

Dear BHS Parents and Students,

In the past year, we spoke with countless colleges, companies and local community leaders and have come to the conclusion that a great deal of students who are coming out of high school, not just in Barberton, are lacking soft skills. Students are lacking skills such as teamwork, problem solving, personal management, and communication skills needed to be successful in college, career and life. In order, to make sure that our students are well versed in the soft skills needed to be successful; the BHS staff has developed two curriculums that we will be delivering to our student in grades 9 through 12 starting this school year.

The first curriculum is called **The “Do Your Job” Curriculum**. This curriculum will be embedded in what we do every day at BHS in grades 9-11. There are some skills that will be significant to each grade level. Some skills, such as oral and written communication, we will touch upon every year because of their importance. Teachers in grades 9-11 will be utilizing the **Ohio Means Jobs Website** to introduce students to career information, resume building, and interviewing skills. There is a tool on this site called a **‘Back Pack’** that will be used to contain all activities that your child has been working on during their time in high school. They will use this tool to build and develop any and all the information/forms they have completed while working on the Ohio Means Jobs website. We understand that what a student sees as their future in 9<sup>th</sup> grade may change by the time they are in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade. However, in the Back Pack the students will have a great deal of personalized resources to help them make those decisions about their career or college choices after high school. The students will also be using Google Classroom and the My Access Writing programs to enhance their written communication skills.

Second, we have developed a class for our seniors called **Career Communications**. This is the culminating class where students will utilize all the skills developed in grades 9-11. In this semester class, seniors will develop a final resume, participate in mock interviews, and will fill out applications for colleges and jobs depending on the path they have chosen to take. They will participate in writing practice essays to receive college scholarships and potentially secure employment during our End of Class Job and College Fair. We are also building partnerships with local companies and local leaders who will come to BHS to reinforce the concepts and skills taught in the curriculum. Students will visit different places of employment to see the many opportunities that are out there as well.

Our goal is to send a better prepared student/employee out of BHS at the end of four years. These soft skills are talents that will help make our students more employable and successful no matter what path they take in life.

**“DO YOUR JOB BHS”**

