

# RIVERSIDE

TECH

CORRECTIONS SCHOOL SYSTEM

## BOARD REPORT

August 2020

### RIVERSIDE VO-TECH COVID-19 UPDATE

#### EAST ARKANSAS REGIONAL UNIT –

The bunk racks were removed from the Riverside Vo-Tech (RVT) barracks at the East Arkansas Regional Unit on August 14, with sanitizing planned for August 17.

#### ESTER UNIT –

The RVT program at the Ester Unit is currently without students. The instructor has been temporarily reassigned to the mailroom.

#### MCPHERSON UNIT –

All students in the McPherson Unit RVT program are currently having class during the week. Students are being separated by barracks and are receiving four hours of in-class instruction each week, along with receiving a weekly packet. Each classroom is thoroughly sanitized before the next group of students come to class. Additionally, face masks and social distancing are being strictly enforced.

#### NORTH CENTRAL UNIT –

RVT classes at the North Central Unit are continuing to meet throughout the week. Vo-Tech students are housed in two separate barracks and are receiving both in-class instruction as well as a weekly packet. Sanitizing, face masks, and social distancing are being enforced with each group.

#### OUACHITA RIVER CORRECTIONAL UNIT –

At the Ouachita River Correctional Unit, the RVT instructors have been working on classroom maintenance and updates. Tool rooms are being built for the new plumbing and welding classes. Beginning the week of August 17, Unit Manager Don Rigney will be working from Central Office to update new computers for the program.

#### RANDALL L. WILLIAMS UNIT –

RVT students at the Randall L. Williams Unit are maintaining the landscaping on Freeline Drive and the ADC Central Office. They have also continued making repairs to the sprinkler system at the Secretary’s house. The system was destroyed by a storm on the evening of April 12. One student in the RVT barracks is receiving Alternative Methods of Instruction (AMI) packets.

#### VARNER UNIT –

The Varner Unit was placed on lockdown on August 17. Prior to that, the RVT program cut daily class sizes in half, with students being alternated every-other-day.

### STUDENT ENROLLMENT July 2020

EAST ARKANSAS REGIONAL UNIT	Enrolled	Removed	Interns	Completed	NCCER
Building Maintenance	9	0	0	0	0
Computerized Applications Technology	13	0	0	0	0
Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning	9	0	0	0	0
Welding	15	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

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**STUDENT ENROLLMENT, continued:**

ESTER UNIT	Enrolled	Removed	Interns	Completed	NCCER
Computerized Applications Technology	14	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

NEWPORT COMPLEX	Enrolled	Removed	Interns	Completed	NCCER
Computerized Applications Technology	13	0	0	0	0
Computerized Accounting	9	0	1	0	0
Cosmetology	13	0	0	0	0
Cosmetology Instructor	1	0	0	0	0
Horticulture	12	1	1	1	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>

NORTH CENTRAL UNIT	Enrolled	Removed	Interns	Completed	NCCER
Horticulture	16	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

OUACHITA RIVER CORRECTIONAL UNIT	Enrolled	Removed	Interns	Completed	NCCER
Building Trades Technology	11	0	0	0	0
Computerized Applications Technology	15	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

RANDALL L. WILLIAMS UNIT	Enrolled	Removed	Interns	Completed	NCCER
Landscape & Design	13	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

VARNER UNIT	Enrolled	Removed	Interns	Completed	NCCER/ ServSafe
Building Maintenance	11	3	0	1	0
Culinary Arts	11	2	1	0	0
Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning	11	3	2	0	0
Residential Carpentry	12	0	0	0	0
Residential Electricity	15	0	1	0	0
Welding	15	2	1	2	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>

**NEW FUTURE FIT PROGRAM LAUNCHING AT VARNER UNIT**

The Arkansas Economic Development Commission conducted more than 1,800 face-to-face meetings with Arkansas companies to evaluate the extent of the skilled worker shortage in Arkansas.

Their findings showed that there are about 10,000 unfilled jobs. More than 25 percent of these jobs require no formal education, and more than 50 percent require just a high school diploma or GED.

In response this issue, the Economic Development Commission collaborated with several companies in Arkansas to launch a pilot program.

The program is called Future Fit and it is a new class being developed at the Varner Unit's Riverside Vo-Tech. The class will provide instruction through the



Manufacturing Skills Standards Council (MSSC), which will afford inmates with the training and

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### **FUTURE FIT PROGRAM (continued):**

certification needed for them to go directly into well-paying jobs upon completion and release from prison.

Inmates who successfully complete the program will earn a nationally-recognized certification that will assist them in procuring gainful employment, which is beneficial to staying out of prison. The course will consist of instruction in the areas of safety, quality practices and measurement, production and processes, as well as maintenance awareness.

The necessary equipment for this new program has been installed at the unit and Instructor Jake Izard has been hired to facilitate the coursework.

Students in the Future Fit program will acquire many employability skills including: production teams, training and leadership, safety organization, personal protective equipment, fire and electrical safety, work area safety, hazardous material safety, tool and machine safety, material handling safety,

mechanical principles, mechanical linkages, gear drives, machining processes, machine tooling, machine operations, equipment procedures, production planning and workflow, production control, multi-view drawings, assembly drawing and fasteners, geometric dimensioning and tolerancing, basic measurement, precision measurement tools, dimensional gauging, quality systems, introduction to statistical process control (SPC), control charts, continuous improvement, welding, basic electrical circuits, electrical measurement and power, pneumatic power systems, basic pneumatic circuits, principles of pressure and flow, lubrication concepts, bearing and couplings, belt and chain drives, machine control concepts, automation and operation modes, and electrical motor control.

Some of the companies that participated in the development of the Future Fit program include: Bekaert, Trane, Gerber, International Paper, HSM Solutions, MAHLE, Gerdau, Glatfelter, Rocklin Industries, and Rheem.

