

# TEACHER OF THE YEAR

## Larry Pickard, Finalist

### Framing and Roofing Career Technical Program Indian River School Indian River Juvenile Correctional Facility, DYS

“Equipping my students with the tools that they need to be successful for a productive future” is the philosophy that guides me every day as I take on the challenge of teaching the young men at Indian River.

Hi, my name is Larry Pickard. Prior to answering the call to join the teaching staff at Indian River as the Framing and Roofing teacher back in 2012, I was a certified plumber and ran my own business.

As of May 2016, I have earned my 5 Year Professional Teaching License through the successful passage of both the Resident Educator program and the CT program at the Ohio State University. Also, during this time I had the privilege of becoming a certified forklift trainer which allows me to train and certify our youth as forklift operators. We have partnered with many organizations including Habitat for Humanity, Christ Community Chapel and most recently the Boy Scouts of America, which allows my students give back to their community while reinforcing classroom objectives. In ensuring that my students have the tools they need to be successful upon release, I have started an initiative called the “Toolkit Program” partnering with the Home Depot that gives my students the basic hand tools and gear they will need to start their career in construction. A year ago, I was given the green light to start a carpentry club to introduce all interested youth to woodworking. We meet every Saturday for 3 hours and occasionally on intersessions. In July, I was named the IRJCF “Employee of the Month”. I serve on various institutional committees such as Health/Safety and Professional Development as well as a youth mentor.

On a personal note, I will be celebrating my 19th year of marriage to LaQuita. We enjoy travelling with friends, entertaining and all things Steelers! My newest passion is becoming a barbecue master.

