

**EASTERN CENTER FOR ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY
JOINT OPERATING COMMITTEE MINUTES**

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2025

Ms. Carolyn Riley, President, called the public meeting of the Joint Operating Committee to order at 8:00 p.m. via Zoom with the following members in attendance:

Ms. Elizabeth Eisenhart	Abington
	Bryn Athyn
Mr. Charles Burdell-Williams	Cheltenham
Ms. Tara Conner-Hallston	Hatboro-Horsham
Ms. Carolyn Riley	Jenkintown
	Lower Moreland
Ms. Ilene Bell	Springfield
Ms. Jennifer Iannitti	Upper Dublin
	Upper Moreland
Christina Gallagher	Solicitor
	Superintendent of Record
Dr. Cathleen Plesnarski	Executive Director
Ms. Katie Braun	Business Manager

A motion carried unanimously will necessarily, by reference, include each voting member in attendance.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

Kenneth Lawyer and Andrew Rodriguez led the Joint Operating Committee and audience in a salute to the flag.

MINUTES

Ms. Jennifer Iannitti moved approval of the Joint Operating Committee minutes of the agenda session and regular session meetings of December 11, 2024.

Motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT

Ms. Christina Gallagher announced that an Executive Session was not held before the public meeting.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

Informational:

Student Success

Automotive Dealers Association of Greater Philadelphia (ADAGP)

On Jan 14, 6 EASTERN students headed to the Philly Convention Center for the 2025 Greater Philadelphia Auto Tech Competition! They took the written exam, networked, joined educational sessions, & visited the Philly Car Show.

Kyle Smith from Upper Moreland High School and Joseph Thompson from Hatboro-Horsham Senior High School earned scores that advanced them to the hands-on competition to be held Friday, March 7, 2025, at the Automotive Training Center in Warminster, PA.

EASTERN celebrated Community Service Month in December by featuring some of our students, their voices and experiences.

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

EASTERN celebrated Entrepreneurship Month in January by featuring some of our students, their voices and experiences.

Izzy Hicks	Hatboro-Horsham	Allied Health
Nonkulueko Waters	Upper Moreland	Protective Services

EASTERN will celebrate Black History Month in February by featuring some of our students, their voices and experiences.

Jalya Martin	Cheltenham	Cosmetology
Naima Tijani	Abington	Culinary Arts
Christine Singleton	Cheltenham	Culinary Arts
Adrayanna Douglas	Jenkintown	Robotics and Automated Technology
Mirya Smith	Upper Moreland	Allied Health
Amira Banks	Cheltenham	Exercise Science and Rehabilitation
Chaze Shakoor	Jenkintown	Veterinary Science
Leila Johnson	Cheltenham	Robotics and Automated Technology
Khafra Anyika	Cheltenham	Welding Technology

SkillsUSA Local Competitions *

EASTERN held the nationally recognized SkillsUSA Leadership organizations local competitions from November 11th through December 13th. EASTERN students were able to compete in 14 leadership competitions and 38 trade competitions. We had 81 first place winners, including winning teams, who will attend the district level competitions.

SkillsUSA District Competitions *

SkillsUSA District 2 Competitions were hosted by Western Montgomery Career and Technology Center in Limerick, PA. Competitions were held at various CTC centers in Bucks and Montgomery County. EASTERN students competed in competitions starting on January 16, 2025, and concluded on February 5, 2025.

The Gold Medal winners will compete at April's State championship in Hershey, PA.

Tour

Dr. Cathleen Plesnarski and Amy Shields provided a tour of our programs to the Lower Moreland Assistant Superintendent Dr. Julie Henrich and Director of Teaching and Learning Mr. Scott Cole on January 31, 2025.

Open House – Sunday, March 2, 2025

Open House: 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm.

- Districts send invitations to all Grade 6 to 11th families.
- Programs will be available to tour and include a chance to talk to the instructor

Career Expo Report *

Carolyn Riley will share the Career Expo report of the number of students who participated in the visitation.

Grant

EASTERN has been awarded an \$85,000 Competitive Equipment Grant.

Special congratulations to Mr. Greb for writing and receiving this grant for our programs. This money will be used to purchase equipment for Welding, Automotive, and Electrical.

Welding Technology

- Welder
- Virtual Reality Welder
- Pipe Beveler

Automotive Technology

- Alignment Machine

Electrical Technology

- Electrical Punch Tool

Practical Nursing Graduation

Carolyn Riley will inform the committee that graduation exercises for the Practical Nursing Class #160 was held on December 12, 2024 and Class #165 on January 30, 2025 at Upper Moreland Middle School auditorium.

EASTERN Foundation *

The EASTERN Foundation Meeting minutes from February 5, 2025 are attached for your review.

Over the holidays, the Foundation held a fundraiser with See's Candy. The event raised \$3.07.

FINANCIAL REPORT – For the Period Ending December 31, 2024

Informational:

The Joint Operating Committee acknowledged receipt of the following:

- Statement of Revenues and Expenditures as presented
- Status of the Capital Reserves Fund Revenues for the period ended December 31, 2024, showing cash and investment balances of \$2,935,151.17 is presented for your information and review.

Action:

Treasurer's Report *

Ms. Tara Conner-Hallston moved acceptance of the Treasurer's Report for the period ended December 31, 2024, showing a General Fund cash and investment balances of \$6,376,535.46 and total assets of \$7,146,140.71 and the status of the Student Activity account.

Motion carried unanimously.

Disbursements *

Ms. Tara Conner-Hallston moved approval of accounts payable checks #36916 through #36991 disbursed during the period of 12/01/2024 through 12/31/2024 in the amount of \$120,817.61.

Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Tara Conner-Hallston moved approval of expense disbursement wire/ACH transfers #WT250114 through #WT250132 disbursed during the period of 12/01/2024 through 12/31/2024 in the amount of \$643,057.62.

Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Tara Conner-Hallston moved approval of payroll vouchers #09803 through #09955 disbursed on 12/13/2024 and 12/27/2024 in the amount of \$260,331.45.

Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Tara Conner-Hallston moved approval of capital reserve disbursement check #11202 disbursed during the period of 12/01/2024 through 12/31/2024 in the amount of \$39,591.71.

Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Tara Conner-Hallston moved approval of student activities disbursement checks #82126 through #82127 disbursed during the period of 12/01/2024 through 12/31/2024 in the amount of \$1,756.56.

Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Tara Conner-Hallston moved approval of the proposed budget transfers for December 2024.

Motion carried unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORT – For the Period Ending January 31, 2025

Informational:

The Joint Operating Committee acknowledged receipt of the following:

- Statement of Revenues and Expenditures as presented
- Status of the Capital Reserves Fund Revenues for the period ended January 31, 2025, showing cash and investment balances of \$3,081,784.66 is presented for your information and review.

Action:

Treasurer's Report *

Ms. Tara Conner-Hallston moved acceptance of the Treasurer's Report for the period ended January 31, 2025, showing a General Fund cash and investment balances of \$6,992,221.44 and total assets of \$8,509,807.95 and the status of the Student Activity account.

Motion carried unanimously.

Disbursements *

Ms. Tara Conner-Hallston moved approval of accounts payable checks #36992 through #37140 disbursed during the period of 1/01/2025 through 1/31/2025 in the amount of \$296,543.35.

Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Tara Conner-Hallston moved approval of expense disbursement wire/ACH transfers #WT250133 through #WT250154 disbursed during the period of 1/01/2025 through 1/31/2025 in the amount of \$292,705.48.

Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Tara Conner-Hallston moved approval of payroll vouchers #09956 through #010102 disbursed on 1/10/2025 and 1/24/2025 in the amount of \$257,561.62.

Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Tara Conner-Hallston moved approval of capital reserve checks #11203 through #11204 disbursed during the period of 1/01/2025 through 1/31/2025 in the amount of \$46,681.23.

Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Tara Conner-Hallston moved approval of student activities disbursement checks #82128 through #82132 disbursed during the period of 1/01/2025 through 1/31/2025 in the amount of \$3,528.45.

Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Tara Conner-Hallston moved approval of the proposed budget transfers for January 2025.

Motion carried unanimously.

STUDENT RECOGNITION

Action:

Ms. Elizabeth Eisenhart moved to approve a resolution recognizing Kenneth Lawyer, a senior at Abington Senior High School and in the Protective Services program, as *Outstanding Student of the Month* for January. Ms. Carolyn Riley presented Kenneth Lawyer with the Resolution and EASTERN shirt; the Association's gift card presented by Gary Felmey, Educators' Association President; and the Rotary plaque will be presented at the luncheon.
Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Tara Conner-Hallston moved to approve a resolution recognizing Andrew Rodriguez, a senior at Hatboro-Horsham High School and in the Culinary Arts program, as *Outstanding Student of the Month* for February. Ms. Carolyn Riley presented Andrew Rodriguez with the Resolution and EASTERN shirt; the Association's gift card presented by Gary Felmey, Educators' Association President; and the Rotary plaque will be presented at the luncheon.
Motion carried unanimously.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Presentation: Annual Goals

Dr. Plesnarski, Mr. Greb and Mr. Rooney shared an Annual Goals presentation during the Agenda Session.

Informational:

Counselor/Special Education Liaison Meeting *

The Counselor/Special Education Liaison meeting minutes of January 15, 2025 were presented.

Principals' Advisory Committee Meeting *

The Principals' Advisory Committee meeting minutes of January 23, 2025 were presented.

Administrative Advisory Committee Meeting *

The Administrative Advisory Committee meeting minutes of February 4, 2025 were presented.

Activities Report *

The December 2024 and January 2025 Activities Reports of the students and staff were presented.

Action:

Summer Cosmetology Program

Ms. Tara Conner-Hallston moved approval to operate a Summer Cosmetology Program offering 132 hours of instruction:

June 17-July 22 (no class June 19, 20, 27 July 4, 11, 18)

8 am to 2:30 pm

6 hours per day

22 days

Total COS hours – 132

Lunch 11:30 to noon

Teacher employment is to be based upon the number of students enrolled:

15 – 25 students	-	1 teacher
26 – 34 students	-	waiting list
35 – 50 students	-	2nd teacher
51 – 59 students	-	waiting list
60+ students	-	3rd teacher

Motion carried unanimously.

SkillsUSA State Officer Training

Ms. Tara Conner-Hallston moved approval and ratification for Exercise Science and Rehabilitation Instructor Shelly Helm; Veterinary Science/Springfield student Lillian Craney; Exercise Science and Rehabilitation/Springfield student Logan White; and Robotics and Automated Technology/Jenkintown student Adrayanna Douglas to attend the SkillsUSA State Officer Training on January 30-31, 2025 in Altoona, PA at a cost not to exceed \$600.

Motion carried unanimously.

Western CTE Study Tour

Ms. Tara Conner-Hallston moved approval for Executive Director Dr. Cathleen Plesnarski to attend a Western Career and Technical School Study Tour on March 3-5, 2025 in Pittsburgh, PA at a cost not to exceed \$800.

Motion carried unanimously.

Donations

Ms. Tara Conner-Hallston moved acceptance of the following donations in support of the instructional programs:

- Stainless steel plate Ender 3D printer was donated from the USDA, ARS, NEA, ERRS for the Welding Technology program
- Color nail polish, shampoo, conditioner, styling products, and 2 replacement bulbs for the nail light was donated by CosmoProf for use in the Cosmetology Program

- Cash donation from the craft show of \$3,616.15 was donated from The Educators Association of the EASTERN Center for Arts and Technology
Motion carried unanimously.

PERSONNEL AFFAIRS

Informational:

Design, Photography, and Illustration Instructor, Nicole Abruzzi, has taken an FMLA leave from December 9 to December 20, 2024.

Automotive Technology Instructor, George Stahl, has submitted an FMLA Leave Request for the period of January 30 through February 14, 2025.

Culinary Arts Occupational Aide, Nicole Suanlarm, has submitted an FMLA Leave Request for the period of April 7 through June 16, 2025.

Action:

Professional

Salary Guide

Ms. Jennifer Iannitti moved approval of the attached teachers' salary guide for the 2024-2025 school year and authorization to adjust individual salaries based upon the revised guide. This is in accordance with the collective bargaining agreement with the Educator's Association and reflects the final settlements from all of our participating school districts.

Motion carried unanimously.

Classified

Administrative Assistant to PN Program Coordinator – Appointment *

Ms. Jennifer Iannitti moved the appointment and ratification of Kristin Waldner as Administrative Assistant to PN Program Coordinator effective January 13, 2025, at Grade II/A – Base of the Classified Salary Guide at the rate of \$29.33 per hour and to work up to 7 pre-service hours and up to 14 hours to assist with Graduation and Orientation nights for the remainder of 2024-2025 school year.

Motion carried unanimously.

Construction Cluster Occupational Aide – Appointment *

Ms. Jennifer Iannitti moved the appointment of Michael Tramontina as Construction Cluster Occupational Aide at Grade III - Base at the rate of \$28.22 per hour on the Classified Salary Schedule, effective February 18, 2025 for the 2024-2025 school year, pending successful completion of clearances.

Motion carried unanimously.

Continuing Education – Job Description Changes*

Ms. Jennifer Iannitti moved approval of the changes to the attached job description with no change in compensation.

Motion carried unanimously.

Facilities Maintenance Technician – Open House

Ms. Jennifer Iannitti moved approval of Facilities Maintenance Technician, Kyle Maurer, to work up to 4 hours at his overtime rate of \$41.63 to assist with Open House on March 2, 2025 (Snow Date: March 9, 2025).

Motion carried unanimously.

Practical Nursing

Adjunct – Appointment

Ms. Jennifer Iannitti moved approval and ratification of the following as Practical Nursing Adjunct Instructors at the rate of \$44.24 per hour for the remainder of the 2024-2025 school year:

Karen Foster, BSN, RN Sofiya Ponyzhay, MSN, RN Leonard Tarnopolsky, BSN, RN

Motion carried unanimously.

Volunteer

Training Supervisors

Ms. Jennifer Iannitti moved approval of Laura Lasher of State Rep Nancy Guenst District Office to supervise Essam Farroukh Business and Technology / Jenkintown on an internship.

Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Jennifer Iannitti moved approval of Blane Marks of Wissahickon Physical Therapy to supervise Annalyse Jones Exercise Science and Rehabilitation / Upper Moreland on an internship.

Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Jennifer Iannitti moved approval of Brian Zeldes of BKZ Contractors to supervise Eoin Anto Construction Technology / Springfield on an internship.

Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Jennifer Iannitti moved approval of Mark Ragen of Faulkner Infinity of Willow Grove to supervise Gregory Gonzalez Automotive Technology / Upper Dublin on an internship.

Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Jennifer Iannitti moved approval of Kelly Conard of Elkins Park PT to supervise Tyler Manwarren Exercise Science and Rehabilitation / Abington on an internship.

Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Jennifer Iannitti moved approval of Wade Cole of 3D Bodyworks Inc. to supervise Randy Franklin Collision Repair Technology / Springfield on an internship.
Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Jennifer Iannitti moved approval of Jim O'Driscoll of Liberty Integrated Solutions to supervise Braden Campbell Electrical Technology / Lower Moreland on an internship.
Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Jennifer Iannitti moved approval of Jon T. Haines of H&K Group Inc. to supervise Ryan McCarthy Collision Repair/Hatboro Horsham on an internship.
Motion carried unanimously.

FACILITIES, TECHNOLOGY AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

Informational:

Purchasing Agreement with Apple Computer

Our current contract with Apple Computer has expired. A contract is required for us to purchase from Apple and receive an education discount. After speaking with our account team at Apple, we have decided to join the Central Susquehanna IU's (CSIU) PEPPM contract. The CSIU maintains an annual purchasing contract with Apple which gives us PEPPM pricing and allows us to continue using Apple's e-commerce purchasing platform.

Building Report *

The building reports for December and January activities regarding the school plant and property was presented.

Action:

Approve Intent To Award Interior Alterations With Recommended Alternate Bids – Phase 4 – HVAC Equipment Replacement Project *

Ms. Elizabeth Eisenhart moved approval of the attached resolution to accept contracts, subject to the contractors complying with all post-award requirements and solicitor review, for the Phase 4 - HVAC equipment replacement project with recommended alternate bids as follows (and per the attached bid tabulation summary):

Contractor	Area of Work	Amount
JBK Mechanical	Mechanical Contractor	\$810,000.00
Albarell Electric	Electrical Contractor	\$ 93,562.00
TOTAL		\$903,562.00

Motion carried unanimously.

Approve Intent To Award Interior Alterations With Recommended Alternate Bids – Phase 5 – Culinary Arts Renovation *

Ms. Elizabeth Eisenhart moved approval of the attached resolution to accept contracts, subject to the contractors complying with all post-award requirements and solicitor review, for Phase 5 Culinary Arts renovation with recommended alternate bids as follows (and per the attached bid tabulation summary):

Contractor	Area of Work	Amount
CraftSource, Inc.	General Contractor	\$ 978,300.00
Trefz Mechanical	Mechanical Contractor	\$ 724,900.00
Hirschberg Mechanical	Plumbing Contractor	\$ 428,580.00
AJM Electric, Inc.	Electrical Contractor	\$ 565,450.00
TOTAL		\$2,697,230.00

Motion carried unanimously.

Certification of 2025-2026 Budget

Ms. Elizabeth Eisenhart moved to acknowledge action by the sending school districts' Board of School Directors regarding the adoption of EASTERN's 2025-2026 operating budget as presented and approved on November 13, 2024.

Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Elizabeth Eisenhart moved the request to certify the 2025-2026 operating budget as adopted and authorize implementation and submission to the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE-2028) in the format attached.

Motion carried unanimously.

Approve Contract and Addendum with Instructure for Canvas Learning Management System for Practical Nursing Program *

Ms. Elizabeth Eisenhart moved the approval of the attached contract and addendum with Instructure to purchase Canvas Learning Management System for our Practical Nursing Program for an amount not to exceed \$15,200 with a yearly subscription renewal of \$5,520.00.

Motion carried unanimously.

Competitive Equipment Grant *

Ms. Elizabeth Eisenhart moved to accept the Competitive Equipment Grant in the amount of \$85,000 that includes equipment for the Automotive Technology, Electrical Technology and Welding Technology programs.

Motion carried unanimously.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Christina Gallagher shared her Solicitor Report with the Joint Operating Committee.

OLD BUSINESS

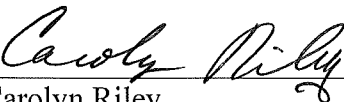
NEW BUSINESS

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Joint Operating Committee is Wednesday, March 12, 2025.

ADJOURNMENT

Carolyn Riley moved to adjourn the February 12, 2025 meeting of the Joint Operating Committee at 8:38 p.m.



Carolyn Riley
Joint Operating Committee President



Ms. Katie Braun
Joint Operating Committee Secretary

Recording Secretary: Linda McAlpine

**EASTERN CENTER FOR ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY
AGENDA SESSION MINUTES**

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2025
7:15 PM - ZOOM**

- 1. PRESENTATION – ANNUAL GOALS**
Dr. Cathleen Plesnarski, Joe Greb and Gerry Rooney presented on Annual Goals.
- 2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND HONOR OF INDIGENOUS AND DIVERSE COMMUNITIES**
The Acknowledgement and Honor of Indigenous and Diverse Communities will be read following the Pledge of Allegiance at our JOC meetings.
- 3. 2025-2026 BUDGET STATUS**
EASTERN's budget was approved by all nine districts. Thank you for your support and effort in making EASTERN's budget a successful experience.
- 4. PHASE 4 AND 5 BID RESULTS**
Dr. Cathleen Plesnarski and Katie Braun discussed the Phase 4 and 5 bid results.
- 5. MOU UPPER MORELAND POLICE DEPARTMENT 2025-2028**
Dr. Cathleen Plesnarski shared that we are supported by Upper Moreland Police and that we move forward with this MOU.
- 6. E-RATE QUOTE ***
The attachment is a quote for new Wireless Access Points & configuration. After completing E-Rate's PEPPM Mini-Bid process, we selected a vendor with the best price that also has a good working relationship with EASTERN and understands our infrastructure. These new devices will replace our aging wireless network equipment and provide us with higher wireless speeds as well as keeping our network up to date. The E-Rate process will provide us with a 60% discount off the quoted price as part of the Federal Government's E-Rate program.
- 7. OPEN HOUSE, YMCA SUMMER PROGRAM, AND SUMMER COSMETOLOGY**
Dr. Plesnarski will share the following informational items and recommendations:
 - Open House will be held on Sunday, March 2, 2025 from 1:00 - 3:00pm
 - Summer Cosmetology: Recommendation to run Summer Cosmetology
 - YMCA Summer Program: Fun with Photography and Community Safety Camp will be offered.