



educational excellence through leadership, partnership, and innovation

Executive Director's Report

August 23, 2012

NEWS

ScholarPort

CAIU had preliminary discussions with Lincoln Intermediate Unit (IU 12) regarding a potential ScholarPort partnership. A train-the-trainer model was presented, along with a revenue-share model. A face to face meeting was conducted by Jill Neuhard from the CAIU with Ann Johnston, Lori Stollar, and LeeAnn Zeroth from IU 12. We are currently awaiting approval from IU 12's Executive Director, Dr. Michael Thew, to move ahead with the partnership.

iPad Pilot Project

The iPad Pilot Project kicked off on Tuesday, August 14, with twenty-four second grade teachers from nineteen regional school districts. The iPad wikispace has been updated (<http://caiuipadpilot.wiki.caiu.org/Home>) to collaborate and share resources for the 2012-2013 professional development days scheduled on August 14, October 17, January 9, March 20, and May 22.

In addition, Annville Cleona signed an agreement to receive a comprehensive professional development package for the 2012-2013 academic year. The agreement includes six half-days of on-site professional development for their entire staff, along with one half-day of technical training for their technical staff.

Summer Tutoring Program

During the months of June, July, and August, nine Aid to Nonpublic Schools (ANPS) Reading Specialists offered summer tutoring to students attending nonpublic schools in the CAIU region. The Summer Tutoring Program was federally funded with Title I dollars and targeted students from kindergarten to third grade who received Title I Remedial Reading Services during the 2011-12 School Year. Students were invited to attend two 50 minute tutoring sessions each week for 8 weeks. More than 30 students residing in Central Dauphin, Harrisburg, Steelton-Highspire, and Susquehanna Township school districts participated.

Acoustic Remediation

The acoustic remediation of the cafeteria/multi-purpose room at Hill Top Academy is scheduled to start the week of August 13 and be completed in less than two weeks.

HVAC Update

The CAIU has received a report from the consultant engaged to study the heating/ventilation/and air conditioning (HVAC) system in the Enola Building and make recommendations. A meeting of the Buildings and Grounds Committee of the CAIU Board will be scheduled as soon as September to review and discuss the report.



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Capital Region Partnership for Career Development (CRPCD)

For the past two years, the CRPCD had contracted with the CAIU to provide the essential supervisory and program coordination services. Now, as the Partnership has matured, Mike Berk was hired as the fulltime executive director. This is a welcome development, as the Partnership will still provide the high quality career development services that many of our districts want. This also enables the Partnership to fundraise more effectively, which will benefit the member districts by keeping their membership fees as low as possible. The CAIU remains engaged with the Partnership's new executive director to ensure the same high quality of career development services to its member districts.

Hybrid Learning Professional Development Services

For the last 13 months, the CAIU has been engaged with various organizations in a pilot project to bring hybrid learning to our region. Due to a lack of a quality, comprehensive, hybrid learning professional development solution, the CAIU partnered with Harrisburg University of Science and Technology to develop a training package. After consulting with national experts in this field, we have validated the market for this training. The Center for Advanced School Teaching and Learning (CASTL), a nonprofit organization is in the process of being developed to market this training package to educational agencies nationwide. The new organization will designate a portion of its excess revenue each year to educational programs in our region.

New Employee Orientation

On Thursday, August 2, 2012, we held our new employee orientation for the 2012-2013 school year. The CAIU was successful in hiring a total of five (5) new speech professionals for both our school age and EI programs. With these new hires, we will no longer need to employ retirees back on an emergency basis from PSERS.

Transition to Kindergarten

Our preschool/early intervention staff has worked with the local school districts to support approximately 550 children and families in the transition to kindergarten.

Partnering with Messiah College

We are partnering with Messiah College to provide a location for on-site coursework, training and field experiences across classrooms in our Preschool/Early Intervention, Autism, Capital Area Partial Program (CAPP), and Emotional Support programs. For the fall semester, 10 students will have a structured range of experiences and learning opportunities across CAIU district-based, preschool, and Hill Top Academy classes.

Addressing Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Learners

We are offering a professional development session, Addressing Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Learners, following the September Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC) meeting, to district administrators or staff. The presenter is Dr. Almitra L. Berry and the session is sponsored by McGraw-Hill.



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RECOGNITION

- An article written by **Holly Brzycki** will be published in the September issue of PA Administrator magazine. This is the publication of the PA Association of Elementary and Secondary School Principals. The title of her article is: "Growing a Hybrid Teacher: Supporting Face to Face and Online Instruction".

NOTIFICATION OF ACTIVITIES

- Met with Barbara Layne, new CAIU board member from Middletown School District
- Met with Kevin Lacey, Administrative Director Dauphin County Vo-Tech, to discuss personnel issue
- Met with Kent Smith, newly appointed Superintendent at Susquenita School District
- Met with Dr. Lori Suski, newly appointed Superintendent at Middletown School District
- Met with Dr. Sybil Knight Burney, Superintendent of Harrisburg School District, to discuss the Bridgescape program
- Attended Early Intervention End-of-Year and Graduation ceremonies at Carroll Elementary School
- Met with representative from Pennsylvania Association of School Administrators (PASA) to discuss Regional Women's PASA Conference
- Had discussion with owners of Hill Top property and potential sublease
- Met with representative from Dellicker Strategies to discuss continued partnership in PA Hybrid Learning Initiative
- Attended PASA's Women's Caucus Board meeting
- Attended Harrisburg Regional Chamber of Commerce Education and Business Partnership committee meeting

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

- CAIU All Staff Day – **October 8, 2012**
- We will be working with PA Association of Pupil Services Administrators (PAPSA) to have them come on-site to conduct a program review of our school-age special education services. There will be a 5-6 person team on-site **October 14-16**