



educational excellence through leadership, partnership, and innovation

## Executive Director's Report

December 20, 2012

### NEWS

#### iPad Summit

The CAIU iPad Summit, in partnership with Apple, will be held on Tuesday, December 18. The conference will combine keynote sessions, featured speakers, a student showcase, and presentation sessions that address classroom integration, leadership and technical aspects of iPad deployment and management. There will be 25 presenters from 11 districts, IU's, organizations and higher-education agencies along with 187 attendees from 69 districts, IU's, organizations, non-public schools and higher-education agencies.

#### AgendaManager

The enhancements to AgendaManager are being scheduled for release over the Christmas holiday. An email communication was sent to current AgendaManager users.

#### Comprehensive Planning

Development of comprehensive planning continues, and the latest milestone enabled approximately 150 school districts to submit their required district level plan on November 30, 2012.

#### Loysville WAN

Since Loysville became part of the CAIU, they have had a separate technology infrastructure. This past year we established a WAN connection to streamline our technology support and processes to achieve economical efficiencies. As of July 2012, the WAN connection to Loysville was established. Over the past few months we have been working to merge the Loysville system with the CAIU system. As of the first week of December 2012, we have successfully merged the majority of the two systems.

#### Vocational Services

CAIU Vocational Services was awarded a grant from Target for \$1,100. The grant will fund a spring trip for secondary students to the H.G. Andrews Center in Johnstown. This Center provides a comprehensive program of services featuring the integration of education on campus at the Commonwealth Technical Institute (CTI), counseling, evaluation, and physical restoration in a barrier-free environment.

### RECOGNITION

#### PASCD Conference in Hershey

On Monday, November 19, 2012, **David Colestock and Ann Bailets** presented a small group workshop on the topic *What's Special About Specialists? Supervision Tools to Enhance Their Practice* at the PASCD Conference in Hershey. The focus of the presentation was on using action planning, observations, professional portfolios, and self-assessments to supervise and



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evaluate professional staff that has certifications that are often times different than the certification, training, and experience of the supervisor or administrator.

## NOTIFICATION OF ACTIVITIES

- Alicia McDonald, Director of Student Services, Brian Griffith, Director of Curriculum Services and I attended ***Edison Leadership Development Academy*** in Dana Point, California. As guests of Edison Learning, we had the opportunity to participate in many of the leadership programs. Jeff Wahl, President and CEO of Edison Learning, spoke about the attributes of a successful leader. The other Keynote presenters were from the International Center for Leadership in Education. They offered insights for leading the change to Common Core, which demands fundamental shifts in how we prepare students to be college and career ready.
- Cindy Mortzfeldt, Assistant Executive Director and I attended the ***Derry Township board meeting*** in November where we presented information on CAIU.
- Several cabinet members and Nancy Otstot, CAIU board member, enjoyed a ***Thanksgiving feast at Hill Top***.
- Several members of our leadership team and I attended the ***Association of Educational Service Agencies (AESA) 27<sup>th</sup> Annual conference*** in Tampa, Florida.

Our IU was selected to provide two break-out sessions. One session was entitled *AgendaManager: The Innovative Method to Inform Your Stakeholders*; the other session was entitled *Full Court Press Makes for a Winning Combination - Bridgescape*. The CAIU had several booths showcasing AgendaManager, Scholarport, our iPad Integration Project and CAOLA.

Rob Mancabelli, was a keynote speaker at the conference. He is CEO and co-founder of BrightBytes, a company dedicated to using data to improve learning and technology. Rob has been working closely with us and our districts over the past year and highlighted his relationship with the CAIU during his presentation.

- In keeping with our ***Internal Communication Plan*** we held three communication meetings this month. Two were here at Enola and one was at Hill Top. The agenda was developed with input from the Cross-Functional/Cross Communication Committee comprised of Capital Area Education Association (CAEA) members from each of our locations and our Leadership team. The meetings included updates on the Pennsylvania Association of Pupil Services Administrators (PAPSA) program review, the 2013-14 budget, the summer schedule, and procedures for inclement weather.



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## **UPCOMING ACTIVITIES**

- **December 18, 2012** - The CAIU iPad Summit, in partnership with Apple, will be held on Tuesday, December 18, 2012 from 8:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m. at the Capital Area Intermediate Unit
- **January 29, 2012** - The CAIU Winter Social will be held at the Enola Offices on Tuesday, January 29, 2013 at 4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. This event is free to all CAIU employees. Board Members are invited to attend.