

## October 2020

*A report from the October 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

- September Student of the Month
- October Student of the Month
- Transition to Hybrid Instructional Model
- 2021 – 2022 Budget
- School-to-Career Coordinator Intern
- Cooperative Education Training Supervisors
- EASTERN Foundation Fundraisers
- Parents Night
- Facilities Report

### Coming Events

Joint Operating Committee Meeting  
Virtual - 8 PM

November 11, 2020  
December 9, 2020  
January 13, 2021  
February 10, 2021  
March 10, 2021  
April 14, 2021  
May 12, 2021  
June 16, 2021

*Get the Board Brief by email contact Amy Shields for more information at [ashields@eastech.org](mailto:ashields@eastech.org) 215.784.4806*

*Visit our website [www.eastech.org](http://www.eastech.org)*

*You can support the EASTERN Foundation online at: [Eastech.org/foundation/donate](http://Eastech.org/foundation/donate)*

### September Student of the Month

Kayla Marshall, a Cheltenham High School senior, is the September 2020 Student of the Month at Eastern Center for Arts and Technology (EASTERN) in Willow Grove. Kayla is being recognized for her outstanding work in EASTERN's Business and Technology Professional 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.

At Cheltenham High School, Kayla was already part of their Project Based Learning (PBL) program. In this program, her group worked on efforts to improve Curtis Arboretum, a 45-acre arboretum located in Wyncote. She worked with local companies to assist with funding the project, and she performed marketing tasks such as creating signage identifying trees within the arboretum. As a sophomore, she learned more about the Business and Technology Professional program at EASTERN and knew it would be a good fit for her.

As a junior, EASTERN's Business and Technology Professional Instructor, Marketa Crane, selected Kayla to shadow Pennsylvania Governor Tom Wolf's Deputy Press Secretary, Kevin Hensil, during Governor Wolf's December visit to EASTERN. This afforded her the rare opportunity to see how the Governor's office prepares for and conducts a school visit. At EASTERN's virtual Awards Night in May, Kayla received the Business and Technology Professional Outstanding Junior and Straight A Awards. Kayla was also recognized for being part of the team that received the gold medal for Opening and Closing Ceremonies at the SkillsUSA District Competition held in January. At Cheltenham High School, Kayla is an honor roll student, and participated in the musical, "Once on this Island."

After graduation from Cheltenham High School and EASTERN's Business and Technology Professional program, she hopes to attend college, and take part in an internship. Ultimately, she would like to own and operate her own food chain.

### October Student of the Month

Laurence Jacoby, a Springfield Township High School senior, is the October 2020 Student of the Month at EASTERN. Laurence is being recognized for his outstanding work in EASTERN's Commercial Art program.

Laurence comes from a family full of artists, including his mother and grandfather. Laurence knew that art was going to be a big part of his future as well. He found out more about EASTERN when he attended the Open House in eighth grade.

At EASTERN, Laurence is an active member of SkillsUSA, EASTERN's student leadership organization. He was part of the student team that won the gold medal for Opening and Closing Ceremonies at the SkillsUSA District Competition in January 2020. At EASTERN's virtual Awards Night in May 2020, Laurence received the Attendance, Director's, and Straight A Awards. At Springfield Township High School, Laurence is a member of the National Art Honor Society.

After graduation from Springfield High School and EASTERN's Commercial Art program, his goal is to attend University of the Arts in Philadelphia where he hopes to pursue a Bachelor of Fine Arts in their Animation program. He hopes to obtain an internship while in college, and ultimately, run his own animation business.

## October 2020

### Transition to Hybrid Instructional Model

The Joint Operating Committee approved EASTERN's transition to a hybrid model starting November 5, 2020. This coincides with the start of our second marking period. This recommendation is supported by our district Superintendents who have been and continue to be extremely supportive of EASTERN. All participating districts have committed to providing transportation to students starting November 5, even if the district is still in a virtual model.

We have made extensive modifications to our building to prepare for students to return for in-person instruction. These include the following:

- **Sanitizing Stations:** Hands-free sanitation stations have been installed at every entrance and sanitizer is available in every classroom
- **Restrooms:** Converted to hands-free functionality (soap, water, towels, and flushing)
- **Water fountains:** Replaced to include filtered fill-stations
- **HVAC System:** Increased air flow and filtration and installation of bipolar ionization
- **Nurse's Suite:** Moved to larger space to allow for social distancing and isolation room
- **Practical Nursing:** Entrance vestibule expanded to completely separate adult student access to building from secondary student access
- **Classrooms:** Learning stations are being set up and clearly marked in each program area to ensure social distancing

Session times will remain the same: 7:45 – 10:30 a.m., and 12 to 2:45 p.m. **Cohort A** will meet in-person on Mondays and Tuesdays. **Cohort B** will meet on Thursdays and Fridays. **Cohort C**, although not recommended for a long period of time, will be completely virtual.

Wednesdays will be virtual for all students and our facilities team will perform a deep cleaning of all areas of the building.

**Cohort A** consists of Abington, Cheltenham, Jenkintown, Lower Moreland, Springfield (last names A – M), and Bishop McDevitt High Schools.

**Cohort B** consists of Hatboro-Horsham, Springfield (last names N – Z), Upper Dublin, Upper Moreland, and Archbishop Wood High Schools.

Questions about schedules, safety protocols, and transportation is found on EASTERN's website – [www.eastech.org](http://www.eastech.org). Shortly, we will set up a platform to meet with parents virtually to review our safety plan and answer any questions or concerns they may have. We also have prepared training that will be delivered to students virtually to prepare them to return to school.

# BOARD BRIEF

### 2021 – 2022 Budget

Ms. Mary Martin, EASTERN's Business Manager, presented the 2021 – 2022 budget, which includes a capital projects budget line item for each district to maintain EASTERN facilities. To offset the impact of this assessment, EASTERN's operating budget was developed with a zero percent increase to the contributions from our participating school districts.

### School-to-Career Coordinator Intern

The Joint Operating Committee approved a new School-to-Career Coordinator Intern. Hayley Granacher, School-to-Career Coordinator, will work with Intern, Brittney McKenna, for her field experience Ms. McKenna needs to gain her CO-OP certification.

### Cooperative Education Training Supervisors

Cooperative education has resumed with proper precautions and permission forms in place for EASTERN students. Thank you to our newest Cooperative education Training Supervisors:

- Daniel Magee of Old School Burgers, Dogs & Shakes as Training Supervisor for EASTERN's Culinary Arts Student Logan Manton.
- Dean Seltzer of Techno Metal Post Montco LLC as Training Supervisor for EASTERN's Construction Technology Student Paul Seltzer.
- Bors of Faulkner Infinity of Willow Grove as Training Supervisor for EASTERN's Automotive Technology Student Owen Morrison.

### Foundation Fundraisers

On October 7, 2020, a meal fundraiser was held at Anthony's Coal Fired Pizza in Horsham. This event raised \$189.62. Thank you to all who participated.

The EASTERN Foundation is currently holding a fundraiser through Pampered Chef. Place orders by October 31, 2020 and EASTERN will receive 15 percent of sales. <https://www.pamperedchef.com/party/eastech>.

### Parent Night – Virtual

On September 14, 2020, EASTERN conducted its annual Parents Night-Virtual. Two hundred eighty-nine (289) individuals attended the event. Forty-eight percent (48%) or 289 of the students were represented by their parent(s)/guardian(s) at this event.

### Facilities Report

As part of EASTERN's 10-year Capital Plan, the Joint Operating Committee approved the following:

- Surveillance System Upgrade
- Access Control System Upgrade
- Intrusion Alarm System Upgrade