

## December 2019

*A report from the December 2019 meeting of EASTERN's Joint Operating Committee. EASTERN is a part of the school districts of Abington, Bryn Athyn, Cheltenham, Hatboro-Horsham, Jenkintown, Lower Moreland, Springfield, Upper Dublin and Upper Moreland.*

### Summary

- Student of the Month
- Recognition of Membership
- Election of Officers
- Renovations
- 2020 – 2021 Preliminary School Calendar
- SkillsUSA Leadership Conference
- Culinary Arts Instructor Appointed
- LTS Commercial Art Instructional Aide
- Upcoming EASTERN Foundation Events

### Coming Events

Joint Committee Meeting  
Seminar Room 8 PM

February 12, 2020  
March 11, 2020  
April 15, 2020  
May 13, 2020  
June 17, 2020

*Get the Board Brief by email  
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*Visit our website  
[www.eastech.org](http://www.eastech.org)*

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### December Student of the Month

Kody Levine, a Lower Moreland High School senior, is the December 2019 Student of the Month at Eastern Center for Arts and Technology (EASTERN) in Willow Grove. Kody is being recognized for his outstanding work in EASTERN's Collision Repair Technology program. The Student of the Month Award is sponsored by EASTERN's faculty, Joint Operating Committee and the Willow Grove Rotary Club to highlight student excellence, success, and service. Ten students each year are selected for this honor.

Kody already understood the value of career and technical education, as both of his brothers also attended EASTERN. When he visited EASTERN with Lower Moreland's Murray Avenue School in 8<sup>th</sup> grade, he was on the tour route that included the Collision Repair Technology program, where he saw the paint booth and learned more about the program from the instructor, Mr. Steven Parke.

At EASTERN, Kody currently serves as the SkillsUSA School-Wide Treasurer for the morning session. As a junior, he was part of the team that placed second at the SkillsUSA State Competition for Opening and Closing Ceremonies. His goal this year is to participate in the SkillsUSA State Competition for Automotive Refinishing Technology. Through his Collision Repair Technology program, Kody plans to begin a paid internship at JD's Auto Body and Painting in January and hopes that the experience parlays into a full-time position after graduation.

At EASTERN, Kody volunteers his time at recruitment events such as Career Expo and Open House. Last summer, Kody worked as a student teacher for the Summer Fun Automotive and Collision Repair class for middle school students. At Lower Moreland High School, Kody is on the baseball team and has volunteered for Mini-Thon.

"Kody's greatest strength and characteristic is his positive attitude," said Steven Parke, EASTERN's Collision Repair Technology Instructor. "He puts an amazing amount of effort into every project. It is evident that this is the right career path for Kody, and I believe he has a successful career ahead of him."

After graduation from Lower Moreland High School and EASTERN's Collision Repair Technology program, Kody plans to work in the collision repair field, and would like to work his way up to manager or foreman.

## December 2019

### Recognition of Membership

The Joint Operating Committee acknowledged the terms and membership for each participating district:

#### Term: December 2019 – November 2022

Hatboro-Horsham – Ms. Tara Conner-Hallston  
Lower Moreland – Mr. Lance Wolbransky  
Upper Dublin – Dr. Art Levinowitz

#### Term: December 2018 – November 2021

Bryn Athyn – Mr. Erik Odhner  
Springfield – Mr. Walter Lapidus  
Upper Moreland – Mr. Paul Tkacs

#### Term: December 2017 – November 2020

Abington – Ms. Jennifer O'Rourke  
Cheltenham – Mr. Charles Burdell-Williams  
Jenkintown – Ms. Carolyn Riley

### Election of Officers – President and Vice President

Dr. Art Levinowitz was reelected President for the term of December 11, 2019 – December 9, 2020.

Ms. Carolyn Riley was elected Vice President for the term of December 11, 2019 – December 9, 2020.

### Renovations

The Joint Operating Committee approved renovations as presented by Stephen Behrens from Breslin Ridyard Fadero Architects. Renovation include roof replacement, and construction of the School-to-Career office and the Robotics and Automated Technology program.

### 2020 – 2021 Preliminary School Calendar

The Joint Operating Committee approved the calendar for students, teacher and staff for the 2020 – 2021 school year.

### SkillsUSA Leadership Conference

On November 13-15, 2019, a delegation of 36 EASTERN SkillsUSA students and three advisors participated in the Annual District 2 Career and Technical Student Organization's Leadership Conference at the Kalahari Resorts Poconos. Approximately 200 students attended from seven different career and technical centers from surrounding counties. EASTERN students achieved 55 awards for first place, 13 awards for second place and 6 awards for third place. Among the first-place honors is EASTERN's big win of the coveted Spirit Trophy. All 36 students who attended the Fall Leadership Conference took home a gold medal for displaying the most school spirit.

# BOARD BRIEF

### Culinary Arts Instructor Appointed

Mr. Benjamin Vozzo was selected as EASTERN's new Culinary Arts Instructor to replace Ms. Hayley Granacher who will begin serving as EASTERN's School-to-Career Coordinator. Mr. Vozzo comes to EASTERN from the Culinary Arts Institute at Montgomery County Community College where he served as instructor and culinary resource manager since 2017. Mr. Vozzo was named the 2019 Educator of the Year by The American Culinary Federation Philadelphia Delaware Valley Chefs Association. Ms. Amy Mednick, EASTERN's Cosmetology Instructor, will serve as Mr. Vozzo's mentor.

### LTS Commercial Art Instructional Aide

Ms. Trisha Simmler-Totaro, Commercial Art Long Term Substitute, has been approved to assist in the program for the remainder of the school year.

### Upcoming EASTERN Foundation Events

- ✓ **April 17, 2020 – Murder Mystery– Vegas Style!**  
The EASTERN Foundation will be hosting a Murder Mystery on Friday, April 17 from 6 – 9 p.m. at the Springfield Township Recreation Center. The cost of the event is \$50 per ticket which includes food and two beverages. If you purchase a table of 10, the cost will be \$45 per ticket. Order online - <https://www.eastech.org/shop/product/murder-mystery-by-without-a-cue/>
- ✓ **May 7, 2020 – EASTERN's Annual Take Home Chicken Dinner**  
You can support the EASTERN Foundation by reserving your chicken dinner with sides for May 7, 2020 from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. Take out only. Online order form will be made available closer to event. Meals are \$10 each. Place your order here - <https://www.eastech.org/shop/product/bbq-dinner-fundraiser/>
- ✓ **May 8, 2020 – EASTERN Foundation Bowling Fundraiser**  
The Bowling Fundraiser will be on Friday, May 8, 2020 from 6 – 8 p.m. We have 32 lanes. The cost is \$20 per person for 2 hours with shoe rentals. Reserve your lane here - <https://www.eastech.org/shop/product/bowling-fundraiser/> **This event will be held at:** 1475 Street Rd. Warminster, PA 18974