



THE SOURCE

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Director Welcomes Newest RST Recruits To The Team

The third class of Resident Specialist Trainees has begun at the Virginia Public Safety Training Center, and Director Andy Block attended their first day of training to personally welcome them. Recruits stood to introduce themselves and tell a little of their backgrounds, and members of the Community Model Implementation Team stopped by to lend their support as well. “This is a great way to start a Monday: there is a very impressive array of talent in this room,” Director Block observed. “The journey you’re about to embark on is not an easy one, but it is extremely important, and can be a very rewarding one. As you help each other through the coming weeks, keep in mind that you will have the opportunity to change kids’ lives for the better.”



School Back In Session; New Electives Offered

The first day of the 2015-16 school year at Yvonne B. Miller High School went smoothly at both campuses, Education staff reports.

At Beaumont, staff greeted students in front of the school and gave them their schedules. The students anticipated the opportunity to experience the new electives being offered this year, such as Cadet Corp and music. “We now have the opportunity for post-graduate students to participate in quilting, barbering,

YouthBuild and mural painting,” noted Michael Hall. “The students are engaged and excited to start the fall semester.”

At Bon Air, students had the opportunity to take cosmetology, culinary arts, ad design, music, tech ed, and Cadet Corps classes in both buildings, providing an equal opportunity to take all classes offered on the Bon Air campus. Students moved easily to the appropriate classes in both buildings.

Additional Transition Skills, Training Considered

CMIT members recently met with operations, training, Beaumont and Bon Air JCC administrators to discuss possible enhancements to the conversion process. They talked about how to provide additional skill-building and training to the already activated units (Bon Air units 54 and 68, Beaumont units D100 and B100) and how to incorporate these elements into those units being activated in the future. Topics included:

- The EQUIP Program “Teaching Youth to Think and Act Responsibly through a Peer-Helping Approach”
 - Group Facilitation Skills
 - Operating a Highly Structured Schedule
 - Resident Phases in the Community Treatment Model
- These topics and others are in development, and sessions for staff will be provided in the upcoming months.