

## Business Leaders Across PA Step up on behalf of Graduation Competency Assessments

"As an employer who still has room for good quality high school graduates, and I believe I speak for other employers as well, I no longer have any idea what a high school diploma really means. But I do know what I need in terms of basic skills in the high school graduates I hire, and I know what I'm not always getting."

*- C. Alan Walker, President and CEO, Bradford Energy, Inc., Clearfield County*

"Many of the basic skills our employees now use are taught on the job, as they come with deficiencies in their basic education. Today, we have no idea when the school system sends us a high school graduate with diploma whether these skills exist. We don't even ask for a diploma anymore."

*- Dean Girton, Girton Manufacturing Co., Inc., Columbia County*

"We are not changing the standards for high school graduates; they have already been changed for us. The modern world and job market require a high school diploma that says the holder is in tip top academic shape, ready right now to compete with the best not just in his or her community, Pennsylvania, or the United States, but to compete with the best in the world."

*- Dan Rooney, Owner, Pittsburgh Steelers*