



educational excellence through leadership, partnership, and innovation

Executive Director's Report

August 25, 2016

NEWS

CAIU Opening Week

It is an exciting time of the year as we welcome our staff for the 2016-17 school year. Our staff providing school age services returned during the week of August 15 and staff providing services for our preschool children returned on August 22. Program meetings are held at various times during this two-week period. I had the opportunity to visit the program meetings to welcome staff to the new school year. It is always great to see and hear the excitement as staff begins their work for the new year.

We welcome many new staff, including teachers, paraeducators, school counselors, psychologists, specialists, speech and language clinicians, social workers, technology staff, and administrators, to the CAIU. We held New Staff Orientation on Friday, August 19. We made some changes to our orientation format and included visitations to Hill Top Academy, our center for school age services, and one of our Preschool Centers.

Curriculum Services

The Curriculum team is working directly with the following school districts to provide professional development opportunities throughout the 2016-17 school year focusing on innovative instructional technology practices in the classroom.

- Newport School District
- Susquehanna Township School District
- West Perry School District
- East Pennsboro School District
- Upper Dauphin School District

Topics include, but are not limited to: Blended Learning, Flipping a Classroom, HEAT Framework (*Higher order thinking, Engaged learning, Authentic connections, Technology use*), SAMR Model (*helps educators infuse technology into teaching and learning*), TPACK (*Technological Pedagogical and Content Knowledge*), Google Apps in Education, Formative Assessment, Canvas, Moodle, iPads as a Center-Based Approach, planning for a 1:1, and the Makerspace movement.

Technology Services

The CAIU Technology Services team has been working collaboratively with our member school districts to select our Next Generation Firewall for our consortium members. This past spring,



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Fortinet was selected as the best solution which will allow us more flexibility, application visibility and control, threat prevention, and increased performance. Fortinet is a global leader in network security providing services to organizations such as NASDAQ OMX, Indiana University, Federal and State governments, Healthcare organizations, and many public school districts. The Next Generation Firewall was installed over the summer and the majority of school districts have been switched over to the new solution. The remaining districts will be migrated as schedules permit. The infrastructure upgrade coupled with the WAN upgrade next year will lead us into the future and prepare our member school districts with the back-end operations to achieve their technology goals.

Student Services

Hill Top Academy

- Hill Top Academy begins the 2016-2017 School year with our second year of School-wide Positive Behavior Interventions & Supports (PBIS) training on Wednesday August 17th. The PBIS mantra at Hill Top will be: Labs Love to Learn First, Act Responsibly, Be Their Best Selves and Show Safe Actions
- To support standards based instruction in the secondary classes, Hill Top Academy teachers will have access to the CAOLA course catalog and content this coming year.
- Anticipated opening day enrollment: 120 students

District-based Classrooms

- We are busily preparing for the first day of school, with the addition of a new Autism Support class being opened at Steelton-Highspire Elementary School. We welcome our newest teacher, Rosanna Lee, to this program. We are thankful for the opportunity to have this class and look forward to providing increased services to our school districts.
- Our Project Max initiative, which began with our Middle School Autism Support class (Samantha Forsythe), will expand this year to our High School Multiple Disabilities Support class (Paulette Walker). This initiative helps build capacity for our students with complex instructional needs to obtain maximum access to and learning of grade level, general education curriculum.

Project SEARCH

- **Save the Date:** A Project SEARCH Open House will be held on **November 15** at Penn State Health Medical Center. This event gives prospective students and families an opportunity to learn more about this exciting program.

Pupil Services/ELECT-EFI/CAMhP/Diakon/Educational Coaches

- The new program ~ Capital Area Mental-health Program (CAMhP) will open temporarily at Hill Top Academy to begin the 2016-2017 school year. We are opening with one secondary class with referrals already in place.
- Student Services will be using a program-wide intake process. There will be a team of coaches and mental health professionals doing all intakes for district and center based classes.
- Pupil Services welcomes some new faces:



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- Debbie Rose – school psychologist
- Laura Morton – social worker, Hill Top Academy
- Tonya Hatter – social worker, Hill Top Academy
- Jan Cuva-Primmer – mental health worker, ELECT

NOTIFICATION OF ACTIVITIES

- Attended United Way Capital Region planning meeting.
- Met with Dr. Chester Mummau, Superintendent-Elect at Shippensburg Area SD.

Upcoming Events:

“My Bike” Presentation and Parade Event

We are so excited to host the **“My Bike”** event on behalf of Variety, The Children’s Charity, on Monday, August 29th at 2:00 p.m. in the Susquehanna Room. It is anticipated that eight children will receive bikes and at least six other children will be fitted for bikes.