

March 2021

A report from the March 2021 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

- Student of the Month
- Robotics and Automated Technology Presentation
- Open House
- Career Expo
- Revised In-Person Instructional Model
- Retirement of Supervisor, Career and Technical Education
- Resignation of Accountant
- Articulation with Pennco Technical Institute
- New Occupational Advisory Committee Members Appointed
- American Culinary Federation Certification

Coming Events

Joint Committee Meeting
Via Zoom; 8 PM

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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March Student of the Month

Camryn Pressman, a Lower Moreland High School senior, is the March 2021 Student of the Month at Eastern Center for Arts and Technology (EASTERN) in Willow Grove. Camryn was 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 Camryn was in tenth grade, she attended an EASTERN presentation at Lower Moreland High School, and then visited EASTERN to learn more about the Cosmetology program. As someone who has always had an interest in the skincare and beauty field, Camryn found this program to be a great fit for her.

At EASTERN, Camryn is a student ambassador who speaks on behalf of her program at recruitment events. She is the Cosmetology program Class Representative for SkillsUSA, EASTERN's student leadership organization, and the Student Representative for the Cosmetology program's Occupational Advisory Committee. Camryn has earned many industry-standard certifications, including several Pravana Hair Color certifications, and her Barbacide certification which indicates her dedication to infection control in salons, spas, and barbershops. She has also attained the Careersafe Interview Skills Training certification.

Over the past two years, Camryn was selected by her EASTERN instructors to attend the Career and Technical Student Organization (CTSO) Fall Leadership Conference. This year, the Leadership conference was virtual. At the conference, Camryn earned her SkillsUSA Framework Certification, and the Statesman Assessment Award. SkillsUSA's Framework Certification is an e-learning module where participants learn about SkillsUSA and how it ensures the development of world-class workers, leaders and responsible American citizens through the SkillsUSA Framework. The Statesman Assessment Award is presented to members who demonstrate SkillsUSA knowledge and civic awareness, along with an understanding of the SkillsUSA Framework and how to articulate their personal career and technical education (CTE) experience. In May of 2020, at EASTERN's virtual Awards Night, Camryn received the Cosmetology Outstanding Junior Award.

At Lower Moreland High School, Camryn has been on the honor roll since 2017. She has also participated in Mini THON in 2018 and 2019. Mini-THON is the largest student-run philanthropy organization in the world, with all proceeds going to help fight pediatric cancer at the Penn State Hershey Medical Center. Outside of school, Camryn also works part-time as a Shampoo Technician at Renee Foxx Salon.

After graduation from Lower Moreland High School and EASTERN, Camryn plans to attend Temple University for Business Management. She plans to start off working at a salon, and eventually open her own.

Robotics and Automated Technology Presentation

Mr. Chris Passante, Robotics and Automated Technology program teacher, presented to the Joint Operating Committee to give an update on the launch of the program. Mr. Passante gave an overview of his industry background and certifications before focusing his presentation implementation of additional industry certifications, use of donated/loaned equipment, and cultivation of industry partnerships.

Open House

EASTERN’s 2021 Open House was held virtually on Sunday, March 7 from 1- 3:30 p.m. All teachers provide three 30-minute presentations, and the fourth session was Q&A for parents and students. We are very thankful to our district counselors who helped to push the invitation to 9th, 10th, and interested 11th grade students. While the turnout was lower than our traditional Open House, we estimate that each program received an average of 20 students.

Career Expo

EASTERN held its Career Expo visitation virtually on Thursday, February 25, 2021 in both the morning and afternoon sessions. We had 258 potential students participate. While this number is lower than the typical in-house visitation, we feel as though it was properly targeted.

Revised In-Person Instruction Model

The Joint Operating Committee authorized the Executive Director to increase the number of in-person instructional days at EASTERN, up to 5 days per week, upon advanced approval of the Joint Operating Committee President and the Superintendent of Record, and upon advanced notice to all members of the Joint Operating Committee. At this time, EASTERN is surveying the parents for feedback to select between bringing all students back four days per week or only bringing seniors back four days per week. Once a final schedule is determined, EASTERN will notify parents and students and post the schedule on EASTERN’s website, www.eastech.org.

Retirement of Supervisor of Career and Technical Education

The Joint Operating Committee accepted of the retirement of Allison Larson, Supervisor of Career and Technical Education, effective June 30, 2021. Mrs. Larson was thanked for her dedicated service and her many contributions to the betterment of the school. Allison Larson has served this school since July 1, 2012.

Resignation of Accountant

The Joint Operating Committee approved resignation of Lieu Kim, EASTERN’s Accountant, effective March 17, 2021. Ms. Kim has served EASTERN since August 27, 2018.

EASTERN Articulation Agreement with Pennco Technical Institute

EASTERN Automotive Technology, Electrical Technology, and Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning students can benefit from a new partnership with Pennco Technical Institute This agreement creates a systematic and seamless process in which students can move from high school to Pennco Tech without having to duplicate efforts or repeat courses in their degreed programs.

New Occupational Advisory Committee Members Appointed

The following Occupational Advisory Committee Members were approved by the Joint Operating Committee:

Automotive Technology

Will Morales (Mercedes Benz of Fort Washington)

Automotive Technician Heating, Air Conditioning & Ventilation

Kate Duffey (D.E. Duffey & Sons) Manager

Welding Technology

Tim Merz (FKB) Director of Fabrication James Haimovitz (Middle Bucks Institute of Technology) Instructor

Certificate of Accreditation – American Culinary Federation

EASTERN’s Culinary Art program has received a Certificate of Accreditation from the Accrediting Commission of the American Culinary Federation Education Foundation through December 31, 2025.