

February 2020

A report from the February 2020 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

- Students of the Month
- Robotics and Automated Technology Instructor Appointed
- Long Term Substitute for Allied Health Appointed
- District 2 SkillsUSA Competition
- Open House
- Summer Fun
- Facility Upgrades
- Certification of 2020 – 2021 Budget
- EASTERN Foundation Fundraisers

Coming Events

Joint Committee Meeting
Seminar Room 8 PM

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

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*Visit our website
www.eastech.org*

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January Student of the Month

Isabella Fenerty, an Upper Moreland High School senior, was the January 2020 Student of the Month at Eastern Center for Arts and Technology (EASTERN) in Willow Grove. Isabella was recognized for her outstanding work in EASTERN's Veterinary Science 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.

Isabella comes from a home filled with animals and has always loved caring for them. When she was in 10th grade she came to EASTERN on a class tour and attended EASTERN's Open House. These visits confirmed for Isabella that the Veterinary Science program was a great place to start her animal science education and career path.

At EASTERN, Isabella is the School-Wide President of the student leadership organization, SkillsUSA, for the morning session. She volunteers her time at EASTERN school events such as Parent's Night and Open House. She was selected as a student leader for school visits from Congresswoman Madeleine Dean and Governor Tom Wolf.

At Upper Moreland High School, she is on the Distinguished Honor Roll. In the community, Isabella has volunteered at organizations such as Petco and Forgotten Cats Shelter. She currently works at Richboro Ritz Pet Resort and is a weekend animal caretaker at EASTERN.

After graduation from Upper Moreland High School and EASTERN's Veterinary Science program, Isabella plans to attend Colorado State University for Animal Science with a minor in Business. She hopes to open a private clinic for small animals.

February Student of the Month

Jonah Oberman, an Abington High School junior, is the February 2020 Student of the Month. Jonah is being recognized for his outstanding work in EASTERN's Welding Technology program.

When Jonah was in 10th grade he visited EASTERN to learn more about the career and technical program offered to high school juniors and seniors. During the Welding Technology demonstration, he met the instructor, learned about the many welding jobs available in this area, and the high earning potential.

Through EASTERN's Welding Technology program, he has already received his S/P2 in Welding Safety Training Certificate and was chosen by his instructor as the Weld Shop Foreman for his class. In the community, he volunteers his time as a member of the Abington Township Police Explorers. He is also a member of the Armored Combat League.

After graduation from Abington High School and EASTERN's Welding Technology program, Jonah plans to pursue postsecondary for Engineering at Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology or Williamson College of the Trades. Still a first-year student in the Welding Technology program, Jonah is exploring his future career options, but has strong interests in becoming a member of the Steamfitters Local 420 and has the desire to pursue blacksmith training.

Robotics and Automated Technology Instructor Appointed

Mr. Christopher Passante was appointed as the Robotics and Automated Technology Instructor effective May 15, 2020. He will represent the program during EASTERN’s 10th Grade Career Expo in late February, and at Open House on March 1. Mr. Passante comes to us from Upper Bucks County Technical School where he taught Mechatronics.

Long Term Substitute Teacher for Allied Health Appointed

Ms. Windy Viernes, MSN, RN, has been appointed Allied Health Long Term Substitute Instructor for the remainder of the 2019 – 2020 school year. Ms. Viernes comes to us from EASTERN’s Practical Nursing program.

District 2 SkillsUSA Competition

Twenty-four students from EASTERN won medals in skill areas or leadership at the SkillsUSA District Competitions held January 28 - 29 at North Montco Technical Career Center. First-place winners will represent EASTERN at the state-level competitions to be held April 15 – 17, 2020 in Hershey, PA. Students participate in SkillsUSA to learn about leadership and test their technical skills through competition. Gold medalists from EASTERN are:

Competition	Competitor	School	Program
Auto Refinishing	Daniele Doyle	Springfield	Collision Repair
Commercial Baking	Rachel Brodsky	Lower Moreland	Culinary Arts
Culinary Arts	Marcus Soucy	Hatboro-Horsham	Culinary Arts
Employment			
Application Process	Kody Levine	Lower Moreland	Collision Repair
Technical Computer			
Applications	Emma Rose	Abington	Business & Tech
Customer Service	Karis Hudson	Hatboro-Horsham	Veterinary
Opening and Closing			
Ceremonies	Ryan Coughlan	Springfield	Commercial Art
	Elizabeth Falcone	Springfield	Veterinary
	Laurence Jacoby	Springfield	Commercial Art
	Kayla Marshall	Cheltenham	Business & Tech
	Gabriella Gushue	Hatboro-Horsham	Cosmetology
	Elvin Cruz	Springfield	Collision Repair
	Abby Mason	Hatboro-Horsham	Cosmetology

Open House - March 1, 2020

Open House at EASTERN is Sunday, March 1, 2020 from 1 – 3:30 p.m. This is a great opportunity for parents of high school students in Eastern Montgomery County to see how EASTERN can give students a competitive edge in college or in a specialized career program. At the Open House, parents and students will learn how EASTERN students can earn college credits while still in high school through dual enrollment and articulation agreements and enjoy learning in a hands-on setting. The Open House also offers an opportunity to hear from EASTERN instructors on the business environment that complements students’ high school academics. Many special activities in EASTERN’s career programs are scheduled, and visitors will have the opportunity to sample culinary delights prepared by EASTERN’s Culinary Arts students.

Summer Fun

EASTERN’s Summer Fun middle school enrichment program will not run this year due to building renovations.

Facility Upgrades

The following facility upgrades have been approved:

- Floor replacement by Kieran McKenna Flooring, Inc.
- Front lobby upgrade by McCarthy Masonry and Concrete, Inc.
- Facility Study by D’Huy Engineering, Inc.

Certification of 2020 – 2021

Budget

The Boards of School Directors approved the 2020 – 2021 operating budget as presented by the Joint Operating Committee.

EASTERN Foundation

Fundraisers

You can support EASTERN student awards by joining us for the many upcoming fundraisers:

April 1, 2020 – Corner Bakery in Horsham. Let your cashier know you are with the Eastern Center for Arts and Technology Foundation, and we will receive a percentage of sales.

April 2, 2020 – Designer Bag Bingo at Upper Moreland High School to benefit both the EASTERN Foundation and EASTERN’s student leadership organization, SkillsUSA. Doors open at 5 p.m. Bingo begins at 6 p.m. \$25 for 10 Bingo cards. Register at eastech.org/shop/product/designer-bag-bingo

April 17, 2020 – Murder Mystery/Silent Auction at Springfield Township Recreation Center from 6 – 9 p.m. Tickets are \$50. Register at eastech.org/shop/product/murder-mystery-by-without-a-cue/

May 7, 2020 – BBQ Chicken Dinner from EASTERN for \$10. All orders are takeout for pick up from 3 – 6 p.m. Order at eastech.org/shop/product/bbq-dinner-fundraiser/

May 8, 2020 – Bowling Fundraiser at Thunderbird Lanes in Warminster. \$20 per bowler. Sign up at eastech.org/shop/product/bowling-fundraiser/