

Hello Friends and Colleagues,

The last several months have been traumatic financially and emotionally for many people. Many of our citizens have been staying home or venturing out but wearing masks and gloves in an attempt to not spread or catch the corona virus. My heart hurts for our love ones who have lost the fight with the virus and family cannot be with them at that moment. But at some point we will be memorializing their wonderful lives.

During these difficult times, I would be remiss if I didn't take this opportunity to tell all of those essential workers who have never stopped working through this Covid 19 fight how much they are loved and appreciated. These individuals are true heroes to me and I wanted to echo my thanks to these brave people.

Last November, I informed the NWTI Board of Directors of my intent to retire June 13, 2020 and these plans have not changed. What has changed are the plans on how to celebrate my entering the "second chapter" since large gathering have been restricted.

Even with the opening of some activities by the Governor, I believe that we still need to be cautious with large groups of people. I would love to visit individually with each of you to remember our working together. However, I must err on the side of caution. I am issuing this letter of thanks and appreciation to all of you who have assisted me over the last six years as I have served as President of Northwest Technical Institute.

With my tenure as President of Northwest Technical Institute coming to an end, I wanted to take a moment to tell you all how very proud I am to have worked with each one of you. Specifically, I would like to acknowledge the administration, staff and faculty at Northwest Technical Institute as a very effective hard-working group of employees. This group works everyday to educate the next generation of highly skilled trades people. Additionally, I would like to acknowledge people from business, community, and State

Government who have helped me, our faculty, staff and students in granting funds to us, advising NWTI on the latest skilled practices and then hiring those students who successfully complete our course of study.

To all the people named above I want each of you to always remember how much we have accomplished as a team. Those achievements are the result of your effort and talent, and I have been fortunate to have been supported by your combined excellence. You have my deepest gratitude.

I leave knowing that my successor could not ask for a more capable and committed team to rely upon. You are - each of you – the very best at what you do. You have each made me better than I ever dreamed possible.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at any time, regardless of whether you need a recommendation, advice, or just a friendly ear to bend.

Thank you for everything that you do. I wish you all the success in the world.

Respectfully,

Blake Robertson