

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S UPDATE

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TOPICS

Robotics & Automated
Technology

School-to-Career
Coordinator

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Past Events

9/16 U.S. Representatives
Dean and Levin visited
student leaders at EASTERN

9/16 Parents Night

9/18 Counselor/Special
Education Liaison Meeting

9/24 and 9/25 Occupational
Advisory Committee
Meetings

10/3 Principals' Advisory
Meeting

10/8 Rep. Sanchez and
Michael Markman of BET
Investments toured
EASTERN

Upcoming Events

11/13-15 SkillsUSA District 2
Leadership Conference

1/15 Counselor/Special
Education Liaison Meeting

1/21-1/28 Career Expo

1/30 Principals' Advisory
Committee Meeting

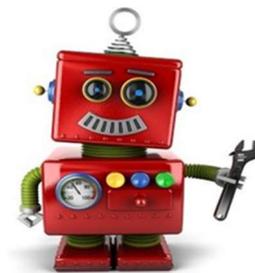
Robotics & Automated Technology – New Program Launching 2020-2021

At the meeting held September 11, 2019, the Joint Operating Committee gave the approvals necessary for EASTERN to launch a 15th program: Robotics and Automated Technology. Since gaining this approval, our team has already completed or initiated some important steps in the process. We formed and hosted a meeting with an Occupational Advisory Committee to get feedback on the program curriculum, equipment, certifications, and partnership opportunities. We also met with an architect to begin designing the space that will be allocated and renovated to create this program. Dr. Levinowitz joined me and Mr. Greb as we toured a similar program in Chester County. Our team also visited the Festo showroom to look at state-of-the-art equipment and visited the Greater Philadelphia Manufacturing Summit held in Fort Washington on October 17, 2019.

It's no small task to open a highly technical program like this, but we are working diligently and staying on schedule with our timeline. We will continue to engage our employer and post-secondary partners to finalize the program design and complete marketing materials. We are currently pursuing opportunities that will help us leverage grant funding and other financial support to offset program costs.

School-to-Career Coordinator

Eastern Center for Arts and Technology will be hiring a new position: School-to-Career Coordinator. The primary goal of this position is to help connect our students to their next step in their career paths. Approximately 65% of our students continue their education at college/university, trade school, or through registered apprenticeship programs. The rest of our students typically enter directly into the workforce. Our School-to-Career Coordinator will help to transition our students to their next step through organizing college and career fairs, setting up job-shadowing and paid internship experiences, negotiating more robust articulation agreements, and strengthening our business and industry partnerships.



September 30th Enrollment

2019-2020 official enrollment:
522 students or 83.7% capacity.

Programs at maximum enrollment:

Allied Health
Automotive Technology
Veterinary Science
Welding Technology

Legislative Updates

In October, Senator Collett informed us that she, along with support from Senator Hughes, was able to secure \$67,000 in funding so EASTERN can purchase two school vans. These vans will help connect our students and programs with the community. Once we purchase the vans, our Commercial Art and Collision Repair programs will customize the vans with our EASTERN brand and we will host an event to properly thank our Senators for their support of our school.

The Senate and House of Representatives were in session in September. House Bill 265 is scheduled to be signed by the Senate and forwarded to Governor Wolf for his consideration. This legislation addresses a myriad of career and technical issues. Some areas of interest to EASTERN that are addressed are the following:

- updates language in the School Code to replace “vocational-technical” with “career and technical”
- requires workforce development boards to survey programs at secondary and postsecondary institutions and compile a clearinghouse of model programs
- establishes a Schools-to-Work program to award grants for partnerships between schools, employers, and organizations
- sets criteria for equipment that is eligible to be purchased with CTE equipment grant money
- expands the online databased of articulation agreements that allows students to check where courses, programs, certificates, and diplomas can be transferred among public schools and institutions of higher education

Facilities Ad Hoc Committee

The Joint Operating Committee has appointed an Ad Hoc Committee to examine long-term facility planning for EASTERN. The committee consists of representatives from the JOC, the Superintendents, Executive Advisory Committee, EASTERN staff, and the community. The goal of the committee is to evaluate EASTERN facilities, program needs, and district needs to make a recommendation for long-term facility planning. Options being evaluated include the following: 10-year capital plan, more extensive renovations, new property and school, and acquiring a satellite campus/another building.

Joint Operating Committee Recognition

I would like to thank our exiting JOC members for their service and commitment to EASTERN. The following JOC members will be ending their service to EASTERN:

Michelle Tinsman of Abington School District has served on the JOC since 2006.

Robert Howard of Lower Moreland School District has served on the JOC since 2010.

Joseph Wade of Hatboro-Horsham School district has served on the JOC since 2016

Jean McWilliams of Cheltenham School District and **Brian Davis** of Upper Moreland School District have served on the JOC since 2017.

Student Recognition

The first three months of the school year have yielded some positive results and recognition for our students.

Students of the Month for September - November

Orie Zaga, Commercial Art, Abington
Janiece Saulsberry, Automotive, Hatboro-Horsham
Lauren Shelton, Veterinary Science, Hatboro-Horsham

Pennsylvania Nominee for CTE Presidential Scholars

Rachel Brodsky – Senior, Culinary Arts, Lower Moreland

Associated Builders and Contractors Team Competition – 2nd place

Isaiah Cooper - Construction, Cheltenham
Marcus Collins – Construction, Cheltenham
Timothy Joyce – Electrical, Abington
Zaire Ruiz – HVAC, Abington

** Students received a hard hat and jacket, iTunes gift card, and tuition for one year of ABC apprenticeship training.*

OSHA Alliance

Ms. Larson is working with our Safety Committee and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) to form an alliance to help our school continue to improve our focus on occupational safety. This includes how we maintain spaces, equipment, personal protective equipment, rules for students and teachers, and protocols for visitors in program areas.

This Alliance will help our students and staff be safe, adopt safety habits that will carry them through their careers, and ensure we are mindful of the safety of our visitors when they tour our building.