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CBICC State of Education Luncheon to focus on career readiness

Business/education leaders to announce initiative to address local workforce concerns

STATE COLLEGE, PA, April 26 – The Chamber of Business & Industry of Centre County (CBICC) will hold its annual **State of Education Luncheon** at **noon Tuesday, May 1** at the **Nittany Lion Inn** in State College.

The event will bring together the leaders of five Centre County public school districts, along with leaders of the two career/technical training institutions, for an insightful presentation/panel discussion about the priorities of and challenges faced by local education in helping to prepare the 21st century workforce.

Business and educational leaders will also unveil a new CBICC/community partner initiative – CentreREADY – designed to address the workforce needs of local employers. The initiative is a product of the CBICC's Business and Industry Partnership Committee, which meets with local businesses to assess their opportunities for and challenges to growth and success.

"The independent work of local educators and the collective effort behind CentreREADY, will be instrumental in preparing a workforce that possesses the technical and core skills desired by local businesses," said Vern Squier, CCE, PaCCE, President and CEO of the CBICC. "To that end, this year's State of Education Luncheon will be of particular importance to Centre County's employer community."

Speakers/panelists include:

- Dr. Bob O'Donnell, Superintendent, State College Area School District
- Dr. Brian Griffith, Superintendent, Penns Valley Area School District
- (representative of) Bellefonte Area School District
- Jeff Miles, Superintendent, Bald Eagle Area School District
- Dr. Richard Makin, President, Central Pennsylvania Institute of Science & Technology

- Jeff Stachowski, Community Outreach Director, South Hills School of Business & Technology
- Vern Squier, President and CEO, CBICC

The cost of the luncheon is \$20 for CBICC members; \$40 for guests. Online registration at www.cbicc.org will close at noon Monday, April 30.

The 2018 State of Education Luncheon is being sponsored by PSECU.

Media coverage is welcome.

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