

Newsletter of the  
National Association of Community College Teacher Education Programs

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## Alumni Spotlight: Anthony Graham

Unfortunately, we do ourselves a disservice by not adequately highlighting the success stories of the students who began their teaching career with one of our community college education programs. It is our job to emphasize the impact that our programs have on their success. NACCTEP wants to recognize your past students that are now actively serving in classrooms as full-time teachers, administrators, curriculum writers, etc. Don't you think we owe it to them to tell their stories? Let's start to recognize our alumni in our NACCTEP newsletter. We need your voice! If you have an alumni whose story you would like to share, please contact NACCTEP at [nacctep@riosalado.edu](mailto:nacctep@riosalado.edu).

It is time to start promoting OUR students! The goal is to highlight a community college alumni in each NACCTEP Newsletter. The inaugural spotlight features:

### Anthony Graham

I attended [Mesa Community College](#) (MCC), Mesa, Arizona in 2007 and graduated from Ottawa University in 2008 with a degree in Elementary Education. MCC was such a great institution because it kick started my teaching passion and career. I loved the small classes and the professors' passion for their jobs. Tawn Hauptli was more than a professor. She built relationships with her students and highly encouraged us to network within our community.



After graduation from Ottawa University, I worked at Lomas Elementary School in the Kyrene Elementary School District in Arizona as a substitute teacher. In 2008, I moved to Madison, Alabama and secured a 5th grade teaching position at Heritage Elementary School. I taught 5th grade there for five years. In 2012, I accepted a position at Discovery Middle School also in Alabama teaching 7th grade math. I am still at Discovery teaching 7th grade Math and Introduction to Public Speaking.

In December 2010, I founded a leadership program for young men in northern Alabama called Ready yoUrself for the Future, also known as R.U.F.F. Our mission is to empower young men to become outstanding leaders in their home, school, and community. R.U.F.F. began when the struggles of fatherless young men touched my heart. The brutality of their words and actions towards others was devastating. One by one, they needed to be helped or would become another lost child. In just four years, we have mentored over 900 young men. Our website is <http://www.ruffleadership.org/>.

Thank you all for the recognition and it is such an honor!

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This e-newsletter has been designed to bring members important NACCTEP news and innovative program profiles that can be shared with college administration, colleagues and students. NACCTEP is proud to offer this newsletter as a resource, and values your feedback, input and suggestions.

If you have any questions or comments, please CONTACT US.

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