

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S UPDATE

DR. CATHLEEN PLESNARSKI

### TOPICS

**Instruction at EASTERN**  
**Marketing and Recruitment**  
**September 30<sup>th</sup> Enrollment**  
**Leadership Recognition**  
**Student Recognition**  
**Competitive Grants**  
**2021-2022 Program Offerings**  
**Career Pathways Guide**

### Past Events

9/9 Virtual First Day for Students  
 9/14 Virtual Parents Night  
 9/16 Counselor/Special Education Liaison Meeting  
 9/24 Principals Advisory Committee Meeting  
 10/6 AAC Meeting  
 10/14 Virtual JOC Meeting  
 11/11 Virtual JOC Meeting  
 11/13 Virtual SkillsUSA District 2 Leadership Conference

### Upcoming Events

12/1 AAC Meeting  
 12/9 Virtual JOC Meeting  
 1/13 Virtual JOC Meeting  
 1/13 Counselor/Special Education Liaison Meeting  
 1/21-1/28 Virtual Career Expo  
 1/30 Principals' Advisory Committee Meeting

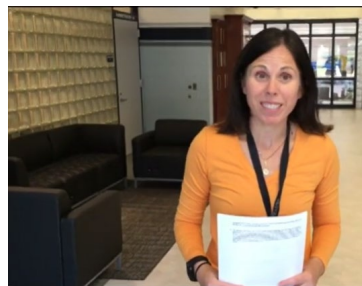
## Instruction at EASTERN

Like many schools across the world, EASTERN prepared the school and staff for educating students during a pandemic. We began the school year offering 100% virtual instruction to students and used that time to finish preparations for reopening the building. Building modifications included improved ventilation, hands-free functionality of bathrooms and fountains, disinfection stations and protocols, and an isolation room in the nurse's suite. Virtual instruction provided to students was mostly synchronous (live) with some time for independent work and teacher assistance.

On November 5<sup>th</sup>, we transitioned to an in-person, hybrid model. Communication went out with the schedule and safety protocols to ensure student and staff safety. Parents received Hybrid Safety Protocols, enrolled their student in either hybrid or virtual learning, and designated their transportation method. Our administrative team held a Town Hall Meeting on October 29, 2020. On arrival all students received an EASTERN Cares mask, water bottle and hand sanitizer.

EASTERN finished November operating in a virtual model as mandated by the Montgomery County Department of Health due to substantial transmission in the county. We look forward to returning to in-person instruction on December 7<sup>th</sup> when the mandate for virtual learning is lifted. Students and districts will follow our hybrid schedule when we reopen.

A special thanks to parents, students, and staff for demonstrating patience and resilience during these challenging and uncertain times.



## Virtual Marketing and Recruitment

Amy Shields, Marketing and Recruitment Coordinator developed virtual tours for our students knowing that it is unlikely during this time that we can host large groups of students in our building. The videos are posted on our website and give the "feel" of a live tour.

## September 30<sup>th</sup> Enrollment

The 2020-2021 official enrollment is 583 students, a large increase from last year's 522 students. EASTERN is now operating at 88% capacity with the following programs at maximum enrollment:

Allied Health  
 Automotive Technology  
 Construction Technology  
 Electrical Technology  
 HVAC  
 Veterinary Science  
 Welding Technology

## Leadership Recognition

The following JOC members will continue their service to EASTERN through November 30, 2023:

**Charles Burdell-Williams** of Cheltenham School District

**Carolyn Riley** of Jenkintown School District

EASTERN thanks **Jennifer O'Rourke** of Abington School District for her service and welcomes

**Daniel S. Kaye** to the JOC starting in December.

School District of Springfield Township Superintendent, **Dr. Nancy Hacker**, is retiring in December. We wish her the best and thank her for her 8 years of service to EASTERN.

## EASTERN Receives Competitive Grants

EASTERN has been awarded two competitive grants, Competitive Equipment Grant and Safe Schools Targeted Grant.

The Competitive Equipment Grant award of \$49,529 will be used to purchase equipment for our programs to keep our technical programs current with industry trends.

The Safe Schools Targeted Grant award of \$25,000 will be used to replace our video surveillance system.

## 2021-2022 High School Program Offerings

The Joint Operating Committee approved our program offerings for the 2021-2022 school year. In 2020-2021, EASTERN launched a new program: Robotics and Automated Technology. Programs offered at EASTERN will remain the same next year. The document can be found on our website.

## Career Pathways Guide

EASTERN would like to also share the [Career Pathways Guide](#). This guide provides a comprehensive overview of our career and technical programs and includes career pathways, program units of study, certifications offered, and much more!

## Student Recognition

The first three months of the school year have yielded some positive results and recognition for our students.

### Students of the Month for September - November

**Kayla Marshall**, Business and Technology Professional, Cheltenham

**Laurence Jacoby**, Commercial Art, Springfield

**Owen Morrison**, Automotive Technology, Upper Moreland

### EASTERN's Nominee for CTE Presidential Scholar

**Greg Destefano**, a Veterinary Science and Abington student was nominated by EASTERN as a candidate to the Pennsylvania Department of Education. We are pleased to announce that he was selected to continue to the national level. Best of luck to Greg!

### Cooperative Education Placements:

Students are working in local companies getting real-world experience:

**Logan Manton**, Culinary Arts and Abington student is working at Old School Burgers, Dogs, and Shakes under Training Supervisor, Daniel Magee.

**Paul Seltzer**, Construction Technology and Springfield student is working at Techno Metal Post Montco LLC under Training Supervisor, Dean Seltzer.

**Owen Morrison**, Automotive and Upper Moreland student is working at Faulkner Infinity of Willow Grove under Training Supervisor, Chris Bors.

### Student Leadership Development:

The following students participated in the SkillsUSA Leadership Conference and earned a certificate:

**Courtney Cole**, Business and Technology Professional, Springfield

**Noah Cruz**, Protective Services, Cheltenham

**Jessica Derricks**, Cosmetology, Abington

**Greg Destefano**, Veterinary Science, Abington

**Benjamin Hoffman**, Culinary Arts, Upper Dublin

**Owen Hoy**, Electrical Technology, Springfield

**Nina Ivey**, Cosmetology, Springfield

**Laurence Jacoby**, Commercial Art, Springfield

**Nydia Johnson**, Veterinary Science, Upper Moreland

**William Klanderman**, Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning, Lower Moreland

**Jonah Oberman**, Welding Technology, Abington

**Camryn Pressman**, Cosmetology, Lower Moreland

**Vincent Sturm**, Networking and Cybersecurity, Hatboro-Horsham

**Emilia Wanders**, Cosmetology, Abington