EASTERN
CENTER FOR ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY

BOARD BRIEF

November 2025

A report from the November 2025 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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- Designer Bag BINGO

Coming Events

Joint Committee Meeting

December 10, 2025
January 14, 2026
February 11, 2026
March 11, 2026
April 8, 2026
May 13, 2026
June 17, 2026

**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

November Student of the Month

Karley Bunkin, a Springfield Township High School senior, is the November 2025 Student of the Month at Eastern Center for Arts and Technology (EASTERN) in Willow Grove. Karley 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, 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 Karley visited EASTERN in 10th grade, she was torn between Culinary Arts, Collision Repair Technology, and Welding Technology. After some thought, she realized Culinary Arts was the best fit for her. Learning about the SkillsUSA leadership organization and the competitions available to students confirmed that EASTERN was the right place for her.

This year, Karley was elected by her peers as the SkillsUSA AM Session President and is excited about the opportunity. As a junior, she received the prestigious Director's Award, the Culinary Arts Junior Award, and the Straight A Award at EASTERN's Awards Night in May 2025. She also earned the silver medal in the Job Skill Demonstration competition at the SkillsUSA State Conference in April 2025, where she impressed judges with her signature chocolate chip cookies. At Springfield Township High School, she is a member of the Ski and Snowboard Club and the National Art Honor Society. Outside of school, she volunteers with Whosoever Gospel Mission in Philadelphia and works part-time as a food prep at the William Penn Inn in Gwynedd.

Over the summer, Karley returned to EASTERN to deliver an impressive presentation on implementing a hydroponics system for the Culinary Arts program. Her presentation highlighted the educational benefits of the system, its potential to provide fresh, sustainable ingredients for classroom use, and the long-term cost savings it could bring to the school. Implementation of this system is something that is now being seriously considered by EASTERN's Administrative team.

"Karley is deeply dedicated to both the culinary field and to EASTERN," said Chef Ben Vozzo, EASTERN's Culinary Arts Instructor. "She's always ready to volunteer for school events and never hesitates to lend a hand to her peers in the kitchen. I'm proud of her drive and ambition, and I look forward to seeing all that she will accomplish in the future."

After graduating from EASTERN and Springfield Township High School, she plans to attend the Culinary Institute of America to study Food Business, with the goal of eventually owning her own small business or working in international food export.

September 30 Enrollment

The official September 30 enrollment of 674 students was approved.

November 2024

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2026 – 2027 Program Offerings
The Joint Operating Committee approved the 2026 – 2027 Program Offerings. They can be found on EASTERN's website - https://www.eastech.org/counselors

Kiwanis Holiday Breakfast – December 7, 2025
The Kiwanis Club of Old York Road will host their annual holiday breakfast at EASTERN on Sunday, December 7 from 8:30 – 11:00 a.m., and our Culinary Arts program to support them by making breakfast for the community participants.

EASTERN's Craft Fair – December 7, 2025
EASTERN's Educator's Association is partnering with SkillsUSA to host a Holiday Craft Fair on Sunday, December 7 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. We will have craft vendors, raffle baskets, fun kid's activities, a Forgotten Cats Adoption Event, and much more. All proceeds will benefit EASTERN's SkillsUSA student leadership activities.

2026 – 2027 General Fund Budget and Capital Assessment
The Joint Operating Committee authorized the transmittal of EASTERN's 2026 – 2027 budget and Capital Assessment to each of the participating School Boards for consideration and approval.

Congress Bundestag Nominees
EASTERN has nominated three students for Congress Bundestag.

- Karley Bunkin from Culinary Arts/ Springfield Township High School
- Kayla Ervin from Business and Technology Professional/ Cheltenham High School.
- Chase Lambert from Culinary Arts/Abington Senior High School

Board Policy C105 Second Reading
The Joint Operating Committee approved the second reading of Policy C105 Student Search.

Personnel

- 2025-2026 Final Professional Salary Guide
- Dawn Clements as Substitute
- Greg Shields for promotional video
- Charlene Joyner as PN Adjunct

Occupational Advisory Committee – New Members Appointed

Business and Technology Professional

- Michelle Gill (Small Business Owner/Entrepreneur) Believe Learning
- Alan Scholnick (Finance/Accounting Representative)
  Alan Scholnick Coaching and Consulting, LLC

Construction Technology (soon to be renamed Carpentry)

- Ed Christy (Union Carpenter)
  Intech Construction

Cosmetology

- Shane Martin (Salon Leader, Stylist)
  Haircuttery

Culinary Arts

- Earl Arrowood (Full-Service Restaurant)
  Bucks County Community College-Retired
- Benjamin Burger (Executive Chef)
  Philadelphia Cricket Club
- Pete Salemno (Sales/Distribution)
  Pete Salemno Dist.

Cooperative Education – Internships
The Joint Operating Committee approved the following Training Supervisors for EASTERN's students:

- Stan Solski from Climatic Testing Systems was approved as Supervisor for Ethan Duberville from Robotics and Automated Technology / Upper Dublin and Matthew Ford from Electrical Technology/ Upper Moreland.
- Patrick Gaffney from PCG Mechanical LLC was approved as Supervisor for Blake Wilson from HVAC / Hatboro Horsham.
- Elliot Greenfield from Greenfield Mfg. Co. was approved as Supervisor for Eli Greeley from Robotics and Automated Technology / Abington.

Joint Operating Committee Members Recognized
Tara Conner-Hallston – Hatboro-Horsham
Dr. James Lee – Lower Moreland
Jennifer Iannitti – Upper Dublin

They were recognized for their service to EASTERN as they end their terms. We appreciate their support and guidance during their tenure on EASTERN's Joint Operating Committee.

Designer Bag Bingo Event
The Designer Bag BINGO event raised $6,377 to be split between SkillsUSA and the Foundation.