

2011 R. D. Anderson Retirees

R. D. Anderson Applied Technology Center has three individuals retiring at the end of this school year. Words cannot express the appreciation we have for them as a staff and for each of them personally. They are three of the most respected people on our team here at RDA and it is going to be very tough to find someone to fill their shoes! Mrs. Yarborough, Director of R. D. Anderson stated, "When I need to get a true feel for an idea or thought I have, these are the people I generally try to run things by – to see how they will react. What I always get is an 'honest opinion' from each of them! I will miss their wisdom and advice and our relationships. They are truly wonderful people!"



Stan Bishop is our Job Placement and Industrial Relations Coordinator at RDA. He has spent 33 years in education! After graduating from college, Stan worked at Milliken for four years followed by spending time in residential construction for three years. He then became a teacher at H.B. Swofford Career Center where he taught Building Construction. Later he moved to RDA where he taught Construction and Cabinetmaking, and Principles of Technology, a science course here at RDA. He has served in his current position of Job Placement Coordinator for the past 20 years! Stan plans to spend his retirement enjoying his many hobbies of hunting, fishing, gardening, reading and woodworking. He is currently building a woodworking shop and plans to stay busy working on all the projects that Brenda (his wife) puts on his "Honey Do" list!

Gayle Cherry will retire this year with over 40 years in education! She has taught at RDA for the past 16 years. Prior to that she was owner of Burnett's Beauty College for 18 years and also was head of instructors at Piedmont Beauty College for several years. She has owned three salons on the east and west sides of Spartanburg and has been an instructor for Greenville and Spartanburg in continuing education classes. She has single handedly helped hundreds of young ladies become licensed Cosmetologists. After retirement Gayle plans to volunteer at elementary schools, become more involved with youth at her church, and attend more Bible study classes. She has also agreed to substitute at RDA in Cosmetology and serve as a consultant for our Cosmetology program and others in our state. She plans to play some golf and spend quality time with her husband Rick.



Mr. John Ferguson will retire at the end of this year with 22 years of service to Education – the past 8 of those years at RDA. Prior to coming to RDA, he was part of the custodial staff at Dorman High School where he served for 14 years. Mr. Ferguson has worked at Community Cash Stores, Phillips Fibers, Mayfair Mills and Spartan Bakery. He is one of the most dependable, hardworking staff members at RDA, but even when he is at his busiest, he always has time to share a smile and a few kind words. When asked what he plans to do after he retires, Mr. Ferguson said that he was planning to work around his house and do some yard work. His pleasant demeanor and sense of humor will be missed greatly by the RDA staff.