

# BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in support of the House Bill 548 Career and Technology Education – Training in Soft Business Skills. The bill requires career and technology education (CTE) programs in public schools to provide training in certain soft business skills. This training would ensure that students have the soft business skills to complement the technical skills that they are obtaining in their CTE programs. Furthermore, employers would benefit from hiring employees that are prepared to contribute within the workplace and to interact effectively within the work environment, without needing extensive soft business skills training.

In conclusion, providing students with soft business skills - such as employee and employer relationships and responsibilities; social awareness in the workplace, including diversity and inclusion; business etiquette; basic business communication; project planning; basic use of business tools; and requirements for advancement – aligns strongly with the Baltimore County Public Schools (BCPS) goal of “preparing for our future.” Furthermore, the bill will prepare students who can read, write, think, and communicate like professionals while building relationships (with educators and business professionals) that support students’ learning.

If you have any questions, please contact me at [dhandy@bcps.org](mailto:dhandy@bcps.org) or 443-809-8921.

Sincerely,



Douglas Handy  
Director  
Career & Technical Education and Fine Arts