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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

Bucks and Montgomery County Cooperative Education Association meets to discuss workforce needs.

Jamison, PA; Middle Bucks Institute of Technology's Cooperative Education Coordinators Ms. Pamela Swoyer and Mr. Steve Guinan hosted the Bucks and Montgomery County Cooperative Education Association's first meeting of the year. Ms. Swoyer has served as the President of this group for many years. They collaborate on workforce needs, share best practices, have educational trainings, and compliment and assist the Pennsylvania Cooperative Education Association.

Ms. Swoyer says "Our group is a cohort of educators striving to serve students in career exploration through gainful employment. We work together to share best practices and student opportunities."

The group is comprised of Cooperative Education Coordinators, Transition Coordinators and School to Work Coordinators. Ms. Lise Rich Special Education teacher at MBIT highlighted and explain the Career Pathway our Early Childhood Education students can participate in. Our students have benefited from partnerships with Coop employers to gain access to Rising Stars Tuition Assistance and/or the T.E.A.C.H Early Childhood Pennsylvania initiative. Our students have received CDA voucher assistance, college tuition reimbursement, bonuses and paid release time for post-secondary school work. The partnership with local industry provides the back drop and connectivity for successful educational and career outcomes.

For more information, please contact Jeanise Dimitri, at 215-343-2480 ext. 218 or by email jdimitri@mbit.org.

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## **Photo Attached**

Left to right: Steve Guinan MBIT, Lise Rich MBIT, Ron Martino Bucks County Technical High School, Walt Hansell Bucks County Technical High School, Amy Delellis Center for Technical Studies (Secretary of group), Pamela Swoyer MBIT (President of the group) Ed Trybuza North Montco Technical Career Center, Hayley Granacher Eastern Center for Arts and Technology, Carol Bucci Plymouth Whitemarsh High School, Tammy Norris and Amanda Kandrick Montgomery County Intermediate Unit.

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