



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S UPDATE

DR. CATHLEEN PLESNARSKI

TOPICS

Instruction at EASTERN
 Celebrating EASTERN
 Student Recognition
 Allied Health Instructor
 Capital Plan
 Joint Operating Committee
 Orientation
 SkillsUSA District
 Competition

Past Events

12/1 AAC Meeting
 12/9 Virtual JOC Meeting
 1/13 Virtual JOC Meeting
 1/13 Counselor/Special
 Education Liaison Meeting
 1/21-1/28 Virtual Career
 Expo
 1/30 Principals' Advisory
 Committee Meeting
 2/22 District Planning-AB
 2/25 Career Expo

Upcoming Events

3/1 District Planning-SP
 3/2 Administrative Advisory
 3/7 Open House
 5/26 Awards Night

Instruction at EASTERN

EASTERN continued to operate in a hybrid model December through February, with some days in a virtual model to mitigate post-holiday spread and to continue instruction during inclement weather.

As we look forward to the fourth marking period, we are exploring ways to increase the number of in-person instructional days for our students. The two options we are considering include bringing all students back four days per week or bringing only seniors back four days per week with juniors staying in the hybrid model. Both options maintain Wednesdays as fully virtual days and still provide the option for students to choose 100% virtual.

We will survey parents in early March to have them commit their student to in-person 4 days per week or 100% virtual. The results of that survey will help us select the model that maximizes in-person instructional time for students while maintaining safety. We will seek approval to choose one of these options from our Joint Operating Committee on March 10th. The decision also depends on our districts' ability to provide transportation necessary for one of these models to work.

Celebrating EASTERN

In February, we celebrated Black History Month and Career and Technical Education (CTE) Month. In honor of Black History Month, we recognized some of our successful black alumni through social media:

- Elissa Johnson, 2019 Construction Technology and Cheltenham graduate.
- Fred Fox, 2017 Electrical Technology and Cheltenham graduate.
- Jimir Davis, 2016 Commercial Art and Lower Moreland graduate.
- Joseph Waslow, 2008 Collision Repair and Abington graduate.
- Maurice Massey, 2004 Electronics Engineering and Springfield graduate.

In honor of CTE month, I want to take a moment to share why CTE, and EASTERN, is a good choice for students.

- EASTERN expands opportunities for students, allowing them to choose among multiple pathways like employment, apprenticeship training, and college.
- Students graduate with more than just a high school diploma. They can earn college credits, multiple industry certifications and licenses, and graduate with experience in their field through job-shadowing and internships.
- Instruction blends theory and hands-on learning to engage students in an environment that mirrors the real world.
- Students participate in SkillsUSA to learn about leadership and test their technical skills through competition.
- EASTERN's Educational Foundation focuses on student recognition and awards approximately \$40,000 per year in scholarships and awards.

Allied Health Instructor

Marie Festa was selected as the second Allied Health Instructor starting in January 2021. In 2021-2022, the program will expand to provide more opportunities for students in Eastern Montgomery County to explore and prepare for careers in health care. Ms. Festa, has 20+ years of experience at Fox Chase Cancer Center in various nursing positions. Ms. Festa holds a Bachelor's Degree in Nursing and is currently working on her Master's Degree in Nursing at Chamberlain University. Ms. Festa started her position to cover Mrs. Whitehead during her leave of absence.

Joint Operating Committee Orientation

On January 29, 2021 we held an orientation for our new JOC members, Daniel Kaye of Abington School District. The orientation was facilitated by Dr. Art Levinowitz, JOC President and Upper Dublin School Board Director, Dr. Wagner Marseille, EASTERN Superintendent of Record and Cheltenham Superintendent, and Dr. Cathleen Plesnarski, EASTERN Executive Director.

Capital Plan

In January, the Joint Operating Committee approved the 2020-2021 Capital plan:

- Improve Automotive Program space to enhance capacity, safety, and accessibility.
- Move Technology Department to create an empty space for a new program for 2022-2023.
- Move Shipping and Receiving out of the Construction Bay to provide a safe and secure space for storing shipments.
- Permanently move Nursing Suite to a more central location, with increased space and flexibility for an isolation room.
- Permanently move the computer lab which will be used temporarily as a second Allied Health Classroom until clinical, job shadowing opportunities open again.
- Enhance the safety/security, accessibility, and efficiency of the main office.
- Improve Practical Nursing classroom to adequately hold 24 adult learners.

Student Recognition

Students of the Month for December - February

Greg Destefano, Veterinary Science, Abington
Elvin Cruz, Collision Repair, Springfield
William Klanderman, HVAC Technology, Lower Moreland

SkillsUSA District 2 Competition

In February, EASTERN students participated virtually in the SkillsUSA District 2 Competition, competing against students from seven other career and technical. Winners will be announced in March.

Action Skills: Ben Hoffman, Culinary, Upper Dublin

Advertising Design: Lena Cardamone, Commercial Art, Bishop McDevitt

Auto Refinishing: Danielle Doyle, Collision, Springfield

Auto Service: Alejandro Colon, Automotive, Upper Dublin

Carpentry: Jacob Boscola, Construction, Hatboro-Horsham

Collision Repair: Nasir Thomas, Collision, Upper Moreland

Baking: Averie Tuttle, Culinary, Abington

Cosmetology: Jessica Derricks, Cosmetology, Abington

Crime Scene: Harry Monaghan, Protective Services, Abington

Crime Scene: Lorraine Praeger, Protective Services, Abington

Crime Scene: Adel Mudrova, Protective Services, Abington

Criminal Justice: Noah Cruz, Protective Services, Cheltenham

Culinary: Matthew Wiggins, Culinary, Abington

Customer Service: Nicole Klaski, Commercial Art, Abington

Electrical: Aidan Bedara, Electrical, Upper Moreland

Employment App: Bergen Irwin, Networking and Cybersecurity, Lower Moreland

Esthetics: Lillian Trump, Cosmetology, Cheltenham

Extemporaneous Speaking: Joseph DiPrimeo, Veterinary Science, Hatboro-Horsham

Firefighting: Dylan Logue, Protective Services, Archbishop Wood

HVACR: William Klanderman, HVAC, Lower Moreland

Internetworking: Raemond Tisserand, Networking and Cybersecurity, Upper Moreland

Job Interview: Kayla Marshall, Business and Technology Professionals, Cheltenham

Job Demo A: Chloe Panicker, Cosmetology, Hatboro-Horsham

Job Skill Open: Hannah Friedman, Veterinary Science, Springfield

Medical Math: Megan Farzetta, Allied Health, Hatboro-Horsham

Medical Terminology: Cashmearmarya Moore, Allied Health, Cheltenham

MLR: Dylan Bottomer, Automotive, Hatboro-Horsham

Nailcare: Nina Ivey, Cosmetology, Springfield

Pin Design: Rion Russell, Commercial Art, Cheltenham

Related Technical Math: Logan Manton, Culinary Arts, Abington

Restaurant Services: Hannah Hersh, Culinary, Hatboro-Horsham

T-Shirt Design: Isabella Iannuzzi, Commercial Art, Abington

Welding: Rigel Strohm, Welding Technology, Jenkintown