



Up for the Challenge: Timber Minish, Youth Challenge, Fort Stewart



After talking to Timber Minish for just a few minutes, it is easy to see that she is a young lady who is driven to achieve her goals. This December, she will graduate from the Youth Challenge Academy at Fort Stewart—half a year ahead of her projected graduation date based on her age and cohort. Timber chose to enter the Youth Challenge program to graduate early and fulfill her dream of joining the military.

Timber, who is from Madison County, had access to a Foothills site and could have earned her diploma early a little closer to home. Yet, she chose Youth Challenge because it was just that—a challenge. The Youth Challenge program, for which Foothills Charter High School provides the academic component, is run by the Georgia National Guard. Students who enter not only work toward their high school diploma, they are also “cadets” in a residential program on an army base. In addition to academics, these cadets participate in activities that promote self-discipline through physical training.

Timber shared, “If I can do this, I can do anything.” She described it as a “tough program” for those who would “work hard” and “get back up” if they experienced failure. Timber’s biggest challenge has been to “stay focused.” The Youth Challenge program offers cadets dual enrollment opportunities, and the opportunity to earn certifications in several different vocational areas. Timber will graduate in December as a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA), and the classes were paid for as a part of the program.

Timber’s ultimate goal is to join the United States Air Force and serve as a medic in the army. Her experiences as a cadet in Fort Stewart’s Youth Challenge program have provided her with an introduction to military life, as well as the opportunity to earn her first medical certification. Our hats are off to Timber!

Message from the Superintendent

Here we grow again! Foothills began this journey with 7 sites, and we have grown to 14. In 2019, we will add 2 additional satellite sites to bring our total to 16 sites!

Our Social Circle site, scheduled to open in January 2019, will be a satellite of Walton Foothills. This satellite model has proven successful at our Oglethorpe site, a satellite of Madison Foothills. In addition, Greene Foothills will open in August of 2019, and will be a satellite of our Morgan Foothills site.

Positions for the Social Circle site have already been posted; positions for the Greene site will be posted in the spring. With the opening of these two satellite sites, Foothills has achieved one of our goals—to serve all students in the Northeast Georgia RESA area.

As we have grown, Foothills has remained true to our mission to serve students who need an alternative to the traditional high school schedule. Timber Minish is a shining example of a student whose dreams and goals do not fit the traditional mold. We are honored to be part of the Youth Challenge program so that students like Timber can push toward their dreams. And, we are honored to serve as an alternative for students like Timber in Northeast Georgia.

Regards,
Sherrie

In This Issue:

- **Up for the Challenge, Fort Stewart**
- **Message from the Superintendent**
- **All Working Together: Parent Involvement**
- **College and Career Reading Performance Index (CCRPI)**

College and Career Ready Performance Index (CCRPI)

All schools across Georgia receive annual feedback on their performance through the College and Career Ready Performance Index (CCRPI). With various components (content mastery, progress, closing gaps, and readiness), the CCRPI is just one way that we keep track of the difference we are making for students.

CCRPI scores were publically released in October. The CCRPI calculations were updated this year based on the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), so they cannot be compared to previous years.

Foothills is extremely proud of our performance in the areas of progress and closing gaps. Our score for student progress was 95%. Our score for closing gaps was 86.4%.

This data is encouraging and points to the hard work of our students and teachers. Our focused work to align curriculum, instruction, and assessment at Foothills has led to great gains for our students.

For more information on Georgia's CCRPI, please visit <http://www.gadoe.org/CCRPI/Pages/default.aspx>

All Working Together: Parent Involvement Month

November is Parent Involvement Month, and November 15, 2018 is the National Day of Parent Involvement. This month, parents are encouraged to think about how they can become more involved with their child's education. In addition, schools are encouraged to consider how they can provide more opportunities for parents to be engaged and involved.

In today's world, it takes all of us—educators and parents—working together to ensure that our children succeed. While Foothills is non-traditional and many of our students are more independent than might be typical, parents and families still play a critical role on the path to success.

We invite parents and families to remain involved with their children and in the educational journey. These are some ways that you can be involved at Foothills:

Encourage Attendance

At Foothills, many of our students are of the age where they are not required to attend every night. In addition, because our students can work at their own pace, some choose not to come daily. As a parent or guardian, you can encourage *regular*, if not daily, attendance. Students who are successful at Foothills do attend regularly and spend time each week making progress on their courses.

Create an Infinite Campus Parent Account

An Infinite Campus Parent Portal account allows you to monitor your child's progress. You can see attendance information, as well as information on credits earned. Need help? Call or visit your child's Foothills site for help creating an account. You will need your child's social security number.

Talk to Your Child

Our students are in high school, but that doesn't mean they don't need you to ask them about school. Take some time to ask about their courses, their progress. Ask them about their mentor at Foothills and how that person is helping them set and reach goals. **November 15th is National Parent Involvement Day.** Set aside some time on this day to turn off devices and learn about your child's journey at Foothills.



Foothills Education Charter
High School
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The Foothills Vision

Foothills Education Charter High School strives to be an accessible, high-quality high school option that is flexible and responsive to the needs of the People of Georgia and its communities.