day filled with updates and program changes, along with plenty of good conversation and camaraderie. These gatherings are especially valuable for us because we often

work independently, as they provide a chance to refresh faces to names and build connections. These times we can be together, either in person or on zoom, makes our program stronger and more cohesive.

#### **Fall In-Service Suggestions:**

One of the suggestions from the Fall In-service was to provide last minute test review before the GED test. Here is a link to a study guide for each subject. Also provided is a link for what to expect on test day.

- Study guides:

<https://blog.essentialed.com/students/ged-study-guide>

- What to expect on test day:

<https://www.ged.com/faqs/expect-test-day/>

**Staff Spotlight!**  
**Tamara Grimm**



**This month, we're shining the spotlight on Tamara Grimm, who is beginning her 14th year with the Mount Rogers Regional Adult Education Program! With a background of 36 years in elementary education, Tamara first joined MRRAEP as a "side gig" at the suggestion of a colleague and quickly discovered a passion for helping adult learners.**

**What makes her role unique is her approach to teaching. She focuses on facilitating rather than dictating learning. She emphasizes the importance of building relationships with her students, many of them face obstacles while pursuing their GED. Whether it's celebrating a new job, receiving a wedding invitation, or getting a call from a student at boot camp, she cherishes these connections.**

**Her advice to anyone considering a role in adult education is to have adaptability, compassion, and a willingness to help students navigate**

challenges. Tamara's belief in her students' abilities is what motivates her to keep going, even after all these years.

Outside of the classroom, she loves spending time with her family, taking her grandchildren to Dollywood, and dreaming of a magical Disney cruise adventure. Her favorite quote from A.A. Milne sums it up best: "You are braver than you believe, stronger than you seem, and smarter than you think." It's a message she shares with every student who walks through her door.

Thank you, Tamara, for your dedication and for making a difference in the lives of so many!

---

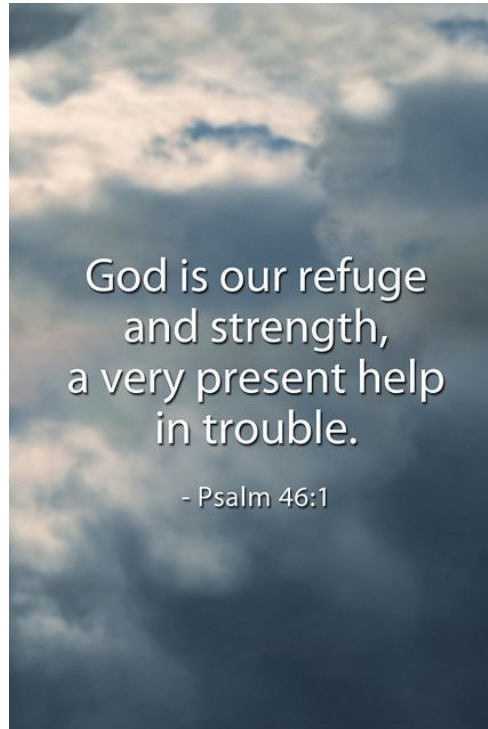
***FROM THE DESK OF...***

---

---

**SHANNON MUTTER**  
**PROGRAM MANAGER**

---



**Happy to see October get here and praying that this month is much calmer weather-wise. Seeing all of the news reports and hearing first hand reports from so many in our region has been heart-breaking. I pray you are staying safe and are able to get back to some normalcy soon. We will continue to monitor the electricity, water and shelter statuses moving forward, but please know we are here to help you, your family, and your students if needed.**

### **How can you help?**

**Most shelters and distribution centers in the area are generating lists of items needed. We are also accepting gift card donations here in the office. We plan to use the gift cards to help instructors and students first and then we will distribute them to the local shelters.**

**PLEASE DO NOT SEND A CHECK OR CASH. If you feel led to send a gift card, you can mail it to:**

**MRRAEP**

**Attention: Shannon Mutter**

One Partnership Circle  
Abingdon, VA 24210

## **~~Thank You~~**

Thanks to everyone who attended the Fall-Inservice. It was so good to see everyone! We heard lots of wonderful comments about the changes but also lots of wonderful suggestions on ways to make your jobs more efficient. Please keep an eye out for future professional development opportunities.

**Kayla Hagy**  
Data Specialist

Happy October!

September attendance and any ASPD's that haven't been submitted yet are due Monday October 7th.

I have a few students in the portal that have no class. Make sure all students are on your attendance so I know where to place them.

**Celebrations:**

Enrollment total as of: 172

Participants 12+ hours: 106

Sue Dickens had a student get a gain 🎉

Trish had a student get a gain 🎉

Tamara had a GED completer 🎉



## **Cindy Campbell and Lorraine Hedgepeth**

### **Instructional Specialists**

**Do you ever have a night when you don't have students? I've got a plan for that.**

- **Look around your classroom environment. What can be changed?**  
(Sometimes-nothing can be changed because the space is used in the daytime.) But if your area can be changed, think about it from a student's perspective.
- **How welcoming is your space?**
- **How is the room arranged?**
- **Is this a space you'd like to learn in?**

**Maybe you could hang up some motivational posters- there are lots of free ones on the internet. Some of us work in a sparkling clean environment. Some might need to take a dust rag or clorox wipes and**

just neaten up a bit. This is certainly not a requirement, but a welcoming space often leads to student retention.

Another idea is to get on [ged.com](https://www.ged.com). Click the educators tab. Then click on professional development. Look at the many resources and webinars available to teachers.

<https://www.ged.com/educators-admins/professional-development/>



<https://www.ged.com/educators-admins/in-session/back-to-school-resources-to-support-ged-educators/>



**Reminder:**

**if you were sent a list of students to contact, to please do so as soon as possible.**

**I sent out lists to one teacher in each locality.**



# October

## 22nd Angie Fritts



*Copyright (C)2024\* MRRRAEP\* All rights reserved.*

Our mailing address is:

1 PARTNERSHIP CIRCLE  
ABINGDON, VA 24210

