



Tomlinson Adult Learning Center Mission and Purpose:

To provide a quality learning environment which enables adults to become literate, economically self-sufficient, and productive members of society.

A Quarterly Community Newsletter

The Tribute

Tomlinson Adult Learning Center

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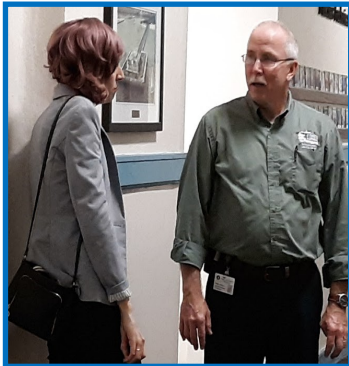
Spreading the Word in the Neighborhood, Tomlinson has its Very First Open House



Adult centers haven't traditionally held an annual "Open House," but this year, our Career Specialist, Barbara Riddle-Dvorak, "pitched" the idea and it was a "hit" with administration. We created flyers for the event and went to nearby shops, asking if we could "post" them in their "events" areas; they agreed.

We had "many hands on deck" in preparation for the event. Teachers and students who live nearby were available to speak to prospective students. Cookies and punch were served and we got several registrations as a result of our efforts. A very special "thank you" to everyone involved; we appreciate you!!

Above: Teachers Beth Bridges, Nina Cornelius, and Jennifer Hawley prepare to meet prospective students during our May Open House—the first of its kind in the Adult arena.



Right: Night-time Coordinator Patrick Jennings speaks to Eliza Brumbaugh, a night-school teacher, about our various classes available in the daytime program.

Right: JaVonda Bryant speaks to her students, Frank Ayestaran and Maria Cassani, both visiting here from Venezuela.



Above: Students are sometimes the best advertising for our program. Many come to us because their friends told them about us. Open House was a perfect opportunity for sharing information.

Newly Graduated

Tyler Ramsay was like many of our students. By his own admission, he "played around" in high school, and wasn't focused on his studies or his future. He got a "Certificate of Completion" when he left St. Pete High. This allowed him to walk across the stage, but he didn't have the diploma. He only needed to pass the math section of the PERT test in order to get his standard high school diploma, but at the time, it wasn't his priority.

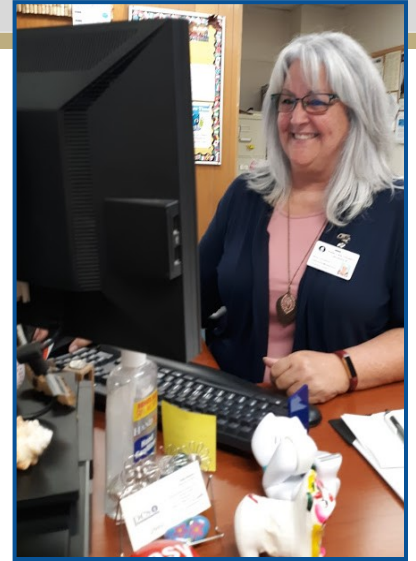
After being "out in the world," and realizing that a diploma could help him, he came to us, asking about getting his GED. Reviewing his transcripts, we discovered the fastest route for him to take and set him on his path to success. "I'm so proud and happy that I finally made it," said Tyler. "I can't tell you how much I appreciate you." We're so glad we could help!!



Enrollment for Adult Centers is

DIMINISHING

All over Pinellas County, Adult Education enrollment is down. At Tomlinson, we will be starting next school year with 5 fewer teaching units. We are losing our Media Specialist, Ms. Nina Cornelius (right), and two ESOL teachers, Mr. Bob Tootle (below left) and Ms. AnnMarie Kokash (below right.) Mrs. Nancy Fox, one of our GED teachers, (bottom left) is retiring and Mrs. Helen Brown-Keys, (bottom right) who has been helping students get Microsoft Certifications, will be moving to another school. We will sorely miss all of them and wish them the best of luck in their next adventures. We want you all to keep in touch!



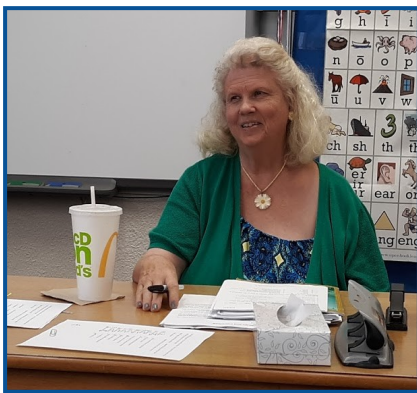
Above: Besides working in the library, taking photos, and covering classes, Nina helps out in Guidance doing intake interviews and registration, when necessary.



Far Left: Bob Tootle passes out papers to his Level P1 class about conjugations of the verb, "to be."



Above Left: AnnMarie Kokash works individually on recognizing signs with one of her students, Emerita Naranjo.



Far Left: Nancy Fox sits at the "head of the class" as her students take turns reading aloud after their break time and snacks.



Left: Ms. Helen Brown-Keys helps one of her students, Myriam Nunez, in looking up information about taking the Microsoft Certification Exams.

Interesting Facts from around Tomlinson

I BET you didn't know...

We are proud to say that students come from all over the world to study with us. To date, we have 66 different countries represented in our ESOL classes this year.



Student Yasemin Gul and Ms. Franchon Dials share a moment in the front hallway. Yasemin is from Turkey, and has studied English in many other states, such as California and New York, because she works as an actress and has travelled around quite a bit. We were interested to find out that she has been in "Ezel," a Turkish dramatic series, available on Netflix. After having been here only 2 weeks, she declared, "This school is the very best, of all the ones I've attended."