

September 2024

A report from the September 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

- September Student of the Month
- Cosmetology Curriculum Hours
- Veterinary Science Student Interns
- Part-Time Administrative Assistant Appointed
- Practical Nursing Adjunct Instructor Appointed
- Culinary Arts Design and Intent to Bid
- Designer Bag Bingo

Coming Events

Joint Committee Meeting
Online via Zoom
*Seminar Room 8 PM

October 9, 2024
*November 13, 2024
*December 11, 2024
January 8, 2025
February 12, 2025
*March 12, 2025
April 9, 2025
*May 14, 2025
June 18, 2025

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Visit our website

www.eastech.org

September Student of the Month

Kendra Hern, a Lower Moreland High School senior, is the September 2024 Student of the Month at Eastern Center for Arts and Technology (EASTERN) in Willow Grove. Kendra is being recognized for her outstanding work in EASTERN's Protective Services 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.

Kendra has always had a passion for law enforcement but wasn't sure which area to pursue. After attending an EASTERN presentation at her high school and touring the Protective Services classroom, she knew it was the perfect place to explore career options in the field and acquire valuable skills. Since joining the program, Kendra has emerged as a leader, setting an example for her peers. Her experiences at EASTERN have solidified her goal of becoming a State Trooper with the Search and Rescue K9 Division.

At EASTERN, Kendra actively volunteers for events to promote her program. She speaks with tenth graders at Lower Moreland High School during EASTERN's Career Expo presentation and helps showcase the equipment used in her program during EASTERN's Open House. As a junior, her instructor selected her to attend the Career and Technical Student Organization (CTSO) Leadership Conference in the Poconos, an experience she credits with helping her come out of her shell. Also, as a junior, Kendra competed locally in the SkillsUSA Action Skills competition, where she showcased her ability to put on her firefighter suit and apparatus quickly and correctly.

Outside of school, Kendra channels her energy and creativity into her job as a Barista at Maggio's in Huntingdon Valley. She is also participating in the Second Alarmer's Association and Rescue Squad EMT Course, which she will proudly complete in October. Kendra hopes to begin an internship with the Second Alarmers this school year.

"I am incredibly proud of Kendra and her accomplishments this year," said Mr. Michael Raggi, EASTERN Protective Services Instructor. "She is professional, consistently helpful, and deeply dedicated to her career path. I look forward to seeing what she will achieve in her senior year."

Kendra has several important plans for her future. She is currently deciding which military branch she would like to join after graduation. Following her military service, she plans to attend college to study criminology. Kendra aims to join the State Police Academy, starting in Highway Patrol and eventually moving up to become a State Trooper.

Cosmetology Curriculum Hours

The Joint Operating Committee approved Cosmetology instruction during the three in-service days on November 5, 2024, February 14, 2024, and May 20, 2025.

Personnel

Veterinary Science Student Interns Appointed

The Joint Operating Committee approved the appointment of the following Veterinary Science students as weekend interns to care for on-site animals.

- McKenzie Cowley– Hatboro-Horsham High School
- Abigail Keck – Upper Dublin High School

Adult Supervisors for the weekend animal care include the following EASTERN staff members:

- Karen McGeehan, Veterinary Science Instructor
- Elena Hays, Instructional Aide
- Mary McDonnell, Administrative Assistant, Practical Nursing
- Marketa Crane, Human Resource Coordinator
- Eileen Collins, Administrative Assistant to the CTE Supervisor
- Trisha Simmler-Totaro, Instructional Aide for Design, Photography, and Illustration.

Part-Time Administrative Assistant

The Joint Operating Committee approved Shannon Rowley-Lavelle for the position of Part-Time Administrative Assistant to the Main Office. Ms. Rowley-Lavelle comes to EASTERN from Germantown Friends School where she served as a classroom teacher.

Practical Nursing Adjunct Instructor

The Joint Operating Committee approved Sheri Johnson, MSN, RN, CPN, CCM as a Practical Nursing Adjunct Instructor. Ms. Johnson comes to EASTERN from St. Christopher’s Hospital for Children where she served as Director of Case Management.

Facilities

Culinary Arts Design and Intent to Bid

The Joint Operating Committee approved Phase 5 Renovations plans and approved Breslin Ridyard Fadero to bid out the project. Culinary program renovations are being done to meet the following goals:

- To create a teaching kitchen for level 1 students by installing ranges at each station including appropriate sinks.
- To enlarge the kitchen by eliminating the office and theory room to split those spaces between Culinary 1 and Culinary 2.
- To increase capacity by eight (8) seats.
- To increase visibility while in the kitchen by opening the spaces, removing some walls, and adding windows.
- To increase supervision of students by moving dry storage to a central location, and opening visibility to back areas.
- To add new equipment to replace old and failing systems.
- To increase safety by replacing/upgrading an exhaust hood system.

Designer Bag Bingo

EASTERN is holding its Designer Bag Bingo on October 7, 2024, at Upper Moreland High School in the cafeteria. Bingo will be held from 6 – 8 p.m. and doors will open at 5 p.m.

Tickets are \$30.00 online in advance (10 games + dauber), or \$35.00 cash only at the door. Extra games can be purchased at the event ~ 1 set of 10 additional for \$25 or \$5 each (cash only.) Snacks will be available for purchase (cash only), but please feel free to bring your own food.

There will be a 50/50 and gift basket raffles.

Alcohol is NOT permitted at the event nor on the school grounds. No checks or credit cards will be accepted at the event.

All proceeds will benefit SkillsUSA and the EASTERN Foundation, which in turn, benefits our EASTERN students. Reserve your seats here – <https://my.cheddarup.com/c/eastern-designer-bag-bingo/items?cart>.