

March 2020

A report from the March 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

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- Advisory Appreciation Brunch
- Open House
- Networking and Cybersecurity Rebranding
- School Directors' Orientation
- Career Pathway Charts
- Career Expo
- SkillsUSA State Competition
- Building Report
- EASTERN Foundation Fundraiser Updates

Coming Events

Joint Operating Committee Meeting
Seminar Room 8 PM

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

Get the Board Brief by email contact Amy Shields for more information at ashields@eastech.org 215.784.4806

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March Student of the Month

Nicole Sherwood, a Hatboro-Horsham High School senior, is the March 2020 Student of the Month at Eastern Center for Arts and Technology (EASTERN) in Willow Grove. Nicole is being recognized for her outstanding work in EASTERN's Cosmetology 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.

When Nicole was a sophomore at Hatboro-Horsham High School, she came to EASTERN and visited the Cosmetology program during 10th Grade Career Expo. She was excited about getting an early start on her career training and was excited about the cost savings by taking the program at EASTERN.

Through EASTERN's Cosmetology program, she will complete the 1,250 classroom hours required to qualify to take the PA State Board of Cosmetology. While she is working towards becoming a licensed cosmetologist, she is working as a Salon Assistant at Salon 463 where she coordinates guest services, including supply monitoring and facility maintenance.

Nicole is a critical member of EASTERN's student leadership team, SkillsUSA, in which she serves as a School-Wide Officer. She also serves as the student representative for EASTERN's Cosmetology Occupational Advisory Committee, in which she provides student input into program changes and updates. She was chosen by her instructor to attend the Career and Technical Student Organization (CTSO) Leadership Conference in Hershey for the past two-years. At Hatboro-Horsham High School, Nicole is a member of the Key Club.

It is no surprise that Nicole will pursue a career path that combines her interest in the beauty industry with her natural inclination towards leadership. After graduating from Hatboro-Horsham High School and EASTERN's Cosmetology program, Nicole plans to pursue postsecondary education for Business at Temple University. Her plan is to work in a salon, and eventually own her own salon.

Advisory Appreciation Brunch

The Advisory Appreciation Brunch was held on Sunday, March 1, 2020 from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. which included various food stations, student led tours and special programs in HVAC and Robotics and Automated Technology.

Open House

Open House was held on Sunday, March 1, 2020 from 1 – 3:30 p.m. Approximately 600 visitors were welcomed throughout the day, as well as Advisory Committee members, Joint Operating Committee member, EASTERN staff and administration. Thirteen post-secondary representatives were on hand.

Networking and Cybersecurity Rebranding

Mr. Joe Greb, EASTERN’s Assistant Director, presented an update on the efforts to rebrand and revise the Networking and Cybersecurity program. The marketing plan for the program included a press release introducing the new instructor, Mr. Mike Refsnider, an extensive social media plan with facts and figures regarding the lucrative job market in this field, and a targeted marketing campaign with AdTaxi.

School Directors’ Orientation

The School Directors’ Orientation program is provided to new and re-elected school board members with the information that is essential to making decisions about EASTERN as they serve on the sending school board. Thirty-three members were in attendance.

Career Pathway Charts

The EASTERN Career Pathway chart designs and colors have been updated for easier readability and printing. They are posted on the program web pages on www.eastech.org.

Career Expo

The number of students who participated in our 10th Grade Career Expo presentations is the highest it has been in ten years. 491 potential students visited two programs of their choice during the December and February visitations. This is an increase from 436 students the previous year.

SkillsUSA State Competition

The Joint Operating Committee approved 21 SkillsUSA members and two chaperones to attend the SkillsUSA state conference April 15 – 17, 2020 in Hershey, PA. EASTERN will pay for 13 district gold medal winners, and two chaperones.

Subsequently, due to the recent coronavirus outbreak, the SkillsUSA state conference has been cancelled. Students who wish to run for state office will be given an alternate method of application.

Building Report

EASTERN’s building updates continue with the removal of the trees in the main lobby. Concrete was poured in these areas to prepare for a new and more contemporary sitting area.

EASTERN’s Joint Operating Committee approved the award of contracts for the roof replacement and interior renovations for Robotics and Automated Technology.

EASTERN Foundation Fundraisers

The following EASTERN Foundation fundraisers will be postponed:

April 1, 2020 – Meal Fundraiser at Corner Bakery

April 2, 2020 – Designer Bag Bingo at Upper Moreland High School

April 17, 2020 – Murder Mystery/Silent Auction at Springfield Township Community Center

May 8, 2020 – EASTERN Bowling Fundraiser at Thunderbird Lanes

The following EASTERN Foundation fundraiser has been canceled for this year –

May 7, 2020 – BBQ Chicken Dinner

All who have purchased tickets/made reservations will receive an email from EASTERN’s Business Manager regarding refund options.

Please contact Amy Shields at ashields@eastech.org with any questions or concerns.