

February 2024

A report from the February 2024 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

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- Donations
- Summer Cosmetology
- Grant Approvals
- 2024 – 2025 School Budget
- SkillsUSA District Competition
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- Cooperative Education/Internship
- EASTERN's Open House – March 3, 2024
- New School Board Member Orientation

Coming Events

Joint Committee Meeting

**March 13, 2024

April 10, 2024

**May 8, 2024

June 19, 2024

**Seminar Room 8 PM

*Get the Board Brief by email
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Visit our website

www.eastech.org

January Student of the Month

Theodore Stadanlick, a Jenkintown High School senior, is the January 2024 Student of the Month at Eastern Center for Arts and Technology (EASTERN). Theodore is being recognized for his outstanding work in EASTERN's Collision Repair Technology 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.

Theodore first learned about EASTERN from a friend from school who was a senior in Welding Technology. When he was in tenth grade, he came to visit EASTERN, and Collision Repair Technology was one of the programs he chose to tour. Theodore immediately felt like he belonged in that program and was excited to bring his family to EASTERN's Open House.

Theodore is extremely active at EASTERN. His instructor chose him to attend the Career and Technical Student Organization (CTSO) Leadership Conference in the Poconos in November 2022. He was as a student volunteer for EASTERN's Open House in March 2023. He volunteered as a student speaker for the EASTERN recruitment presentation at Jenkintown High School in 2022 and 2023. He also received the prestigious Director's Award at EASTERN's Awards Night ceremony in May 2023.

After graduation from EASTERN and Jenkintown High School, Theodore plans to attend Penn College of Technology in Williamsport, PA to continue his Collision Repair education.

February Student of the Month

Jane Rickards, an Abington Senior High School senior, is the February 2024 Student of the Month at EASTERN. Jane is being recognized for her outstanding work in EASTERN's Robotics and Automated Technology program.

Before enrolling in EASTERN's Robotics and Automated Technology program, Jane actively participated in the 3-D Printing Club at Abington Senior High School. Her fascination with technology led her to explore EASTERN during her tenth grade year, prompted by a presentation at Abington Senior High School and insights from EASTERN/Abington students sharing their experiences. During her visit in tenth grade, she had the opportunity to observe the Robotics and Automated Technology as well as Welding Technology programs.

Jane is extremely active at EASTERN. Last year she was nominated by her Robotics and Automated Technology Instructor for a National Women's History Month student spotlight. She is a member of SkillsUSA, EASTERN's student leadership organization, and was part of the team that participated in the Chapter Display competitions in 2023 and is competing again this school year. On January 30, 2024, Jane and a classmate received the silver medal in the SkillsUSA District Competition for Mechatronics. Jane was selected by EASTERN's Facilities Team to work on electrical and facility upgrades as a paid intern over the summer of 2023. At EASTERN's Awards Night in May 2023, Jane received the Straight A Award.

After graduation from EASTERN and Abington Senior High School, Jane plans to attend Penn State Abington, and then complete her degree in Electromechanical Engineering at Penn State Berks.

February 2024

Donations

The Joint Operating Committee approved the following donations made in December 2023 and January 2024:

- Assorted hair colors donated by Lindsay Herder, Willa Company, for use in the Cosmetology program.
- Latex gloves were donated by the Collision Repair Education Foundation for use in the Collision Repair Technology program.

Summer Cosmetology

The Joint Operating Committee approved EASTERN's hosting of the Summer Cosmetology program, which allows our students to earn an extra 150 hours per summer to help them achieve the required 1,250 hours required for their state Cosmetology license.

Grants

The Joint Operating Committee approved three grants:

- Competitive Equipment Grant for \$85,000 to provide equipment for Welding Technology, Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning, and Automotive Technology.
- Supplemental Equipment Grant for an estimated \$137,969 for equipment in Culinary Arts, Design, Photography and Illustration, Robotics and Automated Technology, and Welding Technology.
- TruMark Financial Credit Union for \$1,000 for Business and Technology Professional classroom supplied.

SkillsUSA District Competition

Sixty-three students from the Eastern Center for Arts and Technology (EASTERN) participated in skill areas or leadership at the SkillsUSA District Competitions held on January 18 at Bucks County Technical High School, January 26 at Montgomery County Community College, January 30 at North Montco Technical Career Center, January 24, February 6 and 7, 2024 at Western Montgomery Career and Technology Center. Gold Medal winners will compete at April's State championship. Medalists from EASTERN are here - <http://tinyurl.com/mrmjtf8>

2024 – 2025 School Budget

The Joint Operating Committee acknowledged the adoption of EASTERN's budget by our districts and authorized us to submit it to the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

BOARD BRIEF

Personnel

New Student Success Aide Appointed

The Joint Operating Committee approved the appointment of Daphne Johnson as Student Success Aide, effective January 22, 2024.

Cooperative Education/Internships

The Joint Operating Committee approved the following cooperative education supervisors for the following students:

- Christopher Bors of Faulkner Maserati as Training Supervisor for EASTERN's Automotive Technology students Ayden Balis and Ryan Detwiler / Abington.
- Richard Lanci of BMW of Fort Washington as Training Supervisor for EASTERN's Automotive Technology student Nick D'Alessio / Abington.
- Clifton Hamilton of Proper Sky as Training Supervisor for EASTERN's Networking and Cybersecurity student Henry Berson / Cheltenham.
- Toni Cates of SPS Technologies as Training Supervisor for EASTERN's Robotics and Automated Technology student Quinten Lennon / Abington.
- Dana Quinn of Horsham Vet Hospital as Training Supervisor for EASTERN's Veterinary Science student Olivia Narodowski / Upper Dublin.
- Tom Toth of O'Donnell Metal Fabricators as Training Supervisor for EASTERN's Welding Technology student Anthony Richardson / Abington.

EASTERN's Open House

Open House at EASTERN is Sunday, March 3 from 1 – 3:30 p.m. No pre-registration required. Please contact Amy Shields at ashields@eastech.org with questions. Learn more here - <http://tinyurl.com/5dbwj2r3>

New School Board Member Orientation

Prior the Open House on March 3, 2024, EASTERN will hold a New School Board Member Orientation from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The orientation will be held in EASTERN's Seminar Room. Light refreshments (tasting stations) will be available for new School Board Members, and a tour of EASTERN will be provided at 12:15 p.m.

All New or Re-Elected School Board Members who have not yet RSVP'd, please contact Linda McAlpine at LMcAlpine@eastech.org.