

**EASTERN CENTER FOR ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY
JOINT OPERATING COMMITTEE MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2025**

Ms. Carolyn Riley, President, called the public meeting of the Joint Operating Committee to order at 8:04 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
Dr. James Lee	Lower Moreland
Mr. Jeffrey Bedard	Springfield
Ms. Jennifer Iannitti	Upper Dublin
Mr. Grant Rounds	Upper Moreland
Kenneth Roos, Esq.	Solicitor
Dr. Jeffrey Fecher	Superintendent of Record
Dr. Cathleen Plesnarski	Executive Director
Ms. Katie Braun	Secretary/Business Manager

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

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

Anthony Ginaldi led the Joint Operating Committee and audience in a salute to the flag.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND HONOR OF INDIGENOUS AND DIVERSE COMMUNITIES

Ms. Carolyn Riley read the Acknowledgement and Honor of Indigenous and Diverse Communities.

MINUTES

Mr. James Lee moved approval of the August 13, 2025 Joint Operating Committee minutes of the regular and agenda session minutes.

Motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT

Mr. Kenneth Roos, Solicitor, announced that an Executive Session was not held before the public meeting.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Informational:

Practical Nursing Graduation

Dr. Cathleen Plesnarski attended the Practical Nursing Class #166 graduation ceremony that took place on August 28, 2025 at Upper Moreland High School auditorium.

EASTERN Foundation and SkillsUSA Fundraiser

Designer Bag Bingo. The EASTERN Foundation and Skills USA will co-sponsor a Designer Bag Bingo to be held on October 22, 2025, in Upper Moreland High School's cafeteria from 6 to 8 p.m. Seating is limited. Purchase your tickets here - <https://my.cheddarup.com/c/eastern-designer-bag-bingo-2025/items>.

FINANCIAL REPORT – For the Period Ending August 31, 2025

Informational:

The Joint Operating Committee acknowledged receipt of the following:

- Statement of Revenues and Expenditures as presented
- Status of the Capital Reserve Fund revenues for the period ended August 31, 2025 showing cash and investment balances of \$2,748,861.85 as presented.

Action:

Treasurer's Report *

Mr. Charles Burdell-Williams moved acceptance of the Treasurer's Report for the period ended August 31, 2025, showing General Fund cash and investment balances of \$6,617,166.41 and total assets of \$8,235,070.38 and the current status of the Student Activity account. Motion carried unanimously.

Disbursements *

Mr. Charles Burdell-Williams moved approval of accounts payable checks #37843 through #37955 disbursed during the period of 8/01/2025 through 8/31/2025 in the amount of \$345,669.29. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Charles Burdell-Williams moved approval of general fund expense wire/ACH transfers #WT260022 through #WT260038 disbursed during the period of 8/01/2025 through 8/31/2025 in the amount of \$276,946.29. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Charles Burdell-Williams moved approval of payroll vouchers #011209 through #011369 disbursed on 8/08/2025 and 8/22/2025 in the amount of \$275,371.83.

Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Charles Burdell-Williams moved approval of capital reserve disbursement checks #11226 through #11232 disbursed during the period of 8/01/2025 through 8/31/2025 in the amount of \$531,745.59.

Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Charles Burdell-Williams moved approval of student activities disbursement check #82161 disbursed during the period of 8/01/2025 through 8/31/2025 in the amount of \$186.46.

Motion carried unanimously.

There were no budget transfers in August.

STUDENT RECOGNITION

Action:

Student of the Month *

Ms. Jennifer Iannitti moved to approve a resolution recognizing Anthony Ginaldi, a senior at Upper Dublin High School and in the Automotive Technology program, as Outstanding Student of the Month for September. Ms. Carolyn Riley presented Anthony Ginaldi with the Resolution and EASTERN shirt; the Rotary plaque will be presented on October 9, 2025; and the Association's contribution was presented by Mr. Jeffrey Pakula, Educators' Association President.

Motion carried unanimously.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Informational:

The Joint Operating Committee acknowledged receipt of the following:

- Administrative Advisory Committee meeting minutes of September 4, 2025
- August Activities Report

Action:

Construction Careers and Management – New Program

Mr. Jeffrey Bedard moved approval to open a Building/Property Maintenance program under CIP Code 46.0401 under the local name of Construction Careers and Management starting the 2026-2027 school year, to seek program approval from the Pennsylvania Department of Education, and to include the program offerings on marketing materials and our website.

Motion carried unanimously.

Construction Technology to Carpentry – Name Change

Mr. Jeffrey Bedard moved approval of Construction Technology to be called Carpentry starting the 2026-2027 school year.

Motion carried unanimously.

Cosmetology Curriculum Hours

Mr. Jeffrey Bedard moved approval to offer Cosmetology instruction during the six in-service days on September 24, 2025, October 20, 2025, November 4, 2025, February 13, 2026, March 20, 2026, and May 19, 2026.

Motion carried unanimously.

Donation

Mr. Jeffrey Bedard moved acceptance of the following donations in support of the instructional program: Joni Seth donated 2 cases of cat food for our Veterinary Science program.

Motion carried unanimously.

POLICY

Informational:

Board Policy Revision – First Reading *

Policy B102 and Director Procedure, Nondiscrimination in School and Classroom Practices, in the Programs Section.

Policy B111, Special Education, in the Programs Section.

Policy C106, Controlled Substances, in the Students Section.

Policy C112, Admission of Students, in the Students Section.

Policy P100 and Director Procedure, Nondiscrimination in Employment, in the Personnel-All Employees General Section.

Repeal of Policy G106, Tuition, in the Finances Section.

PERSONNEL AFFAIRS

Informational:

Accountant, Marta Mecray, has submitted an FMLA Leave Request for the period of September 4, 2025, through September 25, 2025.

Action:

Professional

Substitute

Dr. James Lee moved approval of Michelle Haines as Substitute Instructor for 2025-2026 school year at a rate of \$135 per day for School Nurse and Allied Health assignments and \$120 per day for general assignments.

Motion carried unanimously.

Classified

Automotive Collision Occupational Aide - Resignation *

Dr. James Lee moved acceptance of the resignation of Eric Martin, Automotive Collision Occupational Aide, effective September 5, 2025 as requested in his letter dated August 26, 2025. Motion carried unanimously.

Practical Nursing

Adjunct Faculty

Dr. James Lee moved approval of Phoebe Barnes, BSN, RN and Jennifer Porter, BSN, RN as Practical Nursing Adjunct Instructor at the rate of \$45.16/hour for the 2025-2026 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

Veterinary Science

Veterinary Science Student Interns

Dr. James Lee moved approval of the following Veterinary Science Interns to work under the direction of the Veterinary Science Intern Supervisors at the rate of \$15 per hour for the 2025-2026 school year. Hayden Zimmerman Abington SD, Amanda Henry Abington SD, Giselle Aguilar-Rodriguez Hatboro-Horsham SD, and Charlotte Nash Lower Moreland SD.

Motion carried unanimously.

Veterinary Science Intern Supervisors

Dr. James Lee moved approval of the following staff members to provide weekend supervision for Veterinary Science Interns providing animal care at the rate of \$42 per hour for the 2025-2026 school year. Eileen Collins, Marketa Crane, Elena Hays, Karen McGeehan, Kyle Maurer, Shannon Rowley-Lavelle, Trisha Simmler-Totaro, Kristin Waldner, and Michele Zimmerman.

Motion carried unanimously.

FACILITIES AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

Informational:

The Joint Operating Committee acknowledged receipt of the building report for August activities regarding school plant and property.

The Joint Operating Committee acknowledged receipt of the Summer Electrical/Maintenance report.

Intent to Award Boiler Replacement Project *

Tri-County Mechanical, Inc. Mechanical Contractor	\$ 919,000
---	------------

Other Business

PSBA Voting

Candidate	Position	Yea	Nay
Holly Arnold	President Elect	8	0
Candidate	Position	Yea	Nay
Matt Vannoy	Vice President	8	0
Candidate	Position	Yea	Nay
Tasliym Morales	Section E-4 Advisor	8	0
Candidate	Position	Yea	Nay
Kathy Swope	Trustee	8	0
Roberta Marcus	Trustee	8	0

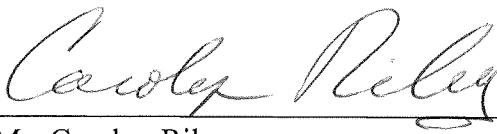
2026-72

NEXT MEETING

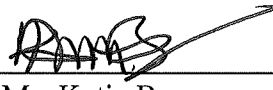
The next meeting of the Joint Operating Committee is on October 8, 2025.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Carolyn Riley adjourned the September 10, 2025 meeting at 8:36 p.m.



Ms. 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, SEPTEMBER 10, 2025**

**1. PRESENTATION: PN RELOCATION AND CONSTRUCTION CAREERS
DRAWINGS AND TIMELINE**

Dr. Plesnarski and Ms. Braun presented PN Relocation and Construction Careers drawings and timeline.

2. STUDENT ENROLLMENT UPDATE

Dr. Plesnarski reviewed the student enrollment for 2025-2026.

3. FUTURE FIRST RESPONDERS OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY PROGRAM

Dr. Plesnarski presented Future First Responder of Montgomery County Program

- a. 3-4 Protective Services Students from each technical school
- b. Training for 3 certifications: Fire 1, EMT, and Dispatch
- c. W-F all day 8:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. at the MC Safety Institute
- d. Treated like an unpaid Cooperative Education placement
- e. Funding tentatively possible through legislative support
- f. Recruitment this fall for next year's pilot cohort

4. 2026-2027 BUDGET

Ms. Katie Braun presented highlights of the 2026-2027 Proposed Budget.

5. POLICY REVISIONS

Dr. Plesnarski reviewed Policy recommendations for first reading.

Goal 1: Revise admissions/enrollment so that registration and vetting go through the districts and we do not accept tuition-paying students.

- C112: Admissions - add note regarding tuition to this policy
- G106: Tuition - eliminate this policy

Goal 2: Revise policies to be more aligned with Title IX and other Civil Rights. This includes identifying a position as the Title IX Coordinator, Special Education/504 Coordinator and a process for reporting issues.

- B102: Nondiscrimination in Classroom Practices
- B111: Special Education
- P100: Nondiscrimination in Employment

Goal 3: Revise policy language on substance use to include edibles and add additional restrictions.

- G106: Controlled Substances

6. JOINT OPERATING COMMITTEE ANNUAL DINNER

Dr. Plesnarski discussed the Annual Dinner scheduled to take place in November before the November JOC meeting.

6:00-8:00 JOC Dinner (with Board President and New Board Member as guests)

8:00 JOC Meeting

7. PSBA ELECTIONS

Ms. Carolyn Riley discussed the candidates for the PSBA officer elections. Votes will be submitted by the JOC Secretary.