

RIVERSIDE

TECH

CORRECTIONS SCHOOL SYSTEM

BOARD REPORT

May 2020

RIVERSIDE VO-TECH INSTRUCTORS ARE MEETING THE CHALLENGES OF COVID-19

Riverside Vo-Tech made the following adjustments to protect instructors and students from the spread of the novel coronavirus:

- Classroom layouts were rearranged to ensure separation of six feet.
- Classes were split into morning and afternoon sessions to reduce group numbers. (Stipulated students continue all-day instruction.)
- Desks, door knobs, equipment and common areas are sanitized throughout the day.
- Staff and students wear masks and monitor separation during instruction.

EAST ARKANSAS REGIONAL UNIT



Welding Instructor Chuck Ward works with a student on technique using a torch.

*Unit Manager/
HVAC
Instructor
Mark Andrews
observes
a student
working on a
motor.*



Riverside Vo-Tech Assistant Director Tonya Gates (left), Computer Application Technology Instructor Victoria Harmon, Computer Accounting Instructor Barbara Tiefenback, Cosmetology Instructor Sydney Fuller, and Horticulture Instructor Michael Harmon take a moment to enjoy viewing the beautiful rose bushes grown by the Horticulture Class.

ESTER UNIT

Each computer station in the Computerized Application Technology (CAT) class at the Ester Unit are distanced six feet apart and separated by clear shields/barriers that are sanitized at the completion of each class.

Additionally, classes are separated into eight students in the morning and nine students in the afternoon.



COVID-19 RESPONSE continued:

OUACHITA RIVER CORRECTIONAL UNIT



Welding Instructor Burt Van Horn reviews lawnmower controls with student.

RANDALL L. WILLIAMS UNIT



Landscape & Design Instructor Don "Bobo" Kendrick teaches a session outside while still maintaining COVID-19 precautions.

VARNER UNIT

Electricity Instructor John Chapman oversees a student working on an electric panel.



**STUDENT ENROLLMENT
April 2020**

EAST ARKANSAS REGIONAL UNIT	Enrolled	Removed	Interns	Completed	NCCER
Building Maintenance	13	0	1	0	0
Computerized Applications Technology	12	0	0	0	0
Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning	10	0	0	0	0
Welding	15	0	1	0	0
TOTAL	50	0	2	0	0

ESTER UNIT	Enrolled	Removed	Interns	Completed	NCCER
Computerized Applications Technology	15	1	0	0	0
TOTAL	15	1	0	0	0

NEWPORT COMPLEX	Enrolled	Removed	Interns	Completed	NCCER
Computerized Applications Technology	13	0	1	1	0
Computerized Accounting	13	0	0	0	0
Cosmetology	13	1	1	1	0
Cosmetology Instructor	1	0	0	0	0
Horticulture	16	0	1	0	0
TOTAL	56	1	3	2	0

NORTH CENTRAL UNIT	Enrolled	Removed	Interns	Completed	NCCER
Horticulture	16	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	16	0	0	0	0

OUACHITA RIVER CORRECTIONAL UNIT	Enrolled	Removed	Interns	Completed	NCCER
Building Trades Technology	14	1	2	0	0
Computerized Applications Technology	15	0	2	0	0
TOTAL	29	1	4	0	0

STUDENT ENROLLMENT (continued):

RANDALL L. WILLIAMS UNIT	Enrolled	Removed	Interns	Completed	NCCER
Landscape & Design	15	0	2	0	0
TOTAL	15	0	2	0	0

VARNER UNIT	Enrolled	Removed	Interns	Completed	NCCER/ ServSafe
Building Maintenance	15	0	0	0	0
Culinary Arts	16	0	1	0	5
Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning	15	0	2	0	0
Residential Carpentry	11	0	1	0	0
Residential Electricity	16	0	1	0	0
Welding	17	0	1	0	0
TOTAL	90	0	6	0	5*

*NCCER=0; ServSafe=5

A RIVERSIDE VO-TECH SUCCESS STORY:

April 2020

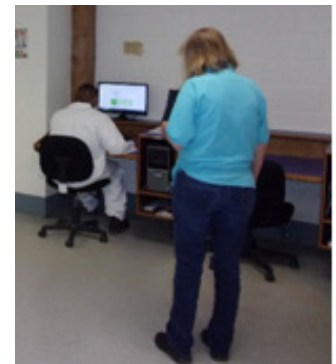
Hello, my name is Ashley Caramenz. In June of 2014, I stepped back into McPherson prison for the third time. While in prison I completed Computerized Accounting at Riverside Vo-Tech and was able to enroll in ASUN at Newport under the Second Chance Pell Grant. During my stay at Newport, I completed all the requirements and was able to obtain a General Studies degree from ASUN. When I was released in November of 2016, I only needed about 12 credit hours to finish my Associates Degree in Applied Science. In December of 2016, I was hired by Tyson Foods, Inc. where I have held various jobs in accounting, purchasing and now I work in Shipping and Receiving. In May of 2018, I graduated from University of Arkansas - Rich Mountain College with my Associates. In May of 2022, I plan to graduate from University of Arkansas - Fort Smith, where I will be receiving a bachelor's degree in business management. This degree will allow me the resources and tools for advancement at Tyson.

UNIT PROGRAM UPDATES:

COMPUTERIZED APPLICATION TECHNOLOGY –

Riverside Vo-Tech currently offers **Computerized Application Technology** classes at four ADC locations: **East Arkansas Regional, Ester, McPherson, and Ouachita River Correctional Units**. It takes 1,440 hours to complete the course.

The curriculum is designed to prepare students for a career in an office environment. Students learn how to transcribe accurately from tapes and written notes, produce acceptable letters and documents, and keep records using correct accounting procedures.



Computer Applications Technology Instructors Charlie Ballard (EARU) and Marianne Hixon (ORCU) guide students through the course.

COMPUTERIZED ACCOUNTING –

A **Computerized Accounting** class is also offered at the McPherson Unit. This program, which takes 1,440 hours to complete, is designed to teach entry-level accounting skills using the computer. The level and styles of presentation facilitates the development of a knowledge base that allows students to obtain employment and to perform successfully in positions that require basic accounting knowledge.



Computerized Accounting Instructor Barbara Tiefenback assists one of her students.

COMPUTERIZED ACCOUNTING *(continued)*:

Features of this course include: accounting careers, starting a proprietorship, analyzing transactions into debit and credit parts, journalizing transactions, posting to a general ledger, completing an accounting cycle, transferring manual books to computer software, entering transactions with Quick Books accounting software, and entering transactions with Sage 50 Accounting Software.

HORTICULTURE –

The ladies at the **McPherson Unit** have been busy. They've been utilizing their skills learned in the **Horticulture Program** to grow vegetable transplants for the University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture, Research Extension, for the annual Master Gardener Plant Sale.

The students grew Better Boy and Red Cherry large tomatoes, Jalapeno, and California Wonder bell pepper transplants from seed.

The men in the **North Central Unit** Horticulture Class have been propagating plants from their greenhouse as well.



RESIDENTIAL CARPENTRY –

One of the most pressing problems confronting the building industry today is the shortage of skilled labor. The construction industry recruits numerous new craft employees each year. This shortage is expected to continue well into the next decade because of projected job growth and a decline in available workers.

Riverside Vo-Tech's **Residential Carpentry** class offered at the **Varner Unit** is working hard to train one source of available labor in their students. The students are given the NCCER core curriculum first. Once they have completed that, they receive



training in NCCER Carpentry 1 and Carpentry 2.

Instructor Matt Hudgens has a background in electrical, instrumentation, maintenance as well as construction. He is currently still working in the residential construction field and passes on to his class the updated knowledge he acquires while working in today's market. The information he shares is invaluable to the students, which gives them a realistic view point of today's labor needs.