ORANGEBURG COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
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Cope Area Career Center Celebrates Nail Technology Program Approval Following Final State Board Inspection

Orangeburg, S.C. – Orangeburg County School District's Cope Area Career Center is celebrating a major milestone as its Nail Technology Program has officially passed its final State Board inspection. This approval means students now have the opportunity to earn their South Carolina Nail Technician License, opening doors to rewarding careers in the beauty industry right here in Orangeburg County.

The Nail Tech program joins Cope's already dynamic lineup of career pathways, including Cosmetology, Welding, Health Science, and Automotive Technology**.** With this exciting addition, students can now explore even more career-focused opportunities that prepare them for immediate employment or advanced education after graduation.

"This program gives our students the opportunity to become true entrepreneurs," said Dr. Johnny Murdaugh, Director of Cope Area Career Center. "We're planning a grand opening and ribbon cutting on September 11, from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m., as our students begin providing services to the community. This is the first official year of the program, and we couldn't be more excited to see our students energized about their future."

The beauty industry generates billions of dollars each year and continues to grow as more people seek high-quality, professional services. By earning their Nail Technician License, Cope students are stepping directly into a field where creativity meets entrepreneurship, one that offers both financial stability and opportunities to own their own businesses. This program ensures students graduate not only with training but also with a valuable credential that positions them for immediate success.

At the heart of this achievement is Cope's mission: to be the catalyst of innovation and excellence, ensuring every student discovers and develops their person, purpose, and platform. The center delivers on this promise by fostering a culture of collaboration, equity, and inclusion; creating a learning environment filled with inspiring opportunities; and maintaining a commitment to nurturing the academic, physical, social, and emotional well-being of all students.

The vision is clear: "A pathway to a great education that leads to employment." With the certification of the Nail Tech program, that pathway just got even brighter. The excitement surrounding the program reflects the district's ongoing dedication to providing high-quality, hands-on career and technical education that equips students with real-world skills, industry certifications, and the confidence to succeed in their chosen fields.

For additional information, please contact Taylor R. Johnson, Communications and Multi-Media Specialist, at taylor.johnson@ocsdsc.org or 839-253-2070.

Orangeburg County School District

The mission of Orangeburg County School District, the catalyst of innovation and excellence, is to ensure all students discover and develop their person, purpose, and platform through high-quality educational experiences distinguished by a culture of collaboration, equity, and inclusion; a creative learning environment with inspiring opportunities; a commitment to nurture the academic, physical, social and emotional well-being of all. Visit us online at ocsdsc.org

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