



PA House of Representatives  
Republican Policy Committee

414, Main Capitol Building  
Harrisburg, PA 17120  
(717) 260-6144

**Rep. Joshua D. Kail**  
Chairman

**PA House Republican Policy Committee Hearing**

**“Back to School”**

**August 13, 2024, at 10 a.m.**

**Middle Bucks Institute of Technology  
2740 York Road  
Jamison, PA 18929**

- 10:00 a.m. Welcome and Pledge of Allegiance
- Council Rock School District Panel**
- 10:10 a.m. Michael Roosevelt  
*Member, Council Rock School Board*
- 10:15 a.m. Dr. Andrew J. Sanko  
*Superintendent, Council Rock School District*
- 10:20 a.m. Questions for the Council Rock School District Panel
- Middle Bucks Institute of Technology Panel**
- 10:40 a.m. Dr. Mark Covelle  
*Director, Middle Bucks Institute of Technology*
- 10:45 a.m. Bob Hickey  
*President, Middle Bucks Institute of Technology Executive Council*
- 10:50 a.m. Thomas McCullough  
*MBIT Graduate & Local Business Owner*
- 10:55 a.m. Carla Zapotek  
*Executive Vice President, The Home Builders Assoc. of Bucks & Montgomery Counties*
- 11:00 a.m. Questions for the Middle Bucks Institute of Technology Panel
- 11:20 a.m. Closing Comments



## Testifier Biographies

PA House of Representatives Policy Committee Hearing  
*"Back to School"*  
August 13, 2024



**Michael Roosevelt**  
**Director, Council Rock School Board**

Roosevelt was born and raised on Long Island, NY, and attended several boarding schools in New England from Middle School through High School, and graduated from Proctor Academy. He attended Eckerd College where he majored in History with a minor in Management and where he met his wife, Becky. After graduation, he began his career in Human Resource Management where the ability to listen to people's concerns, form consensus, and make sound decisions was a primary job requirement.

He moved to Bucks County, PA in 1997 to continue his Human Resources career. In 1999, he went back to school for Architecture at Philadelphia University, which is now known as Jefferson University. He graduated with a 5-year Architecture degree and began a new career in architecture. He currently manages his own firm Synergy Architects based in Langhorne.

He move to Ivyland in 2007 to be part of the highly acclaimed Council Rock School District. He has 3 children who are all currently attending Council Rock schools.

**Dr. Andrew J. Sanko**  
**Superintendent, Council Rock School District**

Dr. Andrew J. Sanko, a former principal and former director of K-12 education, is the superintendent of Council Rock School District.

Sanko is a 33-year Council Rock employee. He began his career in the classroom as a teacher, rising to the ranks of principal and then district administrator. The husband and father of three is a graduate of Lock Haven University and Bloomsburg University and earned his doctoral degree from Temple University.





**Dr. Mark Covelle**  
**Director, Middle Bucks Institute of Technology**

Dr. Mark Covelle is the Administrative Director of Middle Bucks Institute of Technology (MBIT) in Bucks County, Pennsylvania. He grew up near Chicago, Illinois before earning a bachelor's degree in secondary education from Boston College. After college, he made his home in Lehigh Valley, Pennsylvania. He went on to earn master's degrees from Wilkes University and Lehigh University and a Doctorate in Educational Leadership and Management from Drexel University. He has experience as a teacher and principal in traditional K-12 academic high schools before becoming a leader in career and technical education (CTE) centers.

He is now the Director of MBIT serving nearly 1000 students in 21 career technical programs. He hosts a podcast about career and technical education entitled "aMBITious: the MBIT podcast."

He is incredibly passionate about career and technical education and apprenticeships; he speaks frequently at state and national conferences about the renaissance of CTE, creating environments for teachers to lead and innovate, and building community, culture, and climate.

When not working or traveling, he is at home with his wife and four Weimaraners.

**Bob Hickey**  
**President, Middle Bucks Institute of Technology**  
**Executive Council**

Bob Hickey grew up in Philadelphia, where he attended Father Judge High School. He graduated from Temple University in 1981 with a degree in secondary education.

He is father to eight children who have all gone through the Council Rock School District

He was previously a coach for Northampton baseball, Council Rock basketball and Council Rock soccer teams. Between 2014 and 2016, he served on a planning commission for the school district.

Hickey is the Region 3 representative on the Council Rock School Board.

He has been a corporate manager in Bucks County for 30+ years.







**Thomas McCullough Sr.  
Graduate of Middle Bucks Institute of Technology and Local  
Business Owner**

Thomas McCullough Sr., a 1975 graduate of Middle Bucks Institute of Technology, is a local business owner in Southampton, PA and a life member of the Southampton Fire Company, which he joined in 1973.

Founded in 1981, Mt. Penn Tool & Machine Co. Inc., is a family distribution business that sells cutting tools, coolants and lubricants, bandsaw machinery, and related accessories. It's mission is to "offer items that lead to cost savings, enabling our customers to better compete through increased production, longer tool life, and competitive pricing." Their customer base consists of "one-man job shops to some of the largest and successful manufacturers and steel mills."

McCullough also serves as chairman of the Upper Southampton Township's board of supervisors.



**Carla Zapotek  
Executive Vice President, Home Builders Association of  
Bucks and Montgomery Counties**

Carla Zapotek is the Executive Vice President of the Home Builders Association of Bucks and Montgomery Counties, with over 20 years of experience in the building and construction industry. She is also the director of the HBA's Charitable Foundation and serves as the Treasurer for their PAC.

Carla holds a bachelor's degree in political science from West Chester University. She is an active leader for the National Association of Home Builders and currently sits on the board of directors for their Executive Officers Council as a regional director for the Mid-Atlantic region. Additionally, she is a member of the Professional Women in Building Council and has served as the President of the Executive Officers Council for the Pennsylvania Builders Association.

Carla has a strong passion for workforce development in the trades, which is evident through her professional and personal accomplishments. She was excited to be a guest on her first podcast that was recently released on Spotify. The podcast is hosted and produced by a local career and technical school's media team and director of education.

## **Testimony**

Thank you to the House Republican Policy Committee and Representative Marcell for inviting me to testify at today's Back to School hearing. It is an honor to serve the Council Rock community and my constituents in Northampton Township each day, so I am happy to share the great work we do for our students each day.

I have been on the Council Rock School Board for almost 3 years and came into office at the tail end of the pandemic, when the Board was faced with learning loss and how we could support our administration, students and community to return to normalcy. Our board was focused on how to help students each and every day – and each decision was tied exactly to how it would benefit students. This is why I was pleased when Dr. Sanko, Council Rock's superintendent who is sitting next to me, created a new motto for the district – "Students First Always" that helps to unify us around the issues that are most important to our Council Rock kids.

Thinking of students first always is how our district decided to add a fifth special for elementary students focused on STEAM, which I was happy to work on with Kristin Marcell when she was on the board as well. The high school science teachers came to the board and asked us to consider a STEAM special for elementary students because they wanted children exposed to these concepts at a younger age, so by the time they reached the high school, they would be more than prepared for their science and math courses. While Dr. Sanko can share more about that program and how it was implemented, I have heard very positive feedback from students who have benefited from the new special and some elementary students have even shared that this is now their favorite special!

Another creative program that I will briefly touch upon since Dr. Sanko will share more information is the Nights for Knowledge tutoring program. As I mentioned earlier, I joined the Board at a time when we were looking for ways to help with learning loss and lower test scores for many of our students – similar to other areas in Pennsylvania and our nation. I was proud that the district was able to efficiently use ESSR funds to create an evening tutoring program for math across our district to serve student who were struggling or just wanted more assistance. While Dr. Sanko can

speaking to the program implementation and costs, it was a very successful, low cost program that had tremendous benefits for our students.

Finally, I wanted to also mention Council Rock is in its second year of offering a senior property tax relief program that my board colleague, Joe Hidalgo, worked very hard to get started. We all know how difficult it is for seniors to pay property taxes in our area, so this program is a property tax rebate on top of the one that the state provides – meaning that if a senior qualifies for the state property tax rebate program based on their income level, they can receive a rebate on top of that from Council Rock. Again, Dr. Sanko can share the details on how that program has been implemented and how it is going so far this year, but I know it has been a popular program with our area seniors.

Again, I appreciate the opportunity to talk about success stories from Council Rock. I am proud that we are able to provide a strong education to our district's students while also focusing on fiscal responsibility and using our taxpayer dollars in a responsible way.

Thank you for inviting me to testify today and I look forward to answering any questions.

Tuesday, August 13, 2024  
Pennsylvania GOP House Policy Hearing  
"Back to School" hosted by Rep. Kristin Marcell

Middle Bucks Institute of Technology  
2740 York Road, Jamison, PA 18929

Mark Covelle, Administrative Director, Middle Bucks Institute of Technology (MBIT)  
Prepared Testimony

Thank you for inviting me to speak about the importance of Career and Technical Education.

First, welcome to Middle Bucks Institute of Technology. It is an honor to host today's House Policy hearing, and we are excited to share our experiences and facilities with you to help inform education and CTE policy in our commonwealth.

Middle Bucks Institute of Technology prepares today's students for tomorrow's emerging technologies and provides students with the competitive edge needed for employment in a global marketplace and success in post-secondary education.

We are a school of choice designed for students seeking to enhance their educational program with a highly relevant career and technical experience connected directly to the real world of business and industry. Over 400 business and industry advisors annually review and update the school's educational program. The MBIT experience provides students with a blend of classroom theory, technical applications in state-of-the-art laboratories, and off-campus work-based experiences. Students learn and apply core academic areas including literacy, numeracy, science, communications, and technology in a way that has personal meaning and career relevance.

The educational program here at MBIT is organized around five broad career pathways and offers twenty-one state-approved career pathway programs. More than 900 students attend the daytime program. We also serve more than 500 adults who are enrolled in evening adult education programs as well as customized industry training programs. The staff consists of approximately thirty-five professional educators and thirty support personnel. Instruction is individualized, self-paced, and highly personalized.

Second, we all appreciate the legislature's support for Career and Technical Education. As you know, career and technical education is an integral part of the state economic and workforce development system and a critical pathway for those in Pennsylvania's public education system, which serves secondary students and adults. At MBIT we are seeing record interest in our school, record enrollment into our programs, and record achievement in our students. We are seeing the highest NOCTI scores in nearly 10 years, with 89% of our students achieving competent or advanced on their end-of-program exams and we recently inducted more students into our National Technical Honor Society than ever before.

We know that career and technical education must serve the needs of business and industry by delivering programs that meet national skill standards and offer recognized credentials. I'm proud to share that students at MBIT completed 1881 Pennsylvania Department of Education Industry Recognized Credentials in 2023-2024. We work closely with businesses in our communities to ensure that our curriculum reflects their needs so our students can fill jobs and build careers in our communities.

We also work closely with our legislators to provide input on policy and discuss funding needs. We appreciate your responsiveness and know that you prioritize workforce development and career and technical education.

Today's hearing is hosted by Representative Marcell, a champion of career and technical education. She is a former member of the Council Rock School Board and she served as a member of the MBIT Executive Council. She has been a fierce advocate for CTE and was a strong voice in support of additional funding in the most recent budget. According to the funding letter she and her colleagues authored to support CTE, "Investing in CTE is not just an investment in our students and workers, but in the future economic vitality of Pennsylvania as a whole." I couldn't agree more. Thank you for hosting this hearing today.

The most recent budget provides significant investments in CTE, including a \$12.7 million increase (12%) for the CTE subsidy, boosting it to \$144,138, a \$5 million increase (33%) for CTE equipment grants, ensuring state-of-the-art resources for CTE programs, and a 19 percent boost in apprenticeship funding. In fact, MBIT is leading the way with 68 students in registered apprenticeship programs through the PA Smart Grant expanding career pathways in carpentry, electrical, HVAC, plumbing, and welding. With the new funding allocation, we are looking to work with our partners in workforce development to continue to expand this opportunity to more programs and more students.

Beyond funding, the budget required that the data used to calculate Career and Technical Education (CTE) funding be fixed on June 1 each year. This change gives Career and Technical Centers (CTCs) greater predictability over their budgets and aligns the CTE funding formula with the Special Education and Basic Education funding formulas. Although it was part of the budget, it was also introduced as standalone legislation and supported by many members of the Policy Committee and wider caucus.

We appreciate your time, attention, and support of our schools, students, and faculty.

Finally, we want to work closely with you to build the strongest workforce in the country right here in Pennsylvania. We believe all citizens have the right to quality, affordable, accessible career and technical education. That means that our schools need more funding through the CTE subsidy - especially as career and technical education becomes a more attractive pathway for students and learners throughout our commonwealth. Additionally, we need to ensure that our schools' equipment is state of the art. Technology is constantly changing, and if we want our



students to be prepared for careers in their fields, we must ensure that they work on the tools that our businesses use now and will in the future. Simply, we need to make sure the equipment grant line is fully funded. Last, we all need to work together to reduce barriers and provide incentives so that more educators - especially those with career experience - can join our classrooms and teach our students. The legislature has made strides in credential changes, but we must do more to maintain a strong pipeline of faculty and educators for specialized fields.

Thank you for having us today. We're proud to host and answer questions to help you craft policies that strengthen and improve our CTE programs and make them more responsive to the needs of businesses and the workforce.

Tuesday, August 13, 2024

Pennsylvania GOP House Policy Hearing

“Back to School”

Hosted by Rep. Kristin Marcell

Middle Bucks Institute of Technology

2470 York Road, Jamison, PA 18929

Bob Hickey

Council Rock School Board Director

President – Middle Bucks Institute of Technology – Executive Council

Prepared Testimony

Good morning. It is my pleasure and good fortune to be a small part of this hearing. First, I would like to thank everyone attending for their dedication to educating today’s youth. This includes school administrators, legislators, fellow presenters, and guests. A special thank you to Representative Marcell for hosting this event. Kristin has become a good friend through her mentoring of me in my role as a new school board member at both Council Rock and MBIT which has led to this privilege today. My name is Bob Hickey, and I am a member of the Council Rock School District and MBIT Executive Council. It is through this collective effort that we can achieve two goals. Borrowing from both the Council Rock and MBIT mottos they are:

1. Students, First, Always and
2. Preparing Tomorrow’s Workforce Today.

Dr. Sanko and Mr. Roosevelt testified today on behalf of the important strides Council Rock is making in regard to moving our district forward educationally. This is especially true as we continue to dig out from the negative effects of the Covid pandemic and its lockdowns. Dr. Covelle will extol the virtues of MBIT and its many offerings. Mr. McCullough will also relay his own personal narrative. My testimony is my perspective on the evolution of education in my adult lifetime and the need for balance in both academic and career technical education (which I will refer to simply as CTE).

When I grew up in Philadelphia, I attended Father Judge High School. It was, and still is, a well-respected academics based school. Kids who attended CTE (at Swenson Skills Center) were few and

far between. And I believe the program was designed primarily for those interested in automotive repair. As a matter of fact, I don't believe I knew anyone who attended. After getting married and having a family of my own, circumstances gave me the opportunity to move to Bucks County. My wife and I specifically chose Council Rock for its exemplary academic standing in the state. Parents still move to the district today for the same reason.

CTE was viewed over the years as a negative – for kids who did not fit in, for students who struggled academically, for those with little direction or for those with IEP's. More of an afterthought than an alternative. If your child did not go to college – something was amiss. Even our high schools are ranked by some metrics that include what percentage of graduates go to college.

But over the course of the last decade or so – something happened. Colleges became less and less affordable to the average family. Some parents and students discovered that the tools they needed to succeed were not being taught in college. Others quickly found that the wages earned for a college education were not in line with the cost of a degree. College debt was skyrocketing.

In the meantime, demand for skilled workers: plumbers, electricians, carpenters, and welders to name a few, workers who could use both their hands and their heads was exploding. In today's society with many double income parents, quality outside daycare became a necessity. Today MBIT offers a program to address this. Jobs for health professionals like dental hygienists and certified nursing assistants abounded. And with the everyday technological advances, careers like graphic arts, computer technology, cyber-security and web design are needed more than ever. This just scratches the surface. And to top it off – these are well paying careers, not dead-end jobs.

Slowly but surely, and also thankfully, the stigma of career technical education is being erased. Applications are at an all-time high. Attendance is through the roof. One of the biggest obstacles today at MBIT is we are turning away deserving students. We have neither the manpower nor the space to serve our students adequately. Presently, we are in the final stages of completing a state of the art welding facility that cost north of one million dollars. This will double the amount of our student population for one of our most popular programs. Dr. Covelle and his staff are constantly seeking cost-effective ways to expand and stay current with the ever-changing landscape. And this is not unique to MBIT. Even my old high school, known primarily for its strong academics, is investing money in a technology and welding center.

I attended college, my 10 siblings attended college, my eight children attended college. With that history, I still firmly believe that college is not for everyone. Conversely, not everyone is good with their hands. Each person needs to discover that skill set that will lead to a productive career. In some ways, my current role is a microcosm of our educational system today. I need to be a proponent of both academic excellence and technical expertise – providing each with what they need to succeed – without doing so at the expense of the other. Your roles as administrators and legislatures demand the same balance. I thank you for your efforts in striving for this goal. Your presence today speaks volumes as to your dedication to our students of today.

Thomas McCullough  
TESTIMONY

Good morning.

I want to thank Representative Kristin Marcell for inviting me to share my experiences related to MBIT and how my education here has affected my life.

Fifty years ago, while I was just entering high school, it became obvious to me that attending a four-year college was not going to be an option. My father had just ventured out on his own starting a new distribution business and as is common for small business startups, it was a struggle. My father expressed hope that someday I might join him in this business venture. I met with a guidance counselor, and he suggested looking into Middle Bucks Vocational Technical School (as it was known back then). He told me there was a new program there called Design Technology. This program involved mechanical drawing and drafting. There was also a great emphasis on math – particularly advanced geometry. He arranged a tour for me, and I decided to enroll.

In 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grades, I attended my home school William Tennent HS in the mornings and the afternoon session at Middle Bucks. My teacher, Mr. Katz had worked as an engineer in the space program. He taught us not only how to read blueprints but also how to draw them. I remember one of his sayings that stuck with me was, “When you’re building spaceships, 99% right is 100% wrong.” I think Elon Musk would agree.

The geometry I learned at my home school never made much sense to me. Mr. Jorgenson was my geometry teacher at Middle Bucks. All of a sudden, when challenged with making accurate drawings of various parts, geometry made total sense. I needed to see practical applications for this to happen. Back then, there were no computers, no CAD systems, no handheld calculators. We drew on drafting tables using a pencil, compass, triangles, a French curve, and various templates. We did all calculations by hand.

Shortly before graduation, a Middle Bucks counselor called me in to a meeting to discuss job placement. A company in Philadelphia had called Middle Bucks and explained they needed a layout fabricator. This was a job in a union shop. The counselor arranged a plant tour and interview. The company made an offer and I decided to take the job. A week after graduating, I was working full time, gaining valuable experience, and earning a paycheck with no college loans.



It was not an easy job, but it was challenging. The job required hands-on geometry taking parts on a blueprint, laying it out on sheets and plates of stainless steel so the welders would put it all together. The education I received at Middle Bucks gave me the basic skills needed to be successful in this field.

The products we built were the flares that go on top of oil drilling rigs. When we shipped a flare to be mounted 300 feet up in the air over the North Sea, it better fit. It was largely my responsibility to get it right before it left our plant. After two years, I was promoted to Fabricator Grade A. So here I was at age 20, a member of the United Steelworkers of America and the highest paid person in the entire shop. I stayed in this job for about 3 years. When it became apparent that the union was going to strike, I took another layout job for higher pay closer to home.

In 1981, I went to work in my father's business. We sold carbide cutting tools, bandsaw blades and machines, grinding wheels, and a full assortment of related accessories. In 1999 my father retired, and I purchased the company. We have a wide variety of customers, and it still amazes me that we supply tools that make everything from medical products to coins at the US Mint, to propellers for US Navy nuclear submarines.

My job today sometimes requires me to interpret a customer's part drawing and figure out what method and tooling will best do the job. I still utilize the skills learned at Middle Bucks, and have never regretted even for one minute my decision to go to school here. I now have two of my children in the business who will soon be passing the torch to them.

Deciding on a career or course of study is a big decision. I believe far too many high school students decide to attend a four-year college without considering a vocational education. So many graduate with debt they cannot pay because they were sold a degree for which no market exists. I highly recommend that unless students have a specific career goal that requires a specific college degree, that they at least take a tour and see what courses and career opportunities technical education has to offer.

Speaking to you here today was a great honor.

Thank you.

**Tuesday, August 13, 2024**

Pennsylvania GOP House Policy Hearing  
"Back to School" hosted by Rep. Kristin Marcell

Middle Bucks Institute of Technology  
2740 York Road, Jamison, PA 18929

**Prepared Testimony:** Carla Zapotek, Executive Vice President, The Home Builders Association of Bucks and Montgomery Counties (HBA)

It is a privilege to be here to discuss the advancement of career and technical education programs. Thank you for this opportunity.

The HBA is a non-profit trade association representing over 500 members in the residential construction industry. Our mission is to build great homes, strong communities, and better businesses. We accomplish that through advocacy, education, and networking.

### **History**

Prior to my employment with the HBA, I stumbled into the building industry by chance after realizing law school was not my path, so I took a job selling building products. This path led me to help run our family-owned construction company as a local custom builder in Southeastern PA for 10 years.

Fast-forward to the present day, where I now run the Home Builders Association. We are the largest in the state of Pennsylvania and have received national recognition for our quest to develop a skilled workforce to address the construction industry's labor shortage.

The HBA is affiliated with the National Association of Home Builders, and our Student Chapter was formed through that affiliation. MBIT, a Student Chapter member, was featured in that national recognition, where we hosted nearly 300 students from the construction clusters at our first Careers in Construction Day.

### **Challenge and Statistics**

The need for more skilled construction labor is a significant obstacle to expanding home construction, improving housing inventory, and making homes more affordable. Sustainable inflation relies on advancements in labor productivity, worker training, labor recruitment, and housing price growth reductions.

The residential construction labor force plays a critical role in attaining these economic and social policy objectives by providing affordable housing, which helps alleviate inflation in the housing sector.

To tackle the nation's housing shortage, an estimated 1.5 million homes need to be built during the second half of this decade, necessitating additional skilled construction workers.

Key findings according to the Bureau of Labor and Statistics and the Home Builders Institute (HBI)

- Demand for construction workers is weakening due to a housing downturn from 2023-2024, but the year-over-year gains remain solid, with 46,300 net residential construction jobs added over the last 12 months.
- There are currently 8.2 million payroll construction workers (Residential and non-residential)
- The Challenge: How many hired workers do we need to keep the industry moving along each year?
  - The estimated, required amount of construction worker hiring is approximately 723,000 per year, according to NAHB analysis of BLS data and projections.
- The number of open construction sector jobs was above 400,000 at the start of the year. The count fell in March.
- Average hourly wages in the overall construction industry have increased 5% over the last year, with average wage levels exceeding national private sector averages.
- Women make up a growing share of the construction employment, reaching 10.9% in 2022. This is a noticeable increase from 9.1% in 2017 and just below the record-high share of 11% recorded in 2021.

These numbers reflect a growing need for labor, particularly as the home building industry recovers from the weakness that began in 2022 due to tightening monetary policy.

Not only are we facing the challenge of skilled labor shortage, but we are also facing a shortage of CTE teachers. Several factors contribute to this decline.

- Higher enrollment rates for students in CTE courses result in a demand for more classes and more teachers.
- Education programs have been eliminated and or limited for someone to transition from the industry to a teacher of a CTE course.
- In the state of Pennsylvania, there are limited options for receiving a teacher certification for CTE programs, which can take up to 8 years to receive.
  - There is limited funding that many would need to afford these courses, leaving most paying out of pocket.

With the collaboration of our state legislature, we aim to explore alternative methods for individuals to obtain their teaching licenses more efficiently in Pennsylvania.

Prospective teachers should be able to demonstrate their qualifications through occupational testing, professional certification, or work experience.

We need to create more incentives to recruit industry professionals into the classroom both in professional development and salary.

In conclusion, the Home Builders Association is dedicated to our mission, and we believe that we can accomplish even more through collaborative efforts.

Our organization manages several committees and councils that advocate for fair and smart housing legislation, charitable initiatives, mentoring women in the trades, and cultivating the future workforce.

Our Workforce Development Council, in partnership with our Student Chapter members (comprising teachers and students), has developed programs to tackle these challenges.

These initiatives aim to provide students with direct access to internships, co-op programs, apprenticeships, and job opportunities, allowing them to develop leadership skills and gain insight into their chosen careers.

Some of our programs include but are not limited to:

- Careers in Construction Day/Career Fair
- Professional Development Days (resume building and interview skills)
- In-classroom instruction sessions for hands-on experiences with members
- Course curriculum certification through the Pennsylvania Builders Association's Endorsed Trade Program

In addition to these efforts, we fundraise to provide student achievement awards and scholarships to deserving students who participate in our student chapter. These funds can be used to advance each student's career in construction, whether it is to buy new tools or to pay for continuing education. With more funding opportunities, a goal we strive toward is to provide monetary awards to the teachers in the classrooms pursuing professional development as well as their students.

Thank you for your time and for the opportunity to share our positive experiences working with our local career and technical schools. We appreciate your ongoing support and willingness to listen.

Resources:

[NAHB Chief Economist and HBA CEO Podcast 2024](#)

[Home Builders Institute Construction Labor Market Report 2024](#)