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The Printing & Graphic Communications Program

CIP 10.0399

Instructor: Michael Borelli

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Have Questions?

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READING MUHLENBERG CAREER & TECHNOLOGY CENTER

MISSION STATEMENT

The Reading Muhlenberg Career & Technology Center, in partnership with our diverse community, sponsoring districts, and business and industry, is committed to providing quality career and technical education, resulting in opportunities for students to gain employment, pursue post-secondary education, and develop an appreciation for lifelong learning.

VISION STATEMENT

To empower Reading Muhlenberg Career & Technology Center students with the technical knowledge and skills to confidently pursue a career.

BELIEFS

- We believe in valuing the diversity of each student
- We believe education leads to opportunity
- We believe quality education starts with quality leadership
- We believe a career and technical education is a critical component of workforce development
- We believe technology is vital to learning and will help students connect with a rapidly changing world
- We believe technology must be embraced by teachers as a tool to help prepare students to meet current and future labor market demands
- We believe in providing all students with a positive educational experience
- We believe students should feel proud of what they have accomplished each day
- We believe students will be provided the opportunity to achieve their highest potential
- We believe students will be provided the opportunity to acquire and cultivate leadership skills
- We believe in providing students with a safe school environment
- We believe the success of a student is enhanced by parents and/or other influential adults through their support and involvement
- We believe in encouraging students to maintain a lifelong affiliation with the school
- We believe change is an ongoing process, not an event, and is fundamental for building quality programs of study
- We believe instruction must accommodate individual student learning styles

Welcome to Printing/Graphic Communications:

My name is Mr. Borelli and I am the instructor for this program. Your son or daughter has enrolled in a program that will let them use their minds as well as their hands. They will be expected to show up every day and pay close attention to the rules and regulations of this shop. Requirements of the program are as follows: closed toe shoes and a flash drive (at least 2mb). I will supply the student with ONE shop shirt. Shop shirts must be worn everyday. If the shop shirt is not worn, student will be deducted 5 points off their daily grade. If they want to purchase more than one, the price per shirt will be \$8.00. All these “tools” can be locked in the student’s lockers. Students are to dress every day for class. There is a locker area and a locked rest room for students to change. The uniform for my shop is meant to be safe and keep the risk of loose clothing being trapped in the machines. Closed toe shoes protect the students feet from falling objects and when using a pallet jack or hand truck. It is my goal as the instructor of this shop to make sure your son/daughter has a successful year.

Please contact me at 610-921-7300 or mborelli@rmctc.org if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Mr. Borelli



Printing & Graphic Communications

- Create eye-catching signs, banners, and other marketing materials that you will produce using the newest equipment that the industry has to offer.
- Use the latest technology to create printed materials for local business & industry.
- Prepare students for employment in the fast-growing field of digital output.
- Create projects using Adobe Illustrator, Photoshop, and InDesign, and a digital camera.



Job Titles — Career Pathways

- 43-9031 Desktop Publishers
- 51-5011 Bindery Workers
- 51-5023 Printing Machine Operators
- 51-9198 Helpers — Production Workers



CTC knowledge transfers to college credits at:

- Art Institute of Philadelphia
- Commonwealth Technical Institute
- Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology
- Westmoreland County Community College

Student Certifications

- NOCTI – National Occupational Competency Testing Institute Certification
- * Graphic Production Technology
- ACA Illustrator – Graphic Design & Illustration
- ACA InDesign – Print & Design Media Publication
- ACA Photoshop – Visual Communication



Instructor – Mr. Michael T. Borelli

Biography

My interest in printing started at Southern Junior High School in the Reading School District. We learned the basics of printing, and that is where my interest started. When I reached Reading High School, my interests grew even more, branching out to screen printing, offset printing, and black & white photography. My high school industrial arts teacher encouraged me to continue on to college. I attended California University of Pennsylvania, where I majored in printing. While attending Cal U., I also worked at a local print shop. After graduating, I worked for a local printer.

Education

Bachelor's Degree of Science and Technology, California University of PA

Certifications and Awards

Vocational Education II Teaching Certificate, Graphic Communications, Temple University

Work Experience

1988-1990 Pressman, Curry Printing

1990-1993 Badzik Printing Service

2012-present Owner/operator, print/design/vinyl

Hire Date

1995 – Printer Assistant

1998 – Printing & Graphic Communications program teacher

Community Service

I am a volunteer with The Centre Park Historic District.



Program Planning Tool



Program Title: CIP 10.0399 PRINTING & GRAPHIC COMMUNICATIONS

Student Name: _____

This document has been designed as a tool to facilitate student placement decisions and provides important information about the program. The chart on the reverse side is designed to assist in the identification of necessary skills, present educational levels, and supports, if any, that are needed to foster program success.

Program Completion Requirements

A successful student will...

- Secondary Academic Course Requirements: The PA Dept. of Education's focus is to ensure every student is college and career ready, therefore all students are recommended to follow a college prep sequence of academic classes. Courses such as applied math or general science are not appropriate for this program. PDE's goal is to have all students perform at the competent or advanced level on the Keystone Exams and Program of Study end-of-program assessment (NOCTI).
- Complete an Occupational Competency Assessment (i.e. NOCTI end-of-program exam) and score at the "competent" or "advanced" level. This end-of-program exam will cover the full scope of the program of study curriculum and includes (1) a multiple choice test and (2) a performance test consisting of occupational related tasks scored and evaluated by industry judges.
- Earn a minimum of one industry recognized certification. Students will be encouraged and expected to earn all recognized industry certifications that make up the scope of the curriculum. Accommodations are not permitted for industry certifications. These include: Adobe Certified Associate – Visual Communication.
- Complete the approved program curriculum and earn a minimum of one RMCTC Job Title aligned with the student's career objective. Job titles are identified on the program task list, aligned with local workforce needs and high priority employment occupations, and annually reviewed and approved by the program's occupational advisory committee.
- Successful completion of Keystone Exams as determined by sending school district.
- Maintain a 95% attendance rate or better.
- Transition on to a post-secondary institution, military or related fulltime employment aligned to their CTC program of study.

Instructional Process/Specifications

A successful student will...

- Perform a wide variety of tasks in a laboratory environment with equipment consistent with industry standards. Up to 25 students are assigned to work "independently" and in "small teams". Students progress through using learning guides in a self-directed manner. Working in the laboratory, students will be required to apply various pre-press computer applications, work with professional printing presses, paper cutters, binding equipment, and folding machines.
- Students will be required to handle the ink, cleaning solvents and other chemicals and will be exposed to the fumes and noises associated with the printing profession. Using this equipment requires self-discipline and strict adherence to rules to ensure safety of self and others.
- Participate in classroom theory and laboratory applications for generally 2 ½ hours each day; students will spend 30% of their time in classroom theory and 70% of their time doing laboratory applications and live work.
- Participate in Career & Technical Student Organizations including SkillsUSA and/or National Technical Honor Society.
- Participate in a paid or unpaid work based learning related to the Program of Study (cooperative education, clinical internship, and/or job shadowing).
- Complete written and performance tests. Students will be evaluated weekly on occupational skill performance using rubrics. In addition, students will be evaluated daily on work ethics. Progress is measured by test performance, task completion and work ethic.
- Read and study textbooks and technical manuals. Most textbooks are written at a 10th to 11th grade reading level and most technical manuals are written at a higher level and are accessed on line.
- Complete homework on time. Homework typically involves chapter or workbook assignments, on line research assignments and writing assignments.
- Purchase appropriate work and safety attire, tools, and equipment. Following is an estimated breakdown of costs: UNIFORM: Black form fitting shirt - \$10

Program Planning Tool



CTE Requirements	Present Educational Ability/Level	Support Needs
<p>Program Completion – Strong self-determination skills and understanding of personal strengths and weaknesses. Ability to meet industry established standards of performance, complete the program of study without curriculum modifications, and earn industry certifications without testing accommodations.</p>		
<p>Reading & Language Arts Level - Text and manuals written on a 10-11th grade reading level. Proficient on end-of-course exam (Keystone). Ability to gather read and process information from multiple sources. Ability to understand written sentences and paragraphs in work related documents. NOCTI assessment and industry certification exams require a proficiency in English language skills.</p>		
<p>Math Level - At grade level and proficient on end-of-course exam (Keystone). Knowledge of arithmetic, algebra, geometry and their applications. Ability to compute proper settings for equipment and correct dimensioning for projects and deliverables. Ability to estimate sizes, distances, and quantities; and determine time, costs, resources, and materials needed to perform a work activity.</p>		
<p>Aptitude – Creative / artistic ability. Originality, visualization, attention to detail, customer service skills, flexibility. Problem solving and trouble shooting skills. Analytical skills. Mechanical.</p>		
<p>Safety & Physical – Manual dexterity, strong depth and color perception. Hand-eye coordination. Near vision. High degree of self-discipline and focus needed for safety around moving equipment, hand tools, power tools and other equipment found in the industry. Physical strength and stamina with the ability to lift 50 lbs. with heavy lifting and pushing/pulling and needing the ability to stand for long periods of time. A focus on safety around moving equipment, color vision, depth perception, good manual dexterity, stamina including focus at work station for long periods of time (standing or sitting for long periods of time), visual acuity.</p>		
<p>Interpersonal/ Social – Ability to work independently and in a team. Effective communication skills. Cooperative. Ability to create and maintain professional relationships. Ability to work under pressure and under time deadlines.</p>		
<p>Other Occupational/Physical Considerations - Ability to meet deadlines, work independently and with small groups, work with color, basic computer skills, attention to detail and mechanical aptitude</p>		

10.0399 Graphic Communications, Other

INDUSTRY OVERVIEW CUSTOMER SERVICE AND EMPLOYMENT

- Perform duties associated with positive customer services.
- Estimate job costs and complete customer invoices.
- Identify the purpose complete read and comprehend a job jacket/ticket.
- Follow a production job from start to finish.
- Identify the workflow of a printed product.
- Research roles and responsibilities in graphics related careers.
- Apply calculations to efficiently plan paper use.

DESKTOP PUBLISHING AND PREPRESS

- Identify the various kinds of items that can be designed and produced using electronic publishing.
- Identify the principles of color theory.
- Demonstrate appropriate use of current industry software.
- Employ the use of a line gauge to demonstrate ability to measure inches points and picas.
- Identify and understand the components of type (i.e. ascenders descenders baseline etc.).
- Identify the basic type styles/classifications and their uses.
- Identify and understand the components of typography (i.e. kerning tracking justification etc.)
- Proofread preflight and edit using spell check proofreading marks etc.
- Create a variety of design/publications using current industry software.
- Create multi-page documents using current industry software
- Create a PDF files created to industry specifications.
- Manipulate vector images using a current industry standard software.
- Manipulate bitmapped images using a current industry standard software.
- Identify the different file types and their uses.
- Utilize appropriate marks. (i.e. gutters registration marks fold lines bleeds etc.) on a printed product.
- Prepare a prototype for a die-cut process using current industry software.
- Create a design using brainstorming thumbnails rough drafts and comprehensives.
- Identify different types of graphics (i.e. bitmap vector line art and continuous tone).
- Calculate reduction enlargement and proportion of images.
- Prepare a Variable Data project using current industry standards.

DIGITAL OUTPUT

- Prepare plates for an offset press/duplicator.
- Demonstrate the ability to input electronic content from various digital devices. (i.e. scanner digital camera OCR etc.).
- Process digital images using various color modes (grayscale RGB CMYK Duotone spot)
- Prepare layouts for sheet imposition work and turn/tumble step and repeat multi-page signatures.
- Perform the basic operations of a digital RIP system and production queues.
- Distinguish the functions of pagination imposition and color management on a digital RIP.

OFFSET PRINTING

- Mix fountain solutions to acquire proper Ph levels using appropriate ratios.
- Make ready paper path of feed-delivery systems for print production.
- Make ready inking systems.
- Make ready dampening systems.
- Print a variety of jobs on an offset press/duplicator.
- Compare different types of feed systems and explain their differences.
- Perform clean up and basic maintenance.
- Evaluate print quality using (star targets color bars and viewing conditions etc.) to monitor color accuracy.
- Identify the five press systems and their parts.
- Identify troubleshoot and correct print defects.
- Analyze printed sheet and match to proof.

BINDERY

Use folding equipment to produce various folds (i.e.. French accordion gate).

Perform various stitching techniques.

Use packaging and shrink wrapping equipment.

Properly handle printed substrates.

Explain the importance of when stock squaring is required.

Demonstrate collating and gathering.

Compare creasing scoring and perfining.

Demonstrate how to set up and properly use programmable cutters.

Demonstrate proper padding techniques.

Identify the various types of book binding.

Differentiate between finishing processes (i.e. die cutting embossing debossing etc.).

SUBSTRATES AND CONSUMABLES

Differentiate substrate types based on basic weights standard sizes grain direction finishes etc.

Handle substrates properly (i.e. jog fan count etc.).

Mix and test ink for printing using Pantone Matching System.

Identify different inks/toners additives and finishes such as dull or gloss.

Explain proper handling and disposal of waste materials.

SAFETY

Perform proper Lock Out/Tag Out techniques.

Identify general safety concerns in the industry.

Identify general safety concerns in the lab (i.e. cutter guards waste disposal etc.).

Identify the proper procedures when handling and disposing of chemicals.

Identify and understand all of the components Safety Data Sheets.

SPECIALTY PRINTING TECHNOLOGIES

Explain the differing imaging technology processes (i.e. serigraphy flexography letterpress gravure indirect etc.).

Replenish consumables for digital printing equipment.

Output a variety of files on digital/specialty imaging equipment (i.e. copiers plotters dye sublimation etc.)

Troubleshoot and resolve errors that occur on digital/specialty imaging equipment.

Output color separations and composites for various printing processes.

VALUE ADDED

80.1 - Establish Career Goals.

80.2 - Complete Job Application.

80.3 - Compose Resume.

80.4 - Prepare for Job Interview.

80.5 - Compose Employment Letters.

80.6 - Participate in Online Job Search.

80.7 - Prepare Career Portfolio.

Complete shop tour and all forms.

Solve problems using math and measurements.

Identify and describe careers in printing.

Identify and describe major printing processes.

Identify and describe general shop safety.

Identify and describe parts of a computer.

Demonstrate use of a flatbed scanner.

Demonstrate use of a laser printer.

Demonstrate use of a wide format printer.

Demonstrate computer start up and shut down.

Learn and demonstrate keyboarding skills.

Perform file management.

Describe Mac operating system.

STUDENTS OCCUPATIONALLY & ACADEMICALLY READY



- *Earn college credits which will save you money on tuition*
 - *Shorten college attendance*
 - *Get on the right career path*
 - *Enter the job market prepared*
 - *Get a consistent education*
- *See your CTC School Counselor for More Information*

TO QUALIFY CTC STUDENTS MUST:

1. Earn a high school diploma, achieve a minimum 2.5 GPA on a 4.0 scale in your CTC program and complete the PDE approved Program of Study.
2. Earn the industry certifications offered by your program (if applicable).
3. Achieve Competent or Advanced on the NOCTI End of Program Assessment.
4. Achieve proficiency on ALL of the Program of Study Competency Task List.
5. Provide documentation to Postsecondary Institution that you have met all of the requirements!

Find out more about the colleges offering course credits you can earn while attending RMCTC. Go to collegetransfer.net, search: PA Bureau of CTE SOAR Programs, and find your program by CIP Code.



**To receive college credits, qualifying students have three years from their date of graduation to apply and matriculate into the related career and technical program at a partnering institution.*

As a student of PRI your conduct is expected to be:

- Respectful – Tolerable and non-judgmental of others.
- Professional – In the manner expected for an individual in a technologically advanced vocation.
- Courteous – Civil, polite, refined, with respect to the feelings of others.
- Mature – Act as you would if you were working in an office with other professional adults.

Conduct which is unacceptable and may result in demerits, suspension, or removal from shop includes, but is not limited to:

Insubordination – Blatant disregard for orders, procedures, and policies.

Arguing, verbal abuse, fighting - Violence of any kind is unacceptable at RMCTC. Students fighting are prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.

Unauthorized computer use – To include but not limited to setting unauthorized passwords, willful damage, erasure, or manipulation of student or system files, tampering or accessing system files and settings, unauthorized use of or attempt to access the internet or prohibited areas on the internet, unauthorized loading of any data or programs from an outside source. Any data or materials on disk, flash drive or CD that have been introduced or in contact with another computer outside PRI will first be checked for virus content. Computers may be used only for work assigned by the instructor. Any other usage will be considered in violation of this policy.

Music – In accordance with RMCTC policy, there will be no mp3 players, CD players, headsets, internet music or distractions of that nature allowed. This topic is covered in depth in the student handbook.

Game playing – Games will not be accessed on-line, brought in from home, or downloaded from the internet. In short, NO games. We're here to learn. Play at home.

Attitude

All students are expected to display an attitude that reflects:

- Positive thinking – Show confidence in your abilities.
- Personal pride – Self-respect for quality and accomplishments.
- Desire to achieve – Eagerness to reach new levels of knowledge and skill.
- A team player – Since much of our work is done in groups, staff members are expected to work for the good of the team and not criticize the work of others.

Skills

Federal, State and Local regulations require each student to meet standards of excellence in their chosen vocation. Failure to do so will result in denying certification or graduation.

Skill requirements for graduation as competent are as follows:

- Satisfactory completion of task list with a completed senior project
- Advanced score on NOCTI exam
- Ability to follow rules and procedures
- Ability to work and cooperate with peers and supervisors
- Ability to communicate both verbally and written
- Ability to solve problems

Safety & Equipment

Electrical:

Do not attempt to service, install, or remove computer wiring while the equipment is connected to electrical outlets. Always ensure electrical equipment is disconnected from the power source or turned off to prevent electrical shock.

Never touch bare, exposed, or damaged wires.

Never allow wiring and cables to lie in normal traffic paths to prevent the possibility of tripping and injury.

Never allow moisture, liquids or magnetic items to come in contact with electrical equipment. This is a very dangerous combination and could result in electrocution.

Chairs & Tables:

Desks are designed for placing working material on, and as a surface to do productive work. They were not designed to sit upon. You will be responsible for the cost of repair or replacement of any equipment damaged through misuse.

Standard four-leg chairs were designed to sit on with all four legs remaining on the floor. Rocking back or balancing on two legs not only reduces the life of the chair but also may result in personal injury. You will be responsible for any injuries when failing to follow safety regulations.

Cushioned roller chairs are to remain at the computer locations assigned. If misuse occurs, students will lose their privilege of using these chairs.

Computer units:

Computer equipment is very costly and not designed to take abuse by rough handling or careless, unsafe operations. You will be responsible for the cost of replacement or repair to any equipment damaged by such misuse.

Fire:

There are fire extinguishers designed to handle electrical fires. Be sure to familiarize your self with the location of these fire extinguishers. Directions for their use are printed on the device.

General fire or emergency exiting from the building is conducted in the following manner:
When the fire alarm sounds immediately stop what you are doing and calmly exit the building according to the emergency exit route posted by the door.

Once outside the building continue to the parking lot in the front of the school and stand with the rest of the class, as attendance will need to be taken.

You will be instructed when it is safe to reenter the building.

Medical:

It is extremely important to provide accurate information on the medical card to insure proper treatment should a medical emergency arise.

The school nurse is located in the industrial wing of the building and is available should you require medical attention.

If you are taking medication that will need to be administered during school hours, please be sure it is kept in the nurse's office. Students are not allowed to take any form of medication whether it be prescription or over-the-counter in the classroom.

Procedures

Restricted areas:

Students are not allowed to enter the storage closet at any time, or the shop area without permission.

Teacher's computers and desks are also off limits.

Pass Policy:

No Student will leave the instructional area without specific reason and authority to do so.

One student at a time may use the lavatory. After receiving permission from the teacher, you may use the lavatory located in the shop. Students will not be permitted to use the lav during the change of classes.

Students are not allowed to use the school phone except in the case of an emergency. Student must have a phone pass filled out and signed by the teacher. Student will take the pass to the main office where a school secretary will dial the number.

When visiting the nurse, the student will bring me his/her pass. Fill it out with the date and time and ask me to sign it. The nurse will check the pass and ask you for ID upon arrival in her office. She will sign the pass when she releases you back to the classroom.

Food:

There will be no food, drinks, or gum allowed in the classroom at any time.

Cell Phones:

Cell phones are to be put away and turned off while at RMCTC. If a student is seen with a cell phone in school it WILL be confiscated. Parents will be called and must come to the school to pick up the cell phone. This is an inconvenience for the parent and extra paperwork for the staff. If you absolutely must carry a cell phone, keep it in your locker and TURNED OFF while in school!

Valuables:

Students are urged not to bring anything of value to school with them. Lockers are provided for each student. It is advised that each student lock their belongings in their locker upon arriving at school. This will greatly reduce the chance of valuables being lost or stolen. The school or its employees will not be held responsible for stolen or misplaced valuables.

Personal hygiene:

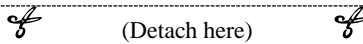
Students should practice acceptable standards of personal hygiene at all times. Not only does personal hygiene prevent an individual from being offensive, but greatly reduces the risk of disease and illness from being spread.

Start up & shut down:

All students regardless of level or session will immediately take their assigned seat upon entering class. Do not turn on computers or engage in any other activity until released or instructed by the teacher.

Students should remain quiet during announcements.

Students are expected to work until 5 minutes before dismissal, at which time you may begin clean up and shut down. All of your personal work should be put away in your locker and books should be returned to their assigned location.



We have read and understand the policies and procedures of the Printing & Graphic Communication class.

Date _____

Signatures

Parent/Guardian print name here _____

Parent/Guardian sign name here _____

Student print name here _____

Student sign name here _____

GRADE REPORTING

Purpose: The intent of this grading procedure is to provide a student grade that accurately reflects student achievement. Progress is measured in the areas of work ethics, knowledge and the practical skills aligned to the program area learning guides. Student performance for learning guide activities and assignments are reflected in the knowledge grade. Students will be evaluated according to established program standards on an individual basis. The ClassMate grading software automatically calculates student grades using the following formula:

Work Ethic	40%
Knowledge	<u>60%</u>
	100%

Teachers must be able to justify grade percentages in the event of inquires or concerns.

Interpreting a Grade:

Work Ethics Grade (40%): Each school day, every student receives a Work Ethics or daily grade. Criteria that comprise these grades are safety, student behavior, preparation/participation, productivity or time on task, professional appearance and extra effort. The Work Ethics grade range is based on a 0 to 10 model that students may earn each day depending on how many criteria they satisfactorily meet.

NOTE: Impact of Absenteeism, Tardiness/Early Dismissals – The direct effect of absenteeism on a students' grade will be through the Work Ethic component of the grading formula. If a student is Tardy or has an Early Dismissal the Work Ethic grade will automatically be defaulted to a five (5) from a possible ten (10) points. The instructor may change this value as they see fit.

Knowledge Grade (60%): Throughout the marking period, a student's cognitive knowledge about various career-specific topics will be evaluated and recorded by the instructor. Examples of knowledge activities include: lab/shop assignments, homework, quizzes, tests, and research activities. The Knowledge grade range is based on actual points earned divided by the total accumulative points.

Skill (Learning Guide): Learning guides are normally aligned to lab assignments or shop projects where a student will physically perform a task. The student and teacher will discuss, at the beginning of each quarter, student expectations and the required tasks that must be completed or "contracted" by the end of the marking period. This allows a student to work productively with the expectation to make constant progress during the marking period. All assignments, activities and rubrics associated with learning guides are documented in the "knowledge" grading component. It is important to note that poor productivity will have a negative impact on a student's grade.

NOTE: For the purpose of students earning a job title associated with their program area, teachers track students' skill/task work. Teachers identify specific criteria to evaluate each task performed, ranging from a 0 to 5 (not completed to mastery). Students must earn a 4 or 5, in order to credit the task towards earning the specific job title. Students have the opportunity to revisit a task multiple times until successfully receiving credit. The job titles a student earns will be listed on the student's RMCTC certificate that is awarded at Senior Recognition Night.

CTC Letter Conversion Table

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Letter</u>
100 – 97	A+
96 – 93	A
92 – 90	A-
89 – 87	B+
86 – 83	B
82 – 80	B-
79 – 77	C+
76 – 73	C
72 – 70	C-
69 – 65	D
64 – under	F

Final Grade average is based on the student's four (4) numerical marking period grades. The final average will directly align to the letter conversion table listed above.

If a student has three (3) marking period grades of "F" the teacher shall give appropriate consideration to that student not passing for the year. If a student is on an **upward trend** at the end of the school year, this **may** justify having the student pass for the year. If the opposite is true, and the student is on a **downward trend**, the student **should**

GRADE REPORTING (continued)

receive a failing grade.

The individual teacher must evaluate each student's achievement in terms of the expected goals for their program area.

Failure to complete assignments, frequent lateness or absence, and demonstrated indifference to school are major contributors to student failure. **Blatant refusal** to attempt or to complete a significant number of course requirements may, by itself, justify a final course grade of "F".

The following divisions are given as a guide to recording and interpreting the grading system. It remains for each teacher to objectively and fairly rate each student, not based upon personality, but performance.

Determination of Grades: Teachers will give thorough consideration using all grading components in determining students' grades to both class work and test results.

A = Excellent

1. This grade represents **superior work** and is distinctly an honor grade.
2. The excellent student **has reached all course objectives** with high quality achievement.
3. The excellent student displays unusual effort and works willingly and effectively in reaching required objectives.

B = Good

1. This grade represents **above average** quality achievements.
2. The good student **has reached a large majority of course objectives**.
3. The good student is industrious and willing to follow directions.

C = Average

1. This grade represents **acceptable** quality achievements.
2. The average student **has reached a majority of course objectives**.
3. The average student is cooperative and follows directions, yet extra effort and improvement are needed for more complete mastering of the material.

D = Passing

1. This grade represents a **minimum acceptable** quality achievement.
2. The student is performing below-average work and **has not reached a majority of course objectives**.
3. This achievement level indicates there is a great need for improvement, daily preparation and improved dedication and attendance.

F = Failure

1. This grade represents **unacceptable** quality achievements.
2. The failing student has **not reached necessary course objectives**.
3. The failing student has not attempted to complete assignments, is constantly late or absent, and generally has failed to accomplish the fundamental minimum essentials necessary in the program area.
4. It may be noted that generally a student does not fail because of a lack of ability; failure may be caused by laziness, non-dedication, or a general disregard to directions of the teacher and the unwillingness to use whatever ability he/she possesses.

Incomplete Grades: Incomplete grades must be updated no later than ten (10) days from the close of the marking period. As soon as the work is completed and the grade is available, it must be reported to the appropriate person.

Failures: Students who receive a failing final grade in a program area are permitted to repeat that program, but are urged not to do so for obvious reasons. If this situation presents itself, students and parents are advised to consider an alternative program which is probably more suited to the student's true interests and aptitudes and not merely satisfying a short-term or unrealistic desire.

Attendance and its Impact upon Grades: The importance of regular school attendance and its positive impact upon a student's performance grade cannot be overstated. If a student is absent, he or she does not have the opportunity to keep pace with their classmates and must work independently to acquire the information missed during any absence. Regardless of how well a student performs when he/she is present, habitual absenteeism usually results in a failing performance grade. This situation is not unlike the conditions of the business or industry for which the student is being trained.

GRADE REPORTING (continued)

Make up Work for Absences: Students have the opportunity to make-up school work due to an illness/being absent from school. **PROVIDED** their absence is excused. Students must submit make-up work within the following timelines:

1. One (1) to three (3) days excused absences – five (5) school days to complete assigned work.
2. (4) or more days excused absence – ten (10) school days to complete assigned work.

All work missed through unexcused absences will be graded as a zero

Report Cards (see Progress Reports): Students will receive a report card from the sending school district which will reflect the student's grade from their Career & Technology classes. In addition, grades are available on the parent portal.

Student Recognition Night: Reading Muhlenberg Career & Technology Center hosts an annual Student Recognition Night, which honors our senior students. During this event, senior students in attendance are recognized and may also receive awards that they have earned relevant to their accomplishments while attending Reading Muhlenberg CTC.

Parent Portal: The Parent Portal is available for parents/guardians to view your child's progress by accessing the RMCTC Parent Portal on the School's web-site; www.rmctc.org. This will give you up to date information related to your child's attendance, grades (work ethic and knowledge), discipline referrals and schedule. In order to use this resource, you must provide the CTC with a current email address and register online.

Log onto www.rmctc.org, click on "**Parents**", then click on "**parent portal**" which will navigate you to the link where you will log into the portal. You will have to "**create an account**" on your first visit to the portal by using your email address (you need to use the email address you provided us on your child's application) and setting up a password. Once registered you may return at any time to view your child's information.

Please utilize our website, to track your child's progress by viewing their grades and attendance, along with any discipline action. In addition, you will be able to review your child's report cards & progress reports as soon as they are available. You also have the ability to select the option to receive email notifications for specific instances that you choose. You can choose to receive an email automatically if your child is absent/tardy or both, if your child receives a discipline referral or suspension and if your child receives a specific grade.

CAREER & TECHNICAL STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS (CTSO)

All students enrolled in Reading Muhlenberg Career & Technology Center have the opportunity to participate in at least one Career & Technical Student Organization (CTSO) while enrolled at the CTC. Students who become members in these co-curricular organizations have the opportunity to participate in team building, leadership, community service and social events.

Students also have the opportunity to attend skill competitions where the skills they have learned are "put to the test" against other competitors. These competitions include testing of knowledge and hands-on skills in a variety of trade and leadership events. Students who are fortunate enough to win their events at a district or state competition are able to compete at the national level and travel to locations such as Louisville, KY, Kansas City, MO, San Diego, CA, Orlando, FL, and Cleveland, OH.

SkillsUSA



<http://skillsusa.org>

SkillsUSA is a national organization of students, teachers and industry representatives who are working together to prepare students for careers in technical, skilled and service occupations. SkillsUSA provides quality education experiences for students in leadership, teamwork, citizenship and character development. It builds and reinforces self-confidence, work attitudes and communications skills. It emphasizes total quality at work, high ethical standards, superior work skills, life-long education, and pride in the dignity of work. SkillsUSA also promotes understanding of the free-enterprise system and involvement in community service.

National Technical Honor Society (NTHS)



www.nths.org

NTHS is the acknowledged leader in the recognition of outstanding student achievement in career and technical education. Over 2000 schools and colleges throughout the U.S. and its territories are affiliated with the NTHS. Member schools agree that NTHS encourages higher scholastic achievement, cultivates a desire for personal excellence, and helps top students find success in today's highly competitive workplace.

NTHS members receive: the NTHS membership certificate, pin, card, window decal, white tassel, official NTHS diploma seal, and three personal letters of recommendation for employment, college admission, or scholarships. Students will have access to our online career center including these valuable services: MonsterTRAK, Wells Fargo, Career Safe, and Career Key.

READING-MUHLENBERG CAREER & TECHNOLOGY CENTER

WORK BASED LEARNING Cooperative Education & Internships RULES / GUIDELINES

1. All Work Based Learning (WBL) students must have school WBL forms completed before starting the job/internship, and any student less than 18 years of age must also have a transferable work permit.
2. **ABSENT FROM SCHOOL????? – NO WORK!!!!!!!**
 - If you are absent from school in the morning, you may **NOT** go to work in the afternoon. **YOUR JOB IS PART OF YOUR SCHOOL DAY.** If you are at a **medical, social service, or court appointment** in the AM, you **may** go to work that day. However, you must bring a note **from the agency where you were**, to your attendance secretary, the next school day.
 - If you are ill, **YOU** must call your employer to inform him/her that you will not be reporting for work.
 - **IMPORTANT:** If your name is going to appear, for any reason, on your sending school absentee list, you must also **report off to Mrs. Albarran @ 610-921-7301. Failure to report off will result in removal from WBL.**
 - If **school is closed** for a holiday, in-service day, or a snow day, you **DO** go to work on those days, if you are scheduled.
 - If you are suspended **out of school** you may not work at your WBL job. This includes jobs that are scheduled with after school hours.
 - **REPETITIVE ABSENCES** at school or work will result in your removal from Work Based Learning.
3. All WBL students are required to **report to the CTC every Monday.** Any additional classroom time is at the discretion of your program area teacher. You are responsible for communicating this to your employer. On the **first Monday of each month**, immediately upon arrival, report directly to **Student Services**, where you will sign in with Mrs. Baller. Co-op students will record hours and earnings, and then return to your program area for the remainder of the school day. **Don't forget to bring your check stubs to record your hours and earnings!** Internship students will record hours. **If you miss two Monday meetings, you will be removed from WBL.**
 - Any violations of these rules will result in the following **discipline action:**
 - 1ST violation – VERBAL WARNING**
 - 2nd violation – REMOVAL FROM WORK BASED LEARNING**
4. When at work you are guided by and are responsible to your employer. Be sure to follow all of the Employers' rules and regulations because you will be terminated for the same reasons as any other employee.
5. If your work experience is terminated for any reason, you must return to school the next day, and inform your CTC teacher and the Work Based Learning Coordinator.
6. If you wish to terminate your employment, you must discuss this with your teacher and the Work Based Learning Coordinator, and leave the job properly by giving the employer a two-week notice and a letter of resignation.
7. If you have any questions concerning the rules and guidelines of Work Based Learning, please contact the WBL coordinator at 610-921-7337.

STUDENT SIGNATURE

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE