

December 2023

A report from the December 2023 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

- December Student of the Month
- EASTERN's Open House
- Key Indicators and Placement
- Joint Operating Committee Reorganization
- Grant for Collision Repair
- Donations
- SkillsUSA - Leadership
- 2024 – 2025 Budget
- Personnel
- Cooperative Education/Internships
- Community Service Month

Coming Events

Joint Committee Meeting

February 14, 2024

**March 13, 2024

April 10, 2024

**May 8, 2024

June 19, 2024

**Seminar Room 8 PM

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

Visit our website

www.eastech.org

December Student of the Month

Kenneth McKenzie, an Abington Senior High School senior, is the December 2023 Student of the Month at Eastern Center for Arts and Technology (EASTERN) in Willow Grove. Kenneth is being recognized for his outstanding work in EASTERN's Protective Services program. The Student of the Month Award is sponsored by EASTERN's faculty, the 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 Kenneth was in tenth grade at Abington Senior High School, he visited EASTERN. Before the visit, Kenneth knew that EASTERN was a career and technical high school that provided training in skilled trades. When he visited the Protective Services program, he knew this would be a great head start on his career in the military and emergency medicine.

At EASTERN, Kenneth is on the Protective Services Occupational Advisory Committee as a student representative and is the Protective Services class Lieutenant, which is the highest rank. As a junior, he received the Straight A Award at EASTERN's Awards Night ceremony held in May 2023. In the community, Kenneth is a volunteer member at Second Alarmers Rescue Squad, a Junior Volunteer Firefighter at Abington Fire Company, and is in the Recruit Sustainment Program for the Army National Guard. He has already obtained his Firefighter 1 certification. In February 2024, Kenneth will begin an internship at the Willow Grove Second Alarmer's Association & Rescue Squad.

"Kenneth is organized, dedicated, and a role model for the class," said Mr. Michael Raggi, EASTERN's Protective Services Instructor. "He understands the value of volunteerism and truly wants to give back to his community. I am proud of his efforts and am thrilled to see him honored as EASTERN's December Student of the Month."

After graduation from EASTERN and Abington Senior High School, Kenneth will attend basic training and advanced individualized training for the Army National Guard. He then plans to attend postsecondary for a degree in public health/emergency medicine and to obtain his paramedic certification.

Mark Your Calendar for EASTERN's Open House

Open House at Eastern Center for Arts and Technology (EASTERN) in Willow Grove is Sunday, **March 3, 2024** from 1 – 3:30 p.m. This is a great opportunity for parents of high school students in Eastern Montgomery County to see how EASTERN can give students a competitive edge in college or in a specialized career program.

December 2023	BOARD BRIEF
Key Indicators and Placement Reports The Joint Operating Committee approved the 2023 Key Indicator Data and Placement reports. New metrics include EASTERN retention versus Program Retention, Regular Attendance, and Placement based on respondents and Placement response percentage. Joint Operating Committee Reorganization The Joint Operating Committee appoints their new President and Vice President, and several new members. President – Ms. Carolyn Riley, Jenkintown Vice President – Mr. Charles Burdell-Williams, Cheltenham New Members: Abington – Ms. Elizabeth Eisenhart Upper Dublin – Ms. Jennifer Iannitti Springfield – Ms. Ilene Bell Grants for Collision Repair Technology The Joint Operating Committee approved the ICAR Benchmark Grant for the Collision Repair Technology program which consisted of a Spray Gun and a \$5,000 award. Donations: The Joint Operating Committee approved for following donations: - Assorted Hair Colors and Products were donated by Shannon Walker, CosmoProf Representative, for use in the Cosmetology program. - MSA Air Packs (4) were donated by Roslyn Fire Company for use in the Protective Services program. - Personal Protective Equipment (13) was donated by Horsham Fire Company for use in the Protective Services program. - Gear motor with tachometer feedback was donated by Neil Goldberg, ERRC, for use in the Robotics and Automated Technology program. - A welding jacket and helmet were donated by Trish Strass for use in the Welding Technology program. - Stainless steel parts were donated by Neil Goldberg, USDA, for use in the Welding Technology program. SkillsUSA – Leadership Conference On November 15-17, 2023, a delegation of 36 EASTERN SkillsUSA students and four faculty advisors participated in the SkillsUSA Leadership Conference at Kalahari Resorts in Pocono Manor, PA. Approximately 250 students from six different career and technical centers from Bucks, Delaware, and Montgomery Counties attended the District 2 Leadership Conference. A total of 72 medals were awarded to the EASTERN participants, including 55 gold medals, 10 silver medals, and 7 bronze medals. All medalists can be found online at https://www.eastech.org/post-details/~board/news-releases/post/eastern-students-participate-in-fall-leadership-conference.	Personnel Retirements The Joint Operating Committee approved the resignation of two Administrative Assistants. Kathleen Kane, Administrative Assistant for Attendance, will retire effective May 6, 2024. Terese Fusco, Administrative Assistant to the Assistant Director, will retire effective June 4, 2024. We appreciate their dedication to students over the years. Cooperative Education/Internships The Joint Operating Committee approved the following cooperative education supervisors for the following students: Christian Cole (Upper Moreland/Automotive Technology) to work at Land Rover Willow Grove under the supervision of Dan Checcia. Lucas Pellicciotti (Hatboro-Horsham/Collision Repair Technology) to work at Thompson Detail Center under the supervision of Chris Milili. Kaylee Pearsall (Upper Moreland/Construction Technology) to work at Tilghman Builders under the supervision of John Melle. Tom Boscola (Hatboro-Horsham/Construction Technology) to work at Blue Spruce Builders under the supervision of Christopher Kerstetter. Kenneth McKenzie (Abington/Protective Services) to work under the supervision of Kenneth Davidson. December is Community Service Month at EASTERN Throughout December, EASTERN is recognizing students who have dedicated their time and energy to our local community. Students recognized include: Abby Bilotta – Cosmetology/Upper Moreland Au Loni Hameen – Exercise Science/Cheltenham Jacob Parkinson – Welding /Hatboro-Horsham Alondra Rivera Fonseca – Protective Services/Springfield Kenneth Lawyer – Protective Services/Abington Charlie Cribb – Welding /Upper Moreland Lathan Miller – Exercise Science/Abington Sophie Williamson – Welding /Springfield Jeremiah Lee – Culinary Arts/Abington Xavier Watson-Greene – Protective Services/Abington