

Students Return to CAVIT Led by Promising New Staff

On July 21st, CAVIT returned to classes. The return of classes brought several promising new staff members to CAVIT that will help guide students to achieve their goals. CAVIT is excited about the addition of these new staff members and the skills they bring with them to the CAVIT team.

Stephanie Figueroa - [Cosmetology](#)

With an impressive 13 years of licensed hair styling experience, Figueroa's skills are undeniable. She previously worked as a hair stylist and taught cosmetology classes before switching to CAVIT. When asked what led her to work at CAVIT, she stated, "I loved the experience I had learning cosmetology in high school and I wanted to give students a similar experience here at CAVIT." Figueroa frequently helped her coworkers with advanced hair techniques and decided she was passionate about teaching. Figueroa is excited about the positive learning environment CAVIT provides and the engaging upcoming school activities, such as CAVITCon.

Mike Holly - [Pharmacy Science](#)

Leading the pharmacy science students this year at CAVIT is Mike Holly. Holly graduated from his pharmacy program and holds a bachelor's and master's degrees. Holly has 20 years of experience teaching pharmacy, primarily to college students. When the program was first announced at CAVIT, he received a call from a CAVIT employee who told him there was no one better for the job. Although this is his first time teaching high school students, he is looking forward to connecting with young learners interested in starting their pharmacy careers. When asked what he was most looking forward to at CAVIT, Holly responded, "To me, the best part of teaching is when students have that 'a-ha' moment, when they realize they have value and there's an increase in their self-perception."

Michael Thompson - [Drone Technology](#)

Michael Thompson is proud to announce he is the new drone technology instructor for CAVIT. Thompson has his master's degree and is five years into his PhD. Within his ten years of experience in the field, he has worked on military drones and built gas turbine engines for drones. For the past five years, Thompson also spends time helping youth pursue education in the STEM field. He is most looking forward to collaborating with other CAVIT instructors to teach students the many practical uses for drones. When asked what his goals were for this year, Michael's face lit up. For Thompson, the most rewarding part of flying drones is the fun. His goal is to get the students' proficiency status on the drone simulators high enough to have them start working with real drones and their many applications.

Jenny Davis-Tindall - Counselor

Students sometimes need guidance and help to stay on track with their goals. The new school counselor, Jenny Davis-Tindall, is all about providing students care and support throughout their journey at CAVIT. Davis-Tindall has 17 years of school counseling experience as well as 8 years of teaching experience. She believes counseling is an important part of the CAVIT journey and wants to redefine the school counselor's job by becoming more involved with students' educational goals. "I want to reach as many students as possible and help them build portfolios to prepare them for their lives and careers after CAVIT." Although the counseling role is still new at CAVIT, Davis-Tindall is dedicated to proving its importance to students' educational success.

CAVIT welcomes their new staff with plenty of support and is looking forward to another successful school year for both staff and students.