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**Contacts: Tricia Lederer, MBAE**  
617-737-3122  
**Wendy Northcross, Cape Cod**  
**Chamber of Commerce**  
508-364-4557

## **The Cape Cod Chamber of Commerce Joins Forces with the Massachusetts Business Alliance for Education to Focus on Education and the Workforce**

**[October 3, 2018]** – The Massachusetts Business Alliance for Education (MBAE) and the Cape Cod Chamber of Commerce announced today that the Cape Cod Chamber of Commerce has signed on as an MBAE Affiliate, signaling its commitment to ensuring all students get the education they need to be successful in college and career.

The Cape Cod Chamber of Commerce joins the growing MBAE network that includes 30 chambers and industry associations including the Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce, Worcester Regional Chamber of Commerce, and Mass Technology Leadership Council, which collectively represent over 26,000 employers.

“We are extremely pleased to be joining our peers in the work of sustaining and advancing our world-class education system in Massachusetts and on Cape Cod,” stated chamber executive Wendy Northcross. “We believe that the future workforce deserves the best opportunity for learning and career development, and partnering with others can help make this a reality for all our residents.”

“We are pleased that the Cape Cod Chamber of Commerce is joining our Network of employers that share a commitment to high quality public education,” said MBAE Executive Director Linda Noonan. “Together, we can promote preeminent state education policy and work with our partners to provide students with critical information about and exposure to the world of work in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.”

MBAE Affiliates are joining the Network in response to their members’ concerns about the preparedness of students for the workforce. An MBAE survey of Massachusetts employers found 75% are having trouble finding qualified candidates to fill open positions. Candidates and new hires are lacking in skills needed in the workplace including “applied skills” like teamwork, critical thinking and communications.

### **About the Massachusetts Business Alliance for Education**

The Massachusetts Business Alliance for Education was founded in 1988 by employers concerned about the educational attainment and skills of graduates entering the workforce. Driven by the business community's commitment that all students graduate high school prepared for success in college, career and citizenship, our core work is influencing state education policy to improve the quality of all public schools in Massachusetts.

### **About the Cape Cod Chamber of Commerce**

The Cape Cod Chamber of Commerce is a 1223-member organization that works to strengthen and promote regional economic vitality, while addressing related cultural, environmental and community concerns.

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