

Mr. Chuck Finley – Respect

The staff and faculty here at Summit Technology Academy have been blazing our own trail for twelve years. Since our inception in August of 1999, we have seen many students and some staff/faculty come and go. One of our finest and most dedicated staff members has been Mr. Chuck Finley.

My observations of Chuck have been keen and daily for a period of 5 years, not based upon a single incident or event, but rather observing as both colleague and mentor. I teach the capstone course for *Project Lead The Way, Engineering Design & Development*. Many of my students' projects incorporate digital electronics into their designs. Though Chuck is busy teaching his own course, he never hesitates to assist my students as they travel to his room or he travels to mine. This often entails remaining after school far beyond what most staff would stay. The result of his dedication and unquestioned sense of *cooperation* with me and my students are design projects that consistently amaze those professionals who serve as judges of the students' projects and presentations. Some of my students have been asked to present their projects at local conferences and without fail those projects utilized electronics.

Yet another facet of Chuck's keen sense of cooperation is his unwavering desire to assist students from both LSR7 schools and out-of-district school students from the urban core with his time, his money, and his personal equipment seeing that quite often students do not have after-school access to some of the necessary technology.

In summary, Chuck Finley is a *team-player* of the highest caliber who has a solid handle of what is absolutely necessary in both the school environment and the real world and that is *cooperation* in order for students to have the opportunity to excel.