

My name is Paula Canaday and I teach Coding & Advanced Programming courses at Bridging Communities. I also facilitate instruction for students to gain work-ready skills in Microsoft Office Applications and computer Technology. I have taught in the public school system for 15 years and have been at Bridging Communities since its opening in 2012. I am blessed to teach alongside dedicated and wonderful teachers, but most importantly to have such a mature, well-mannered, and ambitions group of students enrolled in my classes each year from all six participating school districts. It is a pleasure to greet, teach, and learn from such a stellar group.

I have lived in New Kent County for more than 24 years; however, I am a King and Queen native. I have two daughters and one grandson whom I love spending time with. I spend my spare time operating my home-based printing and embroidery business.

As a career switcher, I enjoy teaching, mostly because I get to perform my favorite hobbies as I work. I also enjoy teaching the students critical thinking and problem solving skills that will be useful for the rest of their lives regardless of their career path. Each year, one or more of my students earn first, second, and/or third place state championships in Microsoft Office. The first place winner receives an all-expenses paid trip to Orlando Florida to compete in the National Championships. I have been blessed to travel along with my students for four consecutive years. In 2014, one of my students won the National Championship and received all-expenses paid trip to Anaheim, California to complete in the World Championship where he placed 5th in his category.

I am looking forward to another great, highly motivated and competitive year with an awesome group of students!

**Educational Background:**

* Graduate work in Supervision and Administration
  + George Washington University, 2010
* M.S. Mathematics Education
  + Cambridge College, 2006
* B.S. Computer Science
  + Norfolk State University, 1987

**Certifications:**

* CSTeachers.org Cyber Teacher, 2017
* Microsoft Certified Trainer, 2015
* Microsoft Office Specialist, 2014

**Professional Development:**

* Cyber Hygiene and Cyber Intelligence, 2017
* AP Computer Science Principles, 2017

**Professional Experience:**

* Systems Information Specialist
* Secondary Mathematics Teacher
* Computer Repair Technician
* Senior Database Administrator
* Software Engineer
* Computer Programmer