

October 8, 2019

Mr. John Burness, Chair
Board of Trustees
Durham Technical Community College

Dear Chairman Burness:

In August of 2007 during my interview with the Board of Trustees, I articulated my vision for the future of Durham Tech. I indicated we would need to develop new

careers in an emerging and evolving economy. Recognizing that our Main Campus was landlocked and our physical plant was aging, I noted that new facilities were needed to carry out our mission of service to the community. I pointed out that to be the kind of institution the residents of Durham and Orange counties needed and deserved, we could no longer rely entirely on the State for our financial support. And finally, students and their success must be the singular focus of our attention every day. Since assuming the presidency in January 2008, I have attempted to lead the institution in carrying out this vision.

construction trades. With our new Electrical Line Technician program, we are preparing workers to maintain and upgrade the power grid. Offerings in Esthetics, Cosmetology, and Massage Therapy enable more residents in Durham and Orange counties to develop essential skills for success in a range of human services areas. Finally, our Hospitality and Culinary Arts programs support travel and tourism, industries that are vitally important to our region.

We have also established and extended opportunities for our students who seek additional education after leaving Durham Tech. We are among the first two-year colleges i



And as the result of their extraordinary efforts, I am pleased and proud to know that since 2008, over 7,000 individuals have completed a college degree or diploma awarded by Durham Tech, and another 2,000 have attained a high school diploma or equivalent. In the process these Durham Tech alumni have better prepared themselves for their careers, their communities and their families.

And I do believe it is time for a change. So, with this letter, I am notifying the Durham Tech Board of Trustees of my intent to retire June 30, 2020, at the conclusion of my current contract. I thank the board for your confidence and leadership during my tenure and wish you well in your efforts to select and hire the fifth president of

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