

**EASTERN CENTER FOR ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY
JOINT OPERATING COMMITTEE MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2026**

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:

Mr. Charles Burdell-Williams	Abington
Ms. Jennifer Wilson	Bryn Athyn
Ms. Carolyn Riley	Cheltenham
Mr. Erskine Payton	Hatboro-Horsham
Mr. Jeffrey Bedard	Jenkintown
Dr. Joseph Burdo	Lower Moreland
Mr. Grant Rounds	Springfield
	Upper Dublin
	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

Gretchen Linn 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. Grant Rounds moved approval of the Joint Operating Committee minutes of the regular and agenda session meeting December 10, 2025.

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:

SKILLSUSA *

Eastern Center for Arts and Technology held the Nationally recognized SkillsUSA Leadership organization's local competitions on December 1 through 5, 2025. There were 34 trade competitions as well as 12 leadership competitions that EASTERN students competed in. We had 66 first place winners, including winning teams, who will be attending the district level competitions on January 23 and 28, 2026, with EASTERN staff chaperones at Bucks County Technical High School.

Congrats to Lucas Smith, Hatboro-Horsham junior & EASTERN Protective Services student, selected as our candidate to run for SkillsUSA Statewide Officer! Congrats also to Ace Williams, Abington junior & EASTERN Design, Photo & Illustration student, chosen as his campaign manager.

CAREER EXPO

On December 18, 2025, EASTERN welcomed 10th grade students from Hatboro-Horsham, Jenkintown, Lower Moreland, Upper Dublin and Upper Moreland to visit the school and help them decide if it is a good fit for their future goals.

PRACTICAL NURSING GRADUATION

Carolyn Riley will share on the Practical Nursing Class #164 graduation on December 11, 2025.

HOLIDAY CARD DESIGN

Lizaveta Baidzimirava, DPI/Hatboro-Horsham High School designed EASTERN's Holiday Card – Wishing you Joy, Light, Unity, and Renewal this Holiday Season.



EASTERN 2025-2026 Local Trade Competitions SkillsUSA Winners			
Student Name	Program	Contest	High School
Savannah Adams	Allied Health	Nursing Assistant	Abington
Olivia Garrett	Allied Health	Medical Assistant	Cheltenham
Zorah Bradford	Allied Health	Basic Health Care	Abington
Ehizele Arebamen	Allied Health	Health Occupational Portfolio	Cheltenham
Cyniya Mann	Allied Health	Medical Terminology	Springfield
Kade Dufala	Allied Health	Medical Math	Hatboro Horsham
Julia Lynch	Allied Health	Health Knowledge Bowl	Abington
Nisa Domenech	Allied Health	Health Knowledge Bowl	Abington
Mallory Serrano	Allied Health	Health Knowledge Bowl	Upper Moreland
Jamie Torressen	Allied Health	Health Knowledge Bowl	Calvary Christian Academy
Ayanna Macklin	Allied Health	First Aid/CPR	Springfield
Bella Bowden	Allied Health	Career Pathways Showcase - Health Sciences	Cheltenham
Tamia Bradford	Allied Health	Career Pathways Showcase - Health Sciences	Cheltenham
Alani Rivera	Allied Health	Career Pathways Showcase - Health Sciences	Cheltenham
Anthony Ginaldi	Automotive Technology	Automotive Maintenance & Light Repair	Upper Dublin
James MacLaren	Automotive Technology	Auto Service Technology	Hatboro Horsham
Jack Bogart	Collision Repair Technology	Collision Repair Technology	Upper Moreland
Gino Pellicciotti	Collision Repair Technology	Automotive Refinishing	Hatboro Horsham
Thomas Haring	Construction Technology	Carpentry	Upper Moreland
Chase Lambert	Culinary Arts 2	Baking & Pastry Arts	Abington
Navaehla Rodriguez	Culinary Arts 2	Cake Decorating	Hatboro Horsham
Kira Neal	Culinary Arts 2	Cake Decorating	Cheltenham

Student Name	Program	Contest	High School
Jackson Thomas	Culinary Arts 2	Culinary Arts	Abington
Vivian Gary	Cosmetology 2	Cosmetology	Hatboro Horsham
Lilly Santee	Cosmetology 2	Nail Care	Springfield
Lizaveta Baidzimirava	Design, Photography, and Illustration	Advertising Design	Hatboro Horsham
Naomi Loston	Design, Photography, and Illustration	Pin Design	Upper Moreland
Alexa Gagnon	Design, Photography, and Illustration	T-shirt Design	Abington
Deion Hunter	Design, Photography, and Illustration	Photography	Abington
Jack Bender	Electrical Technology	Electrical Construction Wiring	Springfield
Blake Wilson	Heating, Ventilation & Air Conditioning	HVAC&R	Hatboro Horsham
Elias Shatt	Networking and Cybersecurity	Internetworking	Springfield
Kyle Ong	Networking and Cybersecurity	Informational Technology Services	Hatboro Horsham
Ethan Hromisin	Networking and Cybersecurity	Cybersecurity	Cheltenham
Diana Codio	Networking and Cybersecurity	Cybersecurity	Cheltenham
Lelia Johnson	Robotics and Automated Technology	Mechatronics	Cheltenham
Eli Greeley	Robotics and Automated Technology	Mechatronics	Abington
David Phillips	Protective Services	Firefighting	Abington
Harrison James	Protective Services	Criminal Justice	Abington
Landon Mitchell	Protective Services	Crime Scene Investigator	Hatboro Horsham
Aidan Fagan	Protective Services	Crime Scene Investigator	Upper Moreland
Kayleigh Pedraza	Protective Services	Crime Scene Investigator	Upper Dublin
Freddie Simko	Welding Technology	Welding	Hatboro Horsham
Grace Elliott	Welding Technology	Welding Sculpture	Abington

EASTERN 2025-2026 Local Leadership Competitions SkillsUSA Winners			
Student Name	Program	Contest	High School
Eric Martin	Automotive Technology	Action Skills	Hatboro-Horsham
Guiselle Aguilar-Rodriguez	Veterinary Science	Customer Service	Hatboro-Horsham
Tobias Dutch-Wendell	Design, Photography, and Illustration	CTE Demonstration	Cheltenham
Oliver Pratley	Automotive Technology	Employment Application Process	Springfield
Andre Callaway	Networking & Cybersecurity	Extemporaneous Speech	Archbishop Wood
Giovanni Francis	Automotive Technology	Job Interview	Cheltenham
Asia Prosser	Exercise Science and Rehab	Job Skill Demo A	Abington
Karley Bunkin	Culinary Arts 2	Job Skill Demo Open	Springfield
Ashley Vargas	Allied Health	Prepared Speech	Cheltenham
Shannon Beck	Veterinary Science	Quiz Bowl	Hatboro-Horsham
Tyler Little	Veterinary Science	Quiz Bowl	Abington
Jake Mo	Automotive Technology	Quiz Bowl	Lower Moreland
Victoria Prybyslavskyy	Networking & Cybersecurity	Quiz Bowl	Lower Moreland
Victoria Stillman	Networking & Cybersecurity	Quiz Bowl	Abington
Syd Bateman	Veterinary Science	Related Technical Math	Abington
Amaya McCants	Veterinary Science	Opening & Closing	Cheltenham
Raven Walker	Veterinary Science	Opening & Closing	Hatboro-Horsham
Liliana Mexquititla-Martinez	Veterinary Science	Opening & Closing	Springfield
Kayla Ervin	Business and Technology Professional	Opening & Closing	Cheltenham
Morgan Kelly	Exercise Science and Rehab	Opening & Closing	Cheltenham

Student Name	Program	Contest	High School
Makaila Dupree	Business and Technology Professional	Opening & Closing	Cheltenham
Amira Banks	Exercise Science and Rehab	Opening & Closing	Cheltenham

FINANCIAL REPORT – For the Period Ending December 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 December 31, 2025, showing cash and investment balances of \$1,341,524.70 as presented

Action:

Treasurer's Report *

Mr. Jeffrey Bedard moved acceptance of the Treasurer's Report for the period ended December 31, 2025, showing General Fund cash and investment balances of \$7,237,836.66 and total assets of \$8,722,006.01 and the current status of the Student Activity account.

Motion carried unanimously.

Disbursements *

Mr. Jeffrey Bedard moved approval of accounts payable checks #38356 through #38459 disbursed during the period of 12/01/2025 through 12/31/2025 in the amount of \$213,791.57.

Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Jeffrey Bedard moved approval of expense disbursement wire/ACH transfers #WT260103 through #WT260121 disbursed during the period of 12/01/2025 through 12/31/2025 in the amount of \$539,160.30.

Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Jeffrey Bedard moved approval of ACH transfer for procurement card (P-card) expenses disbursed for the month of November in the amount of \$8,184.52.

Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Jeffrey Bedard moved approval of payroll vouchers #011981 through #012157 disbursed on 12/12/2025 and 12/26/2025 in the amount of \$282,996.19.

Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Jeffrey Bedard moved approval of capital disbursement checks #11250 through #11253 disbursed during the period of 12/01/2025 through 12/31/2025 in the amount of \$81,644.11.

Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Jeffrey Bedard moved approval of student activities disbursement checks #82177 through #82179 disbursed during the period of 12/01/2025 through 12/31/2025 in the amount of \$2,237.25.

Motion carried unanimously.

No budget transfers for the month of December 2025.

STUDENT RECOGNITION

Action:

Mr. Jeffrey Bedard moved to approve a resolution recognizing Gretchen Linn, a senior at Springfield Township High School and in the Welding Technology program, as *Outstanding Student of the Month* for January.

Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Carolyn Riley acknowledged Gretchen Linn and presented her with a Resolution and EASTERN shirt. Mr. Jeffrey Pakula, Educators' Association President, presented her with the Association's gift card. She received the Rotary plaque at the luncheon.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Informational:

Administrative Advisory Committee Meeting *

The Administrative Advisory Committee meeting minutes of January 6, 2026 were presented.

Activities Report *

The December Activities Report of the students and staff were presented.

Action:

Conference - NCLA Women in CTE Leadership Summit

Dr. Joseph Burdo moved approval for Dr. Cathleen Plesnarski to attend the NCLA Women in CTE Leadership Summit in Dallas Texas from March 23 - 25 in lieu of attending the ACTE 2026 National Policy Seminar in Arlington Virginia for a cost not to exceed \$1,500. Dr. Plesnarski was personally invited to attend, help steer the program, and participate in a panel discussion by NCLA CEO, Dr. Rachel Mann.

Motion carried unanimously.

Expanded Learning Opportunities

Dr. Joseph Burdo moved approval for Allied Health Instructor Allison Latzo to attend an Anatomy Tournament with up to 4 students at Pennsylvania College of Technology in Williamsport, PA on March 4-5, 2026, at a cost not exceeding \$450.00.

Motion carried unanimously.

SkillsUSA State Officer Training

Dr. Joseph Burdo moved approval for Student Success Coordinator, Rebecca Ashworth; Protective Services/Hatboro-Horsham student Lucas Smith; and Design, Photography, and Illustration/Abington student Ace Williams; to attend the SkillsUSA State Officer Training on January 29-30, 2026 in Altoona, PA at a cost not to exceed \$800.

Motion carried unanimously.

Donation

Dr. Joseph Burdo moved acceptance of Caliber Collision (Wayne, PA) donated 12 gallons of reducer, 6 gallons of paint, 63 quarts of tints, 17 ½ gallon of tints, and 2 gallons of clear for our Collision Repair program and Upper Dublin Township Police Department donated Alco- Sensor FST and Portable Breath Test instruments for our Protective Services program.

Motion carried unanimously.

POLICY

Informational:

Board Policy Revision – First Reading *

The administration requests review of the first reading of Policy C112, Admission of Students, in the Students Section and changes to the Director Procedure.

PERSONNEL AFFAIRS

Informational:

FMLA Leave

Design, Photography, and Illustration Occupational Aide, Trisha Simmler-Totaro, has returned from Family Leave on December 15, 2025.

Culinary Arts Occupational Aide, Nicole Suanlarm, has returned from unpaid leave on January 5, 2026.

Action:

Professional

Substitute - Approval

Mr. Grant Rounds moved approval of Keisha Prosser as Substitute Instructor for 2025-2026 school year at a rate of \$135 per day for Culinary Arts assignments and \$120 per day for general assignments.

Motion carried unanimously.

Practical Nursing

Mr. Grant Rounds moved approval and ratification of Lauren Medley, BSN, RN as Practical Nursing Adjunct Instructor at the rate of \$45.16 per hour for the remainder of the 2025-2026 school year.

Motion carried unanimously.

Training Supervisors

Mr. Grant Rounds moved approval of Gary Marchewski of Stahl Electric Inc as Training Supervisor for EASTERN's Electrical Technology student Jack Bender.

Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Grant Rounds moved approval of Matt Batchelor of Batchelor Home Improvements as Training Supervisor for EASTERN's Construction Technology student Jayden Fitsimmons.

Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Grant Rounds moved approval of Tom Toth of O'Donnell Metal Fabricators as Training Supervisor for EASTERN's Welding Technology student Edward O'Brien.

Motion carried unanimously.

FACILITIES AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

Informational:

Building Report *

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

PA Department of Labor Schools-to-Career Grant

EASTERN has applied for the PA Department of Labor Schools-to-Career grant for a request of \$216,090.12 over the next two years. This project will assist students at Eastern Center for Arts and Technology in developing a continuous path to family-sustaining employment and growth in a career by placing students during their high school career in related places of employment. This grant would provide student placement salaries for up to 4 HVAC, 7 Welding and 7 Electrical students per year plus uniforms, necessary certifications and a portion of EASTERN staff salary and benefits for the School to Work Coordinator.

EASTERN has received letters of support of our application from a variety of locally elected officials, MontoWorks and registered pre-apprenticeship sponsors. EASTERN has approved registered pre-apprenticeships for HVAC with the Pennsylvania Association of Heating and Cooling Contractors, Electrical with Universal Academy and Welding with Rhoads Industries (pending approval).

Action:

Intent to Award Practical Nursing (LPN) Relocation Project *

Mr. Grant Rounds moved approval of the attached bid tabulation to accept the Practical Nursing (LPN) Relocation project base bid with recommended alternate bids for an amount not to exceed \$765,315 as outlined below:

CONTRACTOR	AREA OF WORK	AMOUNT
S.B. Conrad, Inc.	General	\$239,350
Integrity Mechanical, Inc.	Mechanical	\$217,965
Cedar Electric, Inc.	Electrical	<u>\$308,000</u>
	TOTAL	\$765,315

Motion carried unanimously.

Acceptance of the 2024-2025 Financial Audit Report *

Mr. Grant Rounds moved acceptance of the Audit Report for the school year ended June 30, 2025, as prepared by Barbacane Thornton & Company (BTCPA) for Eastern Center for Arts and Technology.

Motion carried unanimously.

Change Order No. EC-01 for Credit in Unused Allowances *

Mr. Grant Rounds moved ratification and approval of Change Order No. EC-01 from AJM Electric, Inc., our Electrical Contractor, for a credit of (\$35,201.19) in unused allowances for Phase 5 – Culinary Renovations.

Motion carried unanimously.

Change Order No. GC-07 for Credit in Unused Allowances *

Mr. Grant Rounds moved ratification and approval of Change Order No. GC-07 from CraftSource, Inc, our General Contractor, for a credit of (\$50.50) in unused allowances for Phase 5 – Culinary Renovations.

Motion carried unanimously.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Mr. Kenneth Roos shared his Solicitor's Report.

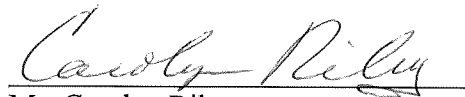
NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Joint Operating Committee is Wednesday, February 11, 2026 via Zoom.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Carolyn Riley adjourned the January 14, 2026 meeting of the Joint Operating Committee at 8:30 p.m.

Motion carried unanimously.



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, JANUARY 14, 2026**

A. Presentation: 2024-2025 Single Audit

Edmund Fosu-Laryea, CPA and Paige Martin of Barbacane, Thornton & Company (BTCPA) presented a summary of the Single Audit Report of EASTERN's 2024-2025 finances and responded to questions by the Joint Operating Committee.

B. Bid Tabulation for the Practical Nursing Relocation

Katie Braun gave an overview of the Bid Tabulation for the Practical Nursing Relocation.