

November 2020

A report from the November 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.

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Coming Events

Joint Operating Committee Meeting
Virtual - 8 PM

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 215.784.4806

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November Student of the Month

Owen Morrison, an Upper Moreland High School senior, is the November 2020 Student of the Month at Eastern Center for Arts and Technology (EASTERN) in Willow Grove. Owen was recognized for his outstanding work in EASTERN's Automotive 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.

Owen's father and brother work in the HVAC field, so from a young age, Owen knew he wanted to work in a hands-on skilled trade. Because of his interest in cars, he visited both Automotive Technology and Collision Repair Technology during the 10th Grade Career Expo visit to EASTERN through Upper Moreland High School.

Through EASTERN, Owen will shortly begin a paid internship at Infinity Faulkner in Willow Grove, where he will work several days a week during the time frame when he would typically be at EASTERN. His Automotive Technology Instructor, George Stahl, will work with his Infinity Faulkner Supervisor, Chris Bors, on grading his internship. Owen was also selected by his instructor to be the student representative from the Automotive Technology Occupational Advisory Committee, a role in which he is encouraged to provide input on the program to enhance and improve curriculum.

Industry-standard certifications that Owen has already earned through his EASTERN Automotive Technology program are the Safety and Pollution Prevention (S/P2), and several Valvoline certifications including Automotive Chemicals 101, Automotive Fluids 101, and Motor Oil 101. At Upper Moreland High School, the majority of Owen's classes are honors-level.

"Owen understands the value of career and technical education," said George Stahl, EASTERN's Automotive Technology Instructor. "He has pride in his work and is enthusiastic about his future career goals."

After graduation from Upper Moreland High School and EASTERN, Owen plans to participate in an 18-month training program at Infinity Faulkner and enjoy a successful career as an Auto Technician.

September 30, 2020 Enrollment

EASTERN's September 30, 2020 enrollment report indicated 583 secondary school students.

November 2020

Joint Operating Committee Board Members

The Joint Operating Committee thanked Ms. Jennifer O'Rourke of Abington School District for her service to EASTERN.

Mr. Daniel Kaye was selected as Abington's representative with Mr. Brian Allen as the alternate for a three-year period commencing December 1, 2020 through November 30, 2023.

EASTERN Metrics for Operating in a Hybrid Instructional Model

On November 5, 2020 EASTERN transitioned from a virtual learning model to hybrid learning model using the following two metrics:

1. Montgomery County's classification remains "moderate" or "low" for transmission
2. Enough districts support EASTERN's hybrid model to allow at least 60% of our enrollment to participate.

On November 11, 2020, the Joint Operating Committee revised the metrics as follows:

EASTERN will operate in a hybrid instructional model when enough participating districts support a hybrid model at EASTERN to have at least 60% of EASTERN's enrollment participating. The administration has the authority to operate in primarily or solely virtual model where the impact of COVID-19 infections of students and/or staff compromises the effectiveness of the educational program to the point where the Executive Director, with approval of the Joint Operating Committee President and Superintendent of Record, determines it is the best interest of EASTERN to operate in a primarily or solely virtual model.

This allows EASTERN to follow the lead of the districts but also make changes to instructional models when extenuating circumstances necessitate the move to keep our staff and students safe. The health and well-being of our students, faculty and staff is our first priority.

BOARD BRIEF

2021 – 2022 High School Program Offerings

The Joint Operating Committee approved EASTERN's 2021 – 2022 Program Offerings.

Program Offerings can be found online at <https://easterncenter-5azrzv5xxf6aus3vm.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/2021-2022ProgramOfferings.pdf>.

EASTERN's 2019 – 2020 Annual Report

EASTERN's 2019 – 2020 Annual Report, a highlight of the year's activities and accomplishments, can be found online at <https://easterncenter-5azrzv5xxf6aus3vm.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/2020AnnualReport.pdf>

Student Success Coordinator – Part Time Long-Term Substitute

EASTERN appointed Ms. Tess Eichenberger as Student Success Coordinator – Part Time Long-Term Substitute. Ms. Eichenberger is filling in for Mrs. Veronica Stanley who is currently out on medical leave.

CTE Presidential Scholar Nomination

EASTERN nominated Veterinary Science/Abington Senior High School senior, Greg Destefano for the CTE Presidential Scholar program. Greg works part-time at Hamilton Animal Hospital.

After graduation from Abington Senior High School and EASTERN, Greg plans to attend Indiana University of Pennsylvania where he will major in Biology/Pre-Veterinary. Ultimately, he plans to become a Veterinarian for small animals.

EASTERN Foundation Fundraisers

The EASTERN Foundation has one reason for existing – to encourage students in their pursuit of career ambitions that were developed and strengthened by attending EASTERN. The Foundation does this by rewarding student success and achievement through scholarships and awards which are presented in May at our Annual Awards Night. Join us for our upcoming fundraisers. Please mention EASTERN to your cashier.

November 19, 2020

MOD Pizza at 4025 Welsh Road in Willow Grove on Thursday, 11/19 from 10:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.

December 11, 2020

Corner Bakery Cafe at 100 Welsh Road, in Horsham from 7:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.