



Issue 5 November 2019

RICHMOND TECHNICAL CENTER

Career and Technical Education Student Organizations (CTSO) October 2019 Installation Ceremony

Career and technical education (CTE) is the practice of teaching specific career skills to students in middle school, high school, and post-secondary institutions. At the Richmond Technical Center, we have six CTSOs that focus on providing student members with opportunities in leadership and citizenship while gaining academic, technological, and career readiness skills. The organizations' mission is to "enhance personal development, leadership, and career opportunities" in those areas. This is accomplished both in and out of schools with a mix of curriculum resources, competitions, and other service-learning projects. On Thursday, October 10, 2019, we installed the officers of these organizations. We charged them with carrying out their very important duties and missions.



FCCLA— Family, Career and Community Leaders of America states that it "engages students through career exploration and leadership development" while building skills related to careers in Family and Consumer Sciences. They balance all things with family and community responsibilities.

HOSA - Future Health Professionals' mission is to "promote career opportunities in the health care industry and to enhance the delivery of quality health care to all people."

FFA - National Future Farmers of America's vision for members is to "grow leaders, build communities, and strengthen agriculture." Students in FFA also develop skills such as leadership and communication that any employee would need.

NTHS - National Technical Honor Society recognizes the achievements of top CTE students, provides scholarships to encourage the pursuit of higher education, and cultivates excellence in today's highly competitive, skilled workforce.

SkillsUSA helps members shape their workplace, personal, and technical skills that are grounded in academic skills by providing leadership training, employability skills curriculum, skills assessments, and various events.

TSA - The Technology Student Association's mission is to "enhance personal development, leadership, and career opportunities" in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. This is accomplished both in and out of school with a mix of curriculum resources, competitions, and other programs. (Continued on Page 3)

Dear RTC Colleagues, Families, and Community:

A man in a grey suit and blue patterned tie stands in front of a wall. To his left is a large poster titled "Office" with a word cloud containing terms like "multimedia", "drawing", "NICAL", "technology", "specialist", "network", "aide", "nurse", "CENT", "arpenry", "electricity", "digital", "tyinc". To his right is a wooden door with a "WELCOME" sign and a "THE RTC FAMILY" sign. Below the door is a sign that reads "Technical Cer... ation Meets Opp...".

- ## Final Thoughts:

Sincerely,

Jonathan Mitchum



Congratulations to All of Our 2019-2020 CTSO Student Officers

Presidents

FCCLA South: Jamel Stewart
 FCCLA North: Kelise Robinson
 FFA: Lovely Chuang
 HOSA: Damarius Banks
 NTHS: Alexis Gresham
 SkillsUSA: Lamont Hagans, Jr.
 TSA: Mateo Cherry

Vice Presidents

FCCLA South: Alante' Harris
 FCCLA North: Jayson Dungian
 FCCLA North – Public Relations: Asia White
 FCCLA North-- Membership: Jaquan Washington
 FCCLA North --Community Service: Shania Simpson
 FCCLA North—Competitive Events: Naja Wesson
 FCCLA North—Fundraising: Tanisha Monroe
 FFA: Yazmane Harris
 FFA: Meckhi Lucas
 HOSA: Tre'von Turner
 NTHS: Yariana Woody
 SkillsUSA: Blessen Bullock
 TSA: Aaron Mitchell

Secretaries

FCCLA South: Robert Scott
 FCCLA North: Destiny McLean
 FFA: Khalil Ford
 HOSA: Diamond Scott
 NTHS: Jaiyelle Cary
 TSA: Bryanna Finney
 SkillsUSA: Taylor McCaskill

Treasurers

FCCLA South: Qwayonna Goode
 FCCLA North: Avondae Boyd
 FFA: Tamia Harvey
 HOSA: Makiyah Cardwell
 NTHS: Christian Benniefield
 SkillsUSA: Odajai Blackledge
 TSA: Kyrie Cook

Reporters/Historians

FCCLA South: Nicolas Pollard – Reporter
 FCCLA South: Demon Pitchford – Historian
 FCCLA North: Jayden Colden – Historian
 FFA: Raneisha Finney – Reporter
 HOSA: Nyles Stone – Reporter
 SkillsUSA: Tyrone Bowles – Reporter

Chaplains/Parliamentarians/Sergeant-at-Arms/Sentinel

FCCLA South: Selena Charity – Sergeant at Arms
 FCCLA South: Qashawn Walker – Parliamentarian
 FCCLA South: My'keria Green – Chaplain
 FCCLA North: Zachary Edwards – Sergeant at Arms
 FFA: James Thomas – Sentinel
 HOSA: Ashley Meadows - Parliamentarian
 SkillsUSA: Da'nyiah Sauls - Parliamentarian



Craig Harris's Auto Body class attended the state SkillsUSA competition in VA Beach. Above, Axell Bustillo won a \$5,000 scholarship to Universal Technical Institute by taking first place in district competition.



"Auto Body students glam for the cam in their red SkillsUSA jackets." "

Remembering Mr. Allan Doctor



Mr. Allan Charles Doctor was born September 2, 1936 in Fort Wayne, Indiana. He was the only child of the late Ralph W. and Mary C. Doctor.

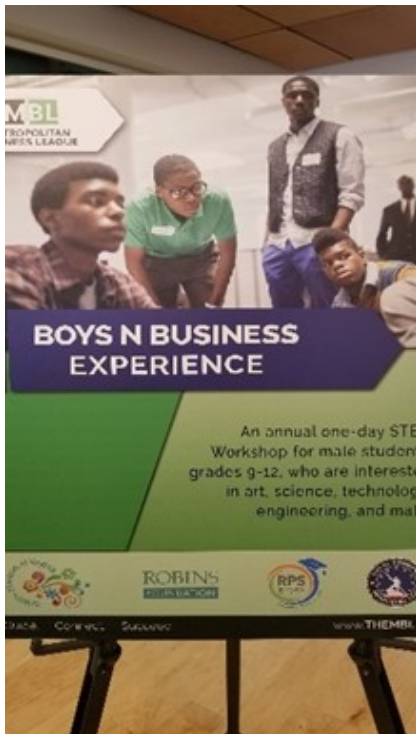
Mr. Doctor was employed by Richmond Public Schools for more than 30 years, serving as a vocational evaluator in the Richmond Career Assessment Center (RCAC). He held degrees from the Wittenberg University Hamma Divinity School and Saint Francis College. Prior to his work with RPS, he served as associate pastor at Zion Lutheran Church in Defiance, Ohio. Mr. Doctor also collaborated with psychiatrists Lawrence McCarron, Ph.D. and Jack Dial, Ph.D., who in 1970 developed the McCarron-Dial Multifactor Assessment Battery currently used across the U.S. The Perceptual Memory Task, a key instrument of the battery, is a standard tool used by RCAC to predict a student's learning style.

An avid Colonial Williamsburg enthusiast, Mr. Doctor hosted an annual *La Petite Illumination* Christmas party at his private residence for the past 27 years. The gala, often attended by more than 250 people, was complete with traditional Colonial Christmas trimmings, music and cuisine. Never one for sitting idly, he spent most of his leisure time repairing chairs in his chair caning business. He was also a proud member of Christ the King Lutheran Church where he sang in the choir and played handbells. Mr. Doctor was also a world traveler, having visited nearly every continent, most on multiple occasions.

Dr. Cheryl DeLoatch-Frierson, his coworker of more than 10 years, remembers Mr. Doctor as a "brilliant, generous, and humble person who selflessly and anonymously helped countless people in need." She mentioned that Mr. Doctor was also known for his quick wit and was always ready with a one-liner that left his colleagues in stitches.

At the age of 82, Mr. Doctor continued to work for Richmond Public Schools until one month prior to his

RTC Partners with Metropolitan Business League



The Metropolitan Business League invited male students from the Richmond Technical Center, John Marshall, Franklin Military, Huguenot, and Thomas Jefferson to a one-day Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) workshop for male students, grades 9-12. This awesome BOYS N BUSINESS EXPERIENCE event was held on Thursday, October 24, 2019 at the Science Museum. The intent was to attract, motivate, inspire and inform our young males on becoming business owners. The educators from the Science Museum facilitated a very interactive challenge. The challenge was to develop a Video Game Controller prototype that could be used by everyone, especially those with disabilities. In the scenario given to them, they had to create a base controller that could work for one of the following: feet, one hand, table-top, head and shoulders, only one side of the body (left or right), or wearable controller. The room was buzzing with excitement as the groups exercised skills in communication, collaboration, teamwork, critical thinking and problem-solving. At the end, they got to demonstrate their prototypes. Following this activity, they enjoyed a wonderful lunch while a panel of young entrepreneurs shared their own business ownership experiences. Words of wisdom and ideals of accomplishment and achievement were given as takeaways and tools for our young males to keep in their toolboxes. Our great appreciation to CEO Miller and his wonderful staff at the Metropolitan Business League for reaching out to our young males to inspire them to become the business leaders of tomorrow.



2019 Mock Job Interview Event: Save the Date!

Our annual Mock Job Interview Event will be held this December 16-19, 2019, a real-world simulation. All students are requested to participate in this Mock Job Interview Event. The purpose of the event is to develop career readiness skills by improving our students' soft skills (people, interpersonal and social) and critical-thinking skills. This is accomplished by simulating workplace interviews where students are asked questions regarding their career dreams, their plans to attain those dreams, and what academic and technical skills are needed for that career. To add an aspect of authenticity to this event, students are asked to come to school dressed in business attire and have a prepared resume. The interviews are conducted by volunteers from an assortment of Richmond businesses and non-profit organizations.



If you wish to volunteer as a business/community interviewer for this event, contact

Charles Watson
Careers Outreach Facilitator
Richmond Technical Center
2020 Westwood Avenue
Richmond, VA 23230
Office: (804) 780-6237 ext. 134
rtcmockjobinterviews@gmail.com

Youth Apprenticeship Programs at RTC

The Richmond Technical Center (RTC) supports and participates in youth apprenticeship programs. We partner with the Virginia Department of Labor and Industry to provide the Youth Registered Apprenticeship program (YRA) at RTC. See their website for more details <https://www.doli.virginia.gov/apprenticeship/youth-apprenticeship/>.

One of DOLI's goals is to increase opportunities for businesses and employees in the Commonwealth and to contribute to economic development and quality of life for all Virginians. Through a coordinated effort involving community, industry, parents and school staff, the YRA program addresses the dual role of preparing students for the world of work and providing Virginia with a highly-skilled workforce.

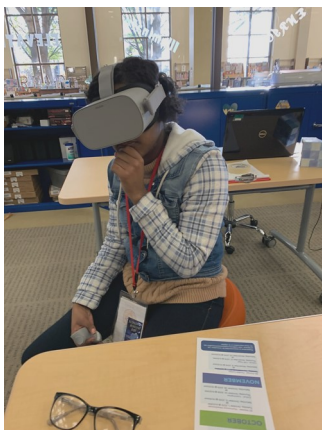
YRA integrates school-based and work-based learning to help students gain employability and occupational skills. Local programs provide training based on statewide youth apprenticeship curriculum guidelines that are endorsed by business and industry. Students are instructed by qualified teachers and skilled journey workers at each worksite.

Students are simultaneously enrolled in academic classes to meet high school graduation requirements and occupation-specific classes. Once an employer becomes an approved YRA sponsor, the student is hired and registered as an apprentice. The participating sponsor/employer provides supervision by a skilled mentor and the student continues on with the Career Technical Education (CTE) training at his/her school.

This year RTC will focus on securing youth apprenticeship opportunities for our students enrolled in Automotive Technology and Automotive Body II, III, Building Management II, Carpentry II, III, Electrical II, Landscaping II, Precision Machining II, and Welding II.

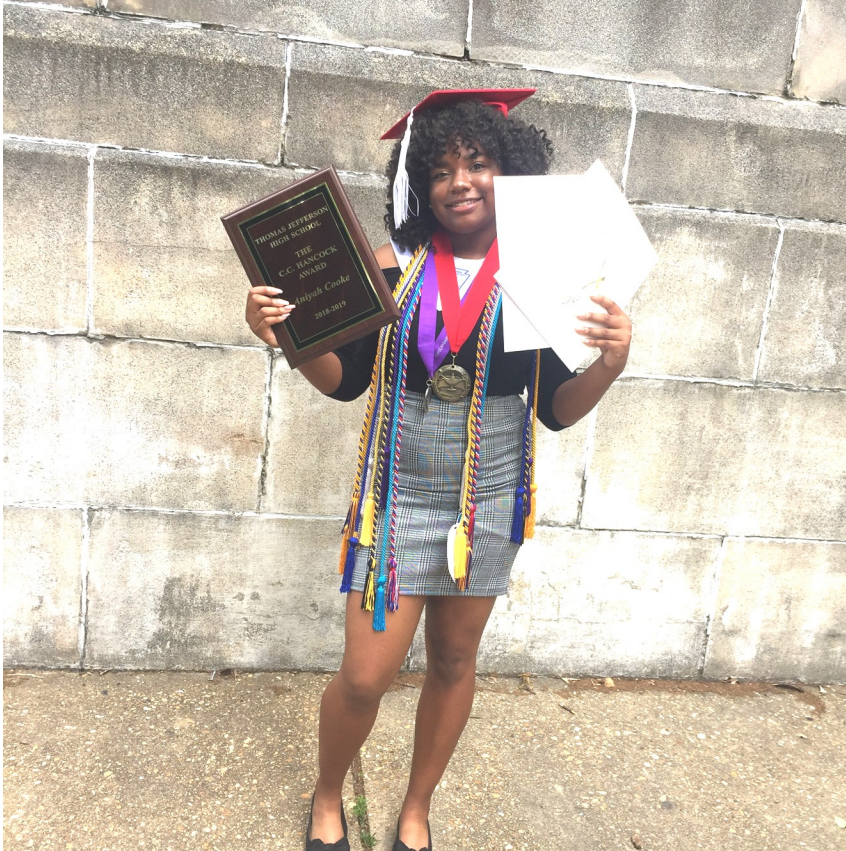


Welding Student, Sarah Peebles



While attending the Young Adult Virginia Authors award ceremony at the Richmond Main Library, welding student Sarah Peebles experienced an intense virtual reality roller coaster ride through a Jurassic Park setting. She is an avid reader, frequenting the libraries at RTC and George Wythe. Her favorite genre of books is anime.

Aniyah Cooke: 2018-2019 Student of the Year



Richmond Public Schools' Aniyah Cooke was selected as the Richmond Technical Center's Student of the Year. Carrying an overall 3.79 GPA when she graduated in June 2019, Aniyah has repeatedly proven herself to be an academic and leadership stand-out. She was inducted into the National Honor Society and the National Technical Honor Society, both for three years running. Her extracurricular activities were equally impressive: Senior Class Vice President at Thomas Jefferson High School, and Secretary for Future Farmers of America (FFA) at the Richmond Technical Center, both during 2018-2019.

While attending RTC, Aniyah excelled in the three courses she took--Small Animal Care I & II and Entrepreneurship. She was an active member of FFA, finding time to participate in many local and statewide FFA events. As a member of the Veterinary Science Career Development Event team for RTC, she was recognized for placing among the top five contestants in the area event. She

also took the opportunity while at RTC to earn several certifications, including Workplace Readiness, Veterinary Medical Applications, Youth for the Quality Care of Animals, and Pet First Aid. These prestigious credentials are listed on her high school diploma along with the WISE certification she earned at the end of her financial literacy course taken at Thomas Jefferson HS. Her academic achievements earned her a handful of renewable scholarships: the Jon H. Poteat Scholarship, SOAR Scholarship, and the GRASP Last Dollar Scholarship. Now that's a good example of using entrepreneurship skills—to generate funding for one's education!

Part of the curriculum of the small animal care courses at RTC is to volunteer at Richmond Animal Care and Control. The combination of Aniyah's course content and hands-on experiences whetted her appetite to continue pursuing this work as a career. She is continuing her education at Virginia Tech where she will earn a degree in Animal and Poultry Sciences and then use that degree as a stepping stone to enter veterinary school. While in college, she plans to stay highly involved in collegiate FFA and will join Minorities in Agriculture and Natural Resources and the Related Sciences (MANRRS).

Aniyah is confident that her time at the Richmond Technical Center and Thomas Jefferson has prepared her to be successful in any future endeavor she chooses. Her family is excited and proud of her for being the first in their family to attend college. We wish Aniyah well and look forward to hearing more about her achievements and her journey towards a satisfying career ahead.

Sylvia Archer: Teacher of the Year 2018-2019

Elected by her peers from a pool of outstanding candidates, Sylvia B. Archer was voted Teacher of the Year, 2018-2019. Mrs. Archer is known for her passion for teaching, organizational genius, consistently pleasant and friendly manner, and willingness to help others. (She is also known for setting the good example of always taking the stairs instead of the elevator.) She is treasured by her colleagues, providing a stabilizing presence for staff and students alike. As a native Richmonder, Mrs. Archer received her early education through Richmond Public Schools, graduating from Thomas Jefferson High School. She credits her love of learning to her parents, and her love of learning as the impetus to a long career in education. She has a degree in Foundations of Education from James Madison University and an advanced diploma in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Phoenix. A quintessential life-long learner, Mrs. Archer has always sought to grow and learn and try new things. One of her hobbies is handicrafts, do-it-yourself projects. This avocation sparked her pursuit to earn a cosmetology certificate and license, and eventually, open her own shop--Simply Sylvia's Salon. She particularly enjoyed the instructional aspect of her work—individualizing instruction to teach customers how to work with their own hair to get the most flattering styles and best hair products for their particular needs. Eventually, her penchant for teaching cosmetology prompted her to leave her business venture and focus fulltime on teaching others the art and craft of cosmetology. She has worked the past 17 years as either an RTC instructor for the adult evening program or the high school day program. Over the course of her career, Mrs. Archer has enriched the lives of innumerable students, and inspired and helped her colleagues improve their craft of teaching. We honor and hold up Mrs. Archer as an example and reminder of what springs from choosing a career that is not only well-suited to one's aptitudes and personality, but a career that is driven by passion.





RTC Welcomes New Assistant Principal

It is with sincere admiration and respect for the Vision and Mission of Richmond Technical Center that I introduce myself as the new Assistant Principal alongside the marvelous Principal Mitchum. My sincerest desire is to see every student end the school year with pride and confidence knowing that the time spent at RTC was meaningful and productive! Second, I look forward to helping make RTC even more visible and a 'go to' for new consumers and partners.

About me briefly: this year marks my 13th with Richmond Public Schools and I have enjoyed all of my various experiences including Interim Principal, Instructional Specialist for Special Education, Compliance Coordinator and more! As an educator, I have strongly advocated throughout my career for equal access to general education for students with disabilities and other under-served students. My technical skills and experiences include computer hardware/software & electronics support technician, automotive tinkering with my father, and military experience (Aim High!). I majored in Criminal Justice and aspire to be a Pastry Chef when I retire (smile). But the most important job I've had is that of a proud mom of two high-achieving sons who are both graduating this year (one from college, one from high school) ... yes, we will be celebrating all year long!!



Since beginning this new school year, I have greatly enjoyed meeting and spending time with our students as they engage in goal setting to work towards their dreams, both graduation and post-graduation. I have also had the pleasure of getting to know a very passionate staff who enjoy sharing their knowledge and skills with students. We welcome students, visitors, community and RPS colleagues to tour and get to know all that we have to offer. RTC is truly a school of infinite possibilities considering the economic impact that training here can have on the lives of hundreds of families and the city of Richmond.



PATHWAYS TO COLLEGE & CAREER READINESS

CareerClusters™

RTC Welcomes New Staff Members



We would like to extend a hearty welcome to our new Small Animal Care I and II instructor, Ms. Rebecca Miley. A native Richmonder, Ms. Miley attended Henrico County Public Schools, graduating from Godwin High School. Ms. Miley went on to the University of Delaware where she received her Bachelor of Science with a dual major in Pre-Veterinarian Science and Entomology (the study of insects). She followed that training by attending the University of Maryland at College Park for graduate coursework with a focus on Exotic Animals and Poultry Nutrition. While there, she worked as a graduate teaching assistant and conducted research. Her work experience with animals also includes cancer research at University of Maryland Baltimore, serving as a Lab Animal Caretaker in Baltimore County, and a stint at PetSmart as Support Manager. After this extensive immersion in animal science and care, Ms. Miley moved to up-state New York with her husband after he was transferred there by the military. She found work as a Military Alterations Specialist, as sewing is another of her trade skills.

Ms. Miley has one son, Sam, two and a half years old. She is presently working on attaining a teaching license through EducateVA. She says, "I really enjoyed teaching undergraduate students, so coming to a high school setting feels like a natural evolution of that experience. My signature move in teaching is to throw in random facts while explaining things; sprinkling in interesting little factoids keeps students listening."

Currently Ms. Miley keeps guinea pigs, a bearded dragon, a rabbit, a ferret, a leopard gecko, and gerbils in the RTC small animal care lab for students to work with. They learn basic care of various animals, how to identify different types of pets in the trade, and the nutritional requirements for a variety of small animals. Students also learn first aid, grooming, and can even earn their certification in pet-sitting. Did you know full-time pet sitters can earn \$48,000/year?

In her free time, Ms. Miley enjoys sewing, photography, and music. She has even been in a rock band in Maryland. Please give Ms. Miley a warm welcome to the RTC family!



We are delighted to have another newcomer to our Agriculture and Construction Cluster—Veterinary Science Instructor Mrs. Latrisha Tate. Mrs. Tate teaches both Veterinary Science I and II. She brings a combination of knowledge and experience with her: a Bachelor of Science from University of Mary Washington; an AAS in Veterinary Technology from Blue Ridge Community College; eight years of experience working as a Veterinary Technician in general practice, emergency medicine, and her specialties—neurology, internal medicine, and dentistry. She has firsthand knowledge of all types of animals: large, small, and exotic.

Mrs. Tate grew up in Suffolk, Virginia, and now lives in West Point with her husband, two-year-old daughter Aspen, and a menagerie of pets: five cats, two dogs, one ferret, and two guinea pigs. Mrs. Tate met her husband at the University of Mary Washington and they were married in 2011. They relocated to the West Point area where her husband grew up and where most of her husband's family members still live. In fact, one of the lanes in town is named after his family's surname. Mrs. Tate's husband works as a computer technician for New Kent County Public Schools.

Because Mrs. Tate recently decided to switch from practitioner to educator, she is currently working to attain a Master's degree in Education from Regent University. She says, "There is a steep learning curve coming from the workforce into education. However, I love the challenge, especially when students ask questions and show they're interested. Most of all, I hope to impart my love and respect for all animals."

In her free time Mrs. Tate enjoys reading, hiking, whitewater rafting, traveling and exercising. In fact, at the time of this writing, she is training for a half marathon and recently took a trip to Tulum, Mexico.

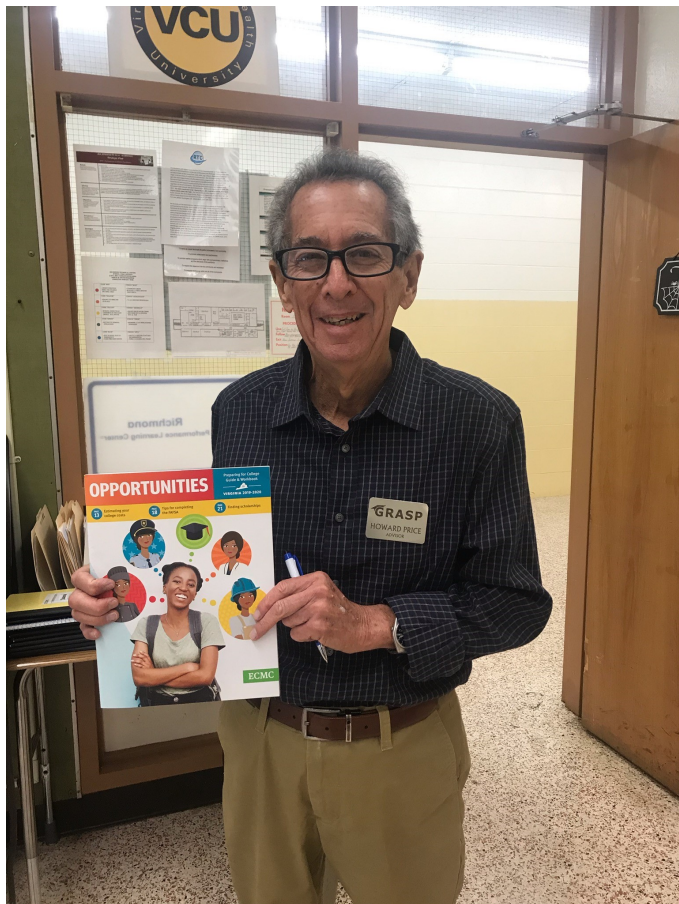


Charles McLeod, NR-P, CP, FACPE started his career in Fire and EMS in 1988. Having the opportunity of working in three countries and six states, Mr. McLeod holds an assortment of certifications: EMT-B, EMT-D, EMT-E, EMT-I, EMT-IV, and EMD qualifications. He was promoted to Captain and Training officer for the Willamina Fire District while assisting Portland Community College in teaching EMS law and EMS history. He also helped to launch their inaugural EMT program before his semi-retirement from EMS to peruse civilian disaster consulting for IT companies. Returning to the service in 2010, he obtained his National Registered Paramedic Certification in 2013. Since that time, he has held faculty and staff positions as both an Adjunct Instructor and Instructional Assistant, as well as Chief Clinical Preceptor for students at Norfolk General Hospital, the area's only Level 1 Trauma Center before accepting the Clinical Coordinator position at Paul D. Camp Community College. He also is a Responder Emeritus

to the Oklahoma City Bombing of the Murrah Federal Building serving as his state team leader. Charles received his bachelor's in emergency medical services administration from Columbia Southern University where he is pursuing his master's degree in emergency services management. He is also the first student to have completed both certificates in EMS Leadership and the Fire and Rescue Management from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte and his Community Paramedic certification from Hennepin Technical College in Eden Prairie, Minnesota. Mr. McLeod has been professionally recognized by the United States Coast Guard, the Department of Homeland Security, the City of Oklahoma City Fire Department, the American Red Cross, and the Virginia Association of Volunteer Rescue Squads. He is also a recipient of both the International Emergency Services Medal and the International Ambulance and Medics Medal from the United Kingdom.



GRASP Aspirations Scholarship Program, Inc.



Howard Price, GRASP Advisor for the Richmond Technical Center, provides assistance to students and parents who are looking to pay for college through financial aid and scholarships. All GRASP services are provided free of charge to help ensure career and college access to all.

This year you will find Mr. Price in his new office located inside the Library Media Center. You may also meet him during his regular rounds to visit classrooms: vocational classes, STEM classes, the Performance Learning Center (PLC), and Aspire Academy. He is available to meet with any senior to help develop a customized financial aid plan, navigate the Free Application for Financial Aid (FAFSA), secure an FSA ID, decipher financial aid offers, and resolve financial aid issues. He not only walks students through all the possibilities for securing college money, he also helps them submit applications.

Meeting with your GRASP Advisor could also make you eligible for a GRASP scholarship: A Community Pathway Scholarship and the Last Dollar Scholarship. Mr. Price also helps students find scholarships that may meet their specific needs. Last year GRASP awarded a \$1,000 scholarship to a student in the PLC Program who attended RTC.

Awarding GRASP scholarships each year is always a celebratory and memorable event for the recipients and their families.

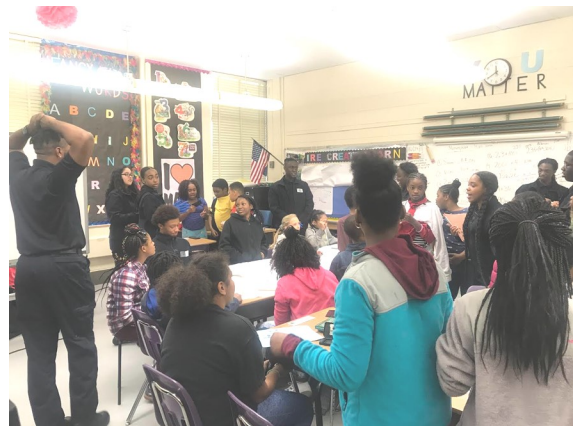
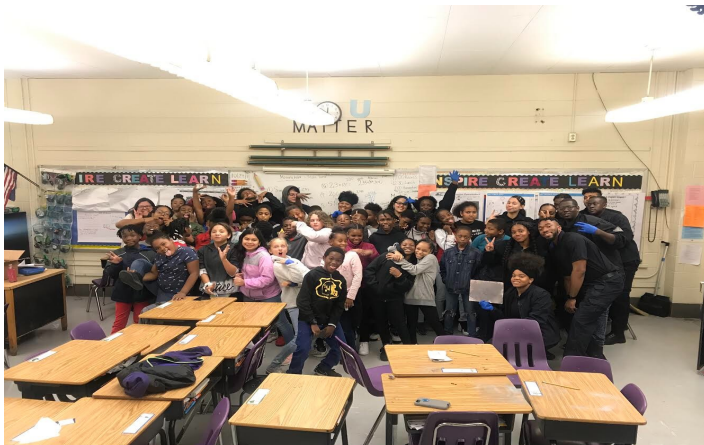
There is a sign-up sheet in the Library where students can make an appointment to see the GRASP Advisor. Mr. Price's hours are Tuesday and Thursday of each week from 9:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m. Even after many years of doing this work, Mr. Price still enjoys working with students and helping them get funding for college.



Community Service Project at Westover Hills Elementary School

On October 24, 2019 the Criminal Justice II class went to Westover Hills Elementary School to teach the children about fingerprinting. The students created and implemented their own curriculum that encompassed showing multiple ways of collecting fingerprints. The Criminal Justice II students showed the children how fingerprints are lifted in assorted ways: using super glue; lifting fingerprints with tape; and analyzing fingerprints using ultraviolet lights.

Alongside and below are pictures of the events that took place while at the elementary school. The principal was very excited about the activities and participated as well. The Criminal Justice II class has been asked to return in the new year to work with other classes who did not get to participate during the fall visit. A return visit is definitely on the RTC field trip calendar for 2020!



Building Management at RTC

Building Management is a two-year course offered at the Richmond Technical Center. Students obtain the knowledge and skills needed to perform the upkeep and maintenance of commercial buildings, residences, and grounds through hands-on training. Specifically, they learn about cleaning operations, building repairs, and grounds maintenance. They have the opportunity to work in various businesses in the Richmond area, and are often hired after demonstrating their skills. Students also go on field trips throughout the school year and work on RPS school building projects.



Fall Outing to the Foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains

On Friday, October 25th, students from our Horticulture, Culinary Arts, and Marketing classes traveled by charter bus to Carter Mountain Orchard and the historic Monticello in Charlottesville. Upon arrival at the orchards, students were greeted with delicious homemade apple cider and apple doughnuts fresh from the Carter Mountain Orchard kitchens. They were personally welcomed by a member of the Chiles family, owner-operators of Carter Mountain Orchard since the early 1970s. The business was initially built on growing apples for commercial production—packing and shipping them all over the U.S.A. Since the "Pick Your Own" concept was introduced, the public now swarms the orchards to harvest their own fresh peaches, nectarines, vegetables, and apples from April through November as each crop becomes ready for harvesting. The success of the business has allowed for continuing expansion. Over the years the Chiles family has built a country store and public restrooms; expanded parking space to include room for school buses and other tour groups; added additional modes of payment and internet marketing; constructed a bakery and expanded the kitchens; and added a winery with tasting rooms. Currently the business is run by three generations of the Chiles family. From there our students travelled "just a piece up the road" for an extensive tour of Monticello. RTC students enjoyed a truly unique and behind-the-scenes day of visiting the orchards and Monticello, all in the scenic, rolling foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains. What better way to spend a lovely fall day in Virginia?





Richmond Technical Center

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Rvaschools.net/RTC

Barbara Smith, Director of Career and Technical Education
Jonathan Mitchum, Principal

Richmond Public Schools
School Board Members



Front row – Left to right: Elizabeth Doerr – 1st District, Dawn Page, Chair - 8th District, Dr. Patrick Sapini, Vice Chair - 5th District, Kenya Gibson - 3rd District. Back row – left to right: Felicia Cosby - 6th District, James “Scott” Barlow - 2nd District, Cheryl Burke - 7th District, Linda Owen - 9th District, Jonathan Young - 4th District and Linda Owen-District 9

Jason Kamras
Superintendent

Harry Hughes
Chief Schools Officer

Tracy Epp
Chief Academic Officer

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

The Americans with Disabilities Act or ADA is a wide-ranging civil rights law that prohibits discrimination based on disability. It affords similar protections against discrimination to Americans with disabilities as the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which made discrimination based on race, religion, sex, national origin, and other characteristics illegal. The Americans with Disabilities Act prohibits discrimination against individuals on the basis of disability. In accordance with the law, it is the policy of the Richmond Public Schools (RPS) to provide equal treatment and access to programs, services, and activities to individuals with disabilities. RPS also does not discriminate on the basis of disability in its hiring or employment practices to qualified individuals. RPS is also dedicated to creating awareness of social obstacles and unconscious discrimination of those with disabilities.

Richmond Public Schools ADA Statement

Richmond Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of disability in admission to its programs, services, or activities, in access to them, in treatment of individuals with disabilities, or in any aspect of their operations. RPS also does not discriminate on the basis of disability in its hiring or employment practices. This notice is provided as required by Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Questions, complaints or requests for additional information regarding the ADA may be forwarded to the ADA Coordinator.