EASTERN
CENTER FOR ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY

BOARD BRIEF

December 2024

A report from the December 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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- Professional Staff
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Coming Events

Joint Committee Meeting

January 8, 2025
February 12, 2025
*March 12, 2025
April 9, 2025
*May 14, 2025
June 18, 2025
**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

Angelina Tang, an Upper Dublin High School senior, is the December 2024 Student of the Month at Eastern Center for Arts and Technology (EASTERN) in Willow Grove. Angelina is being recognized for her outstanding work in EASTERN's Culinary Arts 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.

Angelina believes the culinary field is her true calling. During the 10th grade at Upper Dublin, she attended EASTERN's Career Expo and discovered that the Culinary Arts program was the perfect fit for her. The program has allowed her to combine her passion for food with the opportunity to connect with like-minded individuals, helping her gain confidence and come out of her shell.

At EASTERN, Angelina is extremely involved with SkillsUSA, EASTERN's student leadership organization, and was elected School-Wide Secretary. She was also selected to represent the student voice for EASTERN's Executive Advisory Committee, and the Partnership/Perception Committee. Through her Culinary Arts program, she received the ServSafe Food Handler, an industry-standard certification. As a junior in the Culinary Arts program, Angelina received the Culinary Arts Alumni Tool of the Trade, Director's, and the Straight A Awards at EASTERN's Awards Night.

She has actively volunteered to support the Culinary Arts instructors with numerous after-school events and recruitment activities, including the annual Joint Operating Committee dinner, the Kiwanis Club of Old York Road Holiday Breakfast, the Career Expo, and the Open House. Outside of school, Angelina works at Bredenbeck's Bakery as a Pastry Decorator.

Angelina is setting her sights on Johnson & Wales University, where she plans to specialize in Baking and Pastry Arts. With her passion for culinary excellence, she aims to gain hands-on industry experience and master her craft. In the long term, Angelina aspires to share her knowledge and inspire future chefs by becoming a Culinary Arts instructor, blending her love for food with a commitment to shaping the next generation of culinary professionals.

Mark Your Calendar for EASTERN's Open House

Open House at Eastern Center for Arts and Technology (EASTERN) in Willow Grove is Sunday, **March 2, 2025,** from 1 – 3:00 p.m. This is a wonderful 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.

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Key Indicators and Placement Reports

The Joint Operating Committee approved the 2024 Key Indicator Data and Placement reports.

Joint Operating Committee Reorganization

The Joint Operating Committee approved the following officer terms:

- **Treasurer – Marta Mecray**
  One-Year Term: July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025
- **Secretary – Ms. Katie Braun**
  Four-Year Term: July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2026
- **Superintendent of Record – Dr. Jeffrey Fecher**
  Two-Year Term: July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2026

The Board also acknowledged the terms and members for each participating district:

Term: December 2024 – November 2027

- Bryn Athyn – Mr. Edmund Rhodes
- Springfield – Ms. Ilene Bell
- Upper Moreland – Ms. LouCrecie Garlanger

Term: December 2023 – November 2026

- Abington – Ms. Elizabeth Eisenhart
- Cheltenham – Mr. Charles Burdell-Williams
- Jenkintown – Ms. Carolyn Riley

Term: December 2022 – November 2025

- Hatboro-Horsham – Ms. Tara Conner-Hallston
- Lower Moreland – Dr. James Lee
- Upper Dublin – Ms. Jennifer Iannitti

Donation

The Joint Operating Committee approved the following donation:

- Vending Machine donated by EASTERN's Educators Association.

Expanding EASTERN

The Joint Operating Committee approved EASTERN's Administration to explore alternative spaces for the Practical Nursing Program to lease so that space within EASTERN can be reconfigured to house a new program, Building Trades. This new program will provide more opportunities for students in our participating districts.

Professional Staff

The Joint Operating Committee approved Mr. Hugh Warnock as a Substitute for the Electrical Technology program, and Ms. Meghan Clinefelter as a Substitute for Design, Photography, and Illustration.

Classified Staff

The Joint Operating Committee accepted the resignation of Construction Cluster Occupational Aide, Ivan Cruz, effective November 18, 2024.

Robert Laird was approved to serve as Interim Construction Cluster Occupational Aide until a replacement is hired.

Practical Nursing

The Joint Operating Committee approved Mr. Richard Hagy, BSN, RN, as an adjunct instructor for Practical Nursing.

Internship Supervisors Approved

The Joint Operating Committee approved the following Internship Supervisors:

- John Curran of Kern Electric to supervise John Zygmont, Electrical Technology/Hatboro-Horsham.
- John Busillo of Earthborne to supervise Cory Davis from Business and Technology Professional/Upper Dublin
- Greg Weikel of Swartley Brothers Engineering, Inc. to supervise John McCaffery, Robotics and Automated Technology/Springfield.

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:

- Aidan Praeger – Welding Technology/Abington
- Avery Cleary – Protective Services/Springfield Township
- Eddie O'Brien – Welding Technology/Abington
- Logan Sellers – Protective Services/Hatboro-Horsham
- Matthew Lesniak – Welding Technology/Upper Dublin
- Nia Bonaparte – Allied Health/Cheltenham