BOARD BRIEF

April 2025

A report from the April 2025 meeting of EASTERN's Joint Operating Committee (JOC). 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

- April Student of the Month
- School Calendar - Revision
- Retirement
- Donations
- Training Supervisors
- Substitute Instructors
- Grants
- SkillsUSA State Competition Results

Coming Events
Joint Operating Committee Meeting

*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

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April Student of the Month

Greyson Stewart, an Abington Senior High School senior, is the April 2025 Student of the Month at Eastern Center for Arts and Technology (EASTERN) in Willow Grove. Greyson is being recognized for his outstanding work in EASTERN's Design, Photography, and Illustration 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 Greyson first learned about the programs at EASTERN, he was excited by the opportunity to explore how a career pathway in art could help him develop valuable professional skills. He appreciates being able to do something he loves and excels at every day. At EASTERN's Awards Night in May 2024, Greyson was honored with The Outstanding Junior Year Sketchbook Award and the Straight A Award. As an active member of EASTERN's student leadership organization, SkillsUSA, he achieved first place in the District II Action Skills Competition in February 2024 and earned third place at the Pennsylvania State Competition in April 2024. For this competition, Greyson demonstrated the different shading techniques commonly used in illustration. In February 2025, Greyson once again received first place in the SkillsUSA District II Competition, but this time it was for T-Shirt Design. In April 2025, he received the silver medal for T-shirt Design at the State Competition. Through his Design, Photography, and Illustration program, Greyson obtained an industry-standard certification in Adobe InDesign.

At Abington Senior High School, Greyson is an active member of the National Honor Society, the Boys Lacrosse Team, Friends Against Alcohol and Drugs (FAAD), and the Alternative Sports Club. Outside of school, he works part-time at Be Well Bakery and Café in Huntingdon Valley, where he serves as a server, food preparer, smoothie preparer, and kitchen assistant. He volunteers at Forgotten Cats in Willow Grove and is a Certified American Red Cross Lifeguard with CPR/AED certification.

"Greyson brings a positive and encouraging energy to the classroom," said Nicole Abruzzi, EASTERN's Design, Photography, and Illustration Instructor. "He is always ready with a kind word for a classmate and is consistently willing to lend a hand."

After graduating from EASTERN and Abington Senior High School, Greyson has committed to attending Susquehanna University, where he will pursue a degree in graphic design and play lacrosse. During college, he hopes to secure an internship with an outdoor sporting goods company.

School Calendar

The Joint Operating Committee approved the revised calendar for students, teachers, and staff for the 2024-2025 school year with snow days added.

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Retirement
The Joint Operating Committee approved the acceptance of the retirement of Automotive Technology Instructor, George Stahl, effective June 18, 2025, and the adoption of a Resolution acknowledging his services and many contributions to this school. George Stahl has served the school since August 2006.

Donations
The JOC approved the following donations:
20 pieces of car parts (hood, bumper, door, and fenders) from Kennedy Collision Center. These parts are to be used in the Collision Repair Technology program.

Training Supervisors Approved for Internship Placements
The JOC approved the following Training Supervisors for EASTERN's students:
- Josephy Thomson (Automotive/Hatboro-Horsham) will start working for John Kennedy Ford of Jenkintown under the supervision of Steve Jenet.
- Conner Sheppleman (Automotive Technology/Abington will start working for John Kennedy Ford of Jenkintown under the supervision of Steve Jenet.
- John Campion (Construction/Abington) will start working for Timberlane Inc. under the supervision of Damian Potocki.

New Substitute Instructors Approved
The Joint Operating Committee approved two substitute instructors:
- John Leitner – Design, Photography, and Illustration, and Business and Technology Professional
- John Breen – Business and Technology Professional

Grants
The Joint Operating Committee accepted the following grant award and authorized EASTERN to implement the grant provisions:
- Supplemental Equipment Grant - $178,486.44 to be used to purchase equipment for Culinary Arts and Allied Health.

SkillsUSA State Competition
Forty-two students from EASTERN attended the SkillsUSA State Competition in Hershey, PA from April 2 through April 4, 2025. Students from all over Pennsylvania took part in the competition. SkillsUSA is a national student leadership organization that encourages students to be productive individuals in our democratic society, work to their potential, become responsible, be proud of their accomplishments, and be supportive of their community. Medalists from EASTERN are:

1st Place Gold Medal
Tobias Wendell - Design, Photography, and Illustration - CTE Demonstration – Cheltenham

2nd Place Silver Medal
Khafra Anyika - Welding Technology - Chapter of Excellence - Cheltenham
Angelina Tang - Culinary Arts 2 - Chapter of Excellence - Upper Dublin
Jeslyn Oppong - Allied Health - Chapter of Excellence - Cheltenham
Karley Bunkin - Culinary Arts 1 - Job Skill Demo - Springfield
Jacob Lam - Networking and Cybersecurity - Internetworking - Cheltenham
Greyson Stewart - Design, Photography, and Illustration - T-shirt Design – Abington

3rd Place Bronze Medal
Eric Martin - Automotive Technology - Action Skills - Hatboro-Horsham
Virgymar Basabe Ruiz - Allied Health - Career Pathways Showcase Health Sciences - Cheltenham
Makena Feristin - Allied Health - Career Pathways Showcase Health Sciences - Cheltenham
Raeanna Figueroa - Allied Health - Career Pathways Showcase Health Sciences - Abington
Sophia Steinberg - Business and Technology Professional - Chapter Display - Abington
Jake Salters - Networking and Cybersecurity - Chapter Display - Hatboro-Horsham
Ava Bartlett - Welding Technology Chapter Display - Jenkintown
Izzy Hicks - Allied Health EMT - Hatboro-Horsham
Madison Schaible - Allied Health - EMT - Abington
Dahlia Madden - Allied Health - Health Occupations Portfolio - Cheltenham
Mercede Walsh - Design, Photography, and Illustration Promotional Bulletin Board - Springfield
Naomi Loston - Design, Photography, and Illustration Promotional Bulletin Board - Upper Moreland
Alexa Gagnon - Design, Photography, and Illustration - Promotional Bulletin Board - Abington