



Hello and Welcome to the 2020-21 School Year! My name is Mr. Russell Philip and I will be your student's CTE technology instructor or their yearbook instructor this year. This is my sixth year as a teacher and I look forward to working with you and your students as we gain a better understanding of technology in today's world.

Let me start by telling you a little bit about myself. I have been married to my college sweetheart (Cindy) for the last 20 years. We have 5 children: Scotland (age 17), Britain (age 15), Sutherland (age 13), Aberdeen (age 11), and Belmont (age 10). To keep things interesting, we also have 21 pets! I have a BA and an MS from Cornerstone University and attended Ferris State University for my teacher certification training. This is my sixth year as a CTE instructor and I am looking forward to the challenges and adventures that will undoubtedly arise this year.

This year we will explore the wonderful world of technology in a variety of ways. If your student is enrolled Graphic Design (s)he can expect to gain an understanding of Adobe Dreamweaver, Adobe Flash, Adobe Illustrator, InDesign, and Photoshop software programs as we learn how to use these programs to create unique designs. Intro to Graphic Design will introduce Adobe Photoshop & Illustrator to begin creating graphic designs. Business Software Applications (BMA) will focus on becoming Microsoft Office Certified, as well as examining a wide range of technology available to us today. In 2016 two of our Buchanan students (from this class) were invited to attend Microsoft Office Nationals in Florida, with one student placing 3rd in the nation. I am hoping to take many more students to this competition this year. Yearbook students will be creating and designing the school yearbook and will learn the ins and outs of creating a published product from scratch. If your student is enrolled in the Computer Science class, they will be learning to code in an on-line learning community, focusing on the Python programming language. Finally, if your student is enrolled in Yearbook, we will have the opportunity to create a one of a kind yearbook documenting the entire school year as we navigate a global pandemic and remote learning. They will learn how to create layouts, edit photos, write captions and articles, as well as a little bit about marketing and sales.

No matter what course your child is enrolled in, our goal is to give each student the opportunity to understand technology in today's world, in addition to understanding how to adapt to emerging technologies. As a CTE program, they will also be learning skills that will help them outside of the classroom and in the workforce.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions, comments, or concerns. I can be reached via e-mail at [rphilip@buchananschools.com](mailto:rphilip@buchananschools.com) or feel free to call me at 269.695.8403 x.20113. While I will not be able to answer the phone during class, please leave a message so that I can contact you outside of class time. If you are interested in seeing what is going on in our class or if your student is looking for missing homework, please visit our classroom website at [rphilip.buchananschools.com](http://rphilip.buchananschools.com)

Thank you and GO BUCKS!

Russell Philip