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AMERICAN CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT -- WHILE WORKING IN THE US POSTAL SERVICE -- FURTHERS HIS HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATION WITH A GOAL OF STARTING HIS OWN BUSINESS

Neftali Faria works for the U.S. Postal Service, and though he considers it “good work,” he has turned to American Central High School to complete his high school education and improve his business skills as he pursues a dream of starting his own business.

American Central High School was launched in April of 2011, in partnership with Smart Horizons Career Online Education (www.shcoe.org), the world’s first AdvancEd/SACS accredited online school district and Compass Rose Foundation, Inc., a non-for-profit organization that is focused on supporting the development of educational programs that are designed to prepare students for various careers. Compass Rose Foundation (www.compassrosefoundation.org) has been responsible for the establishment and/or management of more than nine post-secondary or higher education institutions since it began operations in 1940.

Neftali, 33, lives in his home town of New York City with his wife and six children and has been a mail carrier for the past five years. He discontinued his high school education after the ninth grade during his teen years. “I got involved with the wrong crowd and started cutting school and eventually dropped out,” he said.

Now that he’s re-engaged into the education process through American Central High School’s career-based online program, Neftali feels he is preparing himself to achieve his goals in the business world. “I want to open a full-service computer center that handles both repairs and programming,” he said. “I see this business serving both the general public and companies.”

Neftali said he plans to open his business either in New York City or Kissimmee, FL. “I have family down there and may work a transfer with the Postal Service,” he said.

When asked what he liked about American Central High School, Neftali replied with an enthusiastic “Everything!”

“You can work at your own pace and the teachers are always there for you if you need them,” he said. “They will help you any way they can and it has just been a very good experience so far. Everything is understandable and arranged in good order with all the materials in one place. You do not have to look for books or anything else. Everything you need is right there.”

Neftali is currently immersed in the career certificate portion of his studies. He chose Homeland Security from among American Central High School’s seven career path options. “I am learning a lot of interesting things,” he said. “This has opened my eyes to many aspects of law enforcement.”

Looking ahead to the traditional high school courses that await him as he earns his diploma, Neftali believes math will be his favorite subject. “I am looking forward to all the classes,” he said. “I would recommend American Central High School to anybody who is looking to further their education.”

American Central High School is a division of Smart Horizons Career Online Education, a private, AdvancED/SACS accredited online school district. American Central High School offers complete 18-credit, career-based high school diplomas, designed to prepare students for careers and the workplace. Career certificate offerings include Childcare Education, Office Management, Protection Services, Homeland Security, Healthcare (coming in Fall 2011) and Transportation Services. For more information, visit our Web site at www.americancentralhs.com and call our office at 855-777-4267.

Compass Rose Foundation, Inc. is a not-for-profit organization with headquarters in Largo, Florida that is dedicated to supporting the development of training and educational programs designed to prepare students for specific or paraprofessional careers. Compass Rose Foundation has been responsible for the establishment and/or management of no fewer than nine post-secondary or higher education institutions since it began operations in 1940. Begun as brick and mortar education facilities, all of the Compass Rose post-secondary institutions now feature both traditional classroom instruction as well as a complete online education experience. Compass Rose Foundation also established the Library and Information Resources Network in 1993. For more information, visit www.compassrosefoundation.org, or call (239)872-9532.