



**Bucks County Intermediate Unit
705 N. Shady Retreat Rd.
Doylestown PA 18901**

Media Contact:
Robyn Gross, Educational Marketing Lead
215-348-2940 Ext. 1121
RGross@BucksIU.org

For Immediate Release:

EmployAbility Expo Held for Bucks County Students with Special Needs

Hosted by the Bucks County Intermediate Unit

May 3, 2019, Doylestown PA: On Wednesday May 1st, 2019 the Bucks County Intermediate Unit (Bucks IU) hosted their annual EmployAbility Expo. Held at the Bucks IU's Administrative Building in Doylestown PA, this event drew over 100 Bucks County high school students with disabilities who were interested in practicing and developing the confidence, skills, and strategies they will need to obtain and retain employment in today's economy.



The morning began with a motivational keynote speaker to set the tone, get the students to relax and focus so that they could each get the full benefit out of the Expo. The interactive presentation stressed preparing and practicing with a take away message about making positives out negatives by turning them into a learning experience. Breakout sessions were also offered to support and train the students in areas such as strategies on finding a job,

professionalism, workplace etiquette, and how to create critical job documents such as résumés and portfolios.



Each student had the opportunity to participate in at least three practice job interviews with volunteer personnel from area businesses and organizations. The students gained valuable hands-on experience on how to comport themselves in a professional manner while answering various standard questions. Upon completion of each interview, the students were given immediate feedback on how well they did against a checklist that was provided to all of the interviewers.

Our sincere thanks to the following businesses and organizations for supporting this important event by providing the outstanding interviewers who took the time to come and work with these amazing students:

- AHEDD
- Altman Management Group
- Bucks County Department of Mental Health/Developmental Programs (MH/DP)
- County of Bucks
- Dun & Bradstreet
- ECRI Institute
- ESS Mission One
- Excel Home Care
- Flatiron School
- Indian Creek Foundation
- Ivy Hill Therapeutic Equestrian Center
- JBT Corporation – Automated Systems
- Juno Search Partners
- Lenape Valley Foundation
- Office of Vocational Rehabilitation
- Oldcastle Precast
- Operant Coffee, LLC
- PA CareerLink Bucks County – Bristol
- Pennridge School District

Premier Brokerage Services, Inc.
SEPA SHRM
Sesame Place
SPIN
UPS
YMCA of Bucks County – Doylestown

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ABOUT THE BUCKS COUNTY INTERMEDIATE UNIT:

With over 45 years of service, the Bucks County Intermediate Unit has established itself as an abundantly skilled, technology-rich, provider of high quality, cost-effective, instructional and operational services to public and private schools, school districts, charter schools, and our community. From an exceptional and broad foundation of specialty education support services we advocate for every child, while also offering a wide-range of programs, from cooperative purchasing to professional development courses, to nurture a stronger community. Visit our website at www.BucksIU.org or call us at 215-348-2940 for more information.