



August, 2018

Dear Students, Parents and Guardians.

*Welcome to A. W. Beattie Career Center 2018-2019*

Welcome back to our returning families and a sincere welcome to our newly enrolled students and their families. The value of career and technology education is on the forefront of education discussions across the country. The ability of a student to earn a recognized industry credential or certification while in high school is immense in shaping that “NEXT STEP” on a student’s career pathway. The opportunities afforded to A. W. Beattie students through articulated and earned college credits while attending Beattie enables a student to be ready for post-secondary studies and career employment. Our students are truly career and college ready. This year we welcome over 400 new students to begin their “NEXT STEPS” with us.

I would like to take a moment and highlight a few of last year’s accomplishments achieved by our student body. The 2017-2018 graduating class excelled on their end of year NOCTI competency exams earning written performance and hand-on task performance scores above 93% for students at the competent or advanced level. In addition, our student body earned in excess of 900 industry related credentials and certificates, demonstrating that a student is developing career-ready skills.

The Career Center is extremely proud of the accomplishments of our students. This year our SkillsUSA students earned a Gold Medal at National Competition, along with our FCCLA students earning a Silver Medal at their National event. We look forward to additional achievements during 2018-2019. I encourage all students to be involved in activities sponsored by the Career Center.

School safety and security is on everyone’s minds. I encourage students and their families to reach out to us if they hear of potential unsettling events. It is our responsibility to review those reports and act appropriately. We interact continually with the Town of McCandless emergency services and welcome their presence in our building. On the Career Center website at [www.beattietech.com](http://www.beattietech.com) there are reporting forms for Hazing, Harassment, and Bullying, feel free to utilize or call the center directly at 412-847-1900 if needed.

Student attendance is the key to their success. A student absent for one day at Beattie is missing the equivalent of three class periods. Students will be expected to request make-up work for any day that is missed. Daily attendance instills the skills of demonstrating a student is college and career ready.

Student attendance and grades will be available to parents and guardians during the first nine weeks through the Skyward portal. Each family will receive a separate correspondence detailing the steps to activate their 2018-2019 account. The Skyward portal provides real-time student data.

The Career Center will continue with last year's pilot project of issuing student email accounts for educational purposes. As part of this year's student handbook, page fifty three (53) outlines the proper use of the Student Email System. As a technology leader, we believe the implementation of the student email system facilitates open communication, learning and collaboration.

Our first day of class will be on Thursday, August 23, 2018. The morning instructional time begins at 7:45 a.m. Students are scheduled to arrive by district bussing between 7:25 and 7:45 a.m. Student drivers arriving after 7:45 a.m. will be considered tardy. The afternoon instructional session begins as each district arrives at A. W. Beattie. Student drivers are tardy if they have not arrived by the time of their districts' bus transportation. I have enclosed a copy of the 2018-2019 school calendar for your information. Bussing questions will need to be addressed with your local school district. Deer Lakes students will begin their morning instructional session upon arrival of bussing. Deer Lakes students are required to ride school district provided transportation

The entire staff is looking forward to a very positive student learning community this year. Students will have the opportunity to participate in many student organizations that instill the work ethic and leadership skills that are sought by today's employers. We look forward to building upon the achievements of last year's student body. As always, we are here to assist if you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to us at 412-847-1900 or [info@beattietech.com](mailto:info@beattietech.com).

We look forward to the arrival of all students on Thursday, August 23, 2018. "Back to School" night is Thursday, August 30<sup>st</sup> from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m., please join us for an informative evening.

Respectfully,

Eric C. Heasley  
Executive Director