



educational excellence through leadership, partnership, and innovation

Executive Director's Report

April 25, 2013

NEWS

Vocational/Transition Trip

The Hill Top Academy vocational/transition trip to Hiram G. Andrews Center on Monday April 8, 2013, went very well. 12 students receiving support through the vocational program and some of their parents and staff made the bus trip to Johnstown. It was a rewarding experience for students and adults who attended. One of Hill Top Academy graduates was there attending courses and will graduate this spring. The trip was made possible by a grant from Target that was secured by Ann Vacchiano.

Hill Top Academy Activities

Hill Top Academy activities this month include the Track and Field day on May 12, 2013 and Urban Orienteering on May 26, 2013. The track and field events will be held at the West Shore stadium at Cedar Cliff HS. The Orienteering trip is to Harrisburg where the students will be on a scavenger hunt locating various items and sites.

The Regional HS and MS Computer Fair

The Regional HS and MS Computer Fair was held at the CAIU on March 25, 2013. One hundred and thirty two students from eleven school districts were entered into this highly competitive event. Students represented their districts well as they entered their projects in one of the following categories: Animation, Computer Fair Logo, Digital Movie, Graphic Design, Programming, and Web Page Design. While projects were being evaluated, students had the opportunity to attend workshops in Gaming Theory, Animation, and participate in a Mock Newscast. The first place winners of the Regional Computer Fair will be participating in the PA State Computer Fair at Dickinson College in Carlisle on May 21 and 22, 2013. Last year in the 2012 PA State Computer Fair, we had two students who earned first place and one student who earned third place.

Online Assessments - Workgroup Session

Online assessments are increasing within our school districts and it is important that we provide input from our school districts. On April 19, 2013 technology services met with PA Department of Education (PDE) and Data Recognition Corporations (DRC) for a working session focused on both the technical specifications and logistical considerations for deployment of online assessments.

Student's Work on Display at Hershey Medical Center

CAIU is always proud to see one of the students to whom we provide services featured in the news for their outstanding accomplishments! Koryn Spencer, 15, had a recent artist reception at the Penn State Hershey Medical Center's Simulation Center. Her work will remain on display for the next two to three months. Koryn suffers from alternating hemiplegia of childhood (AHC), which, among other things, causes intermittent paralysis of her limbs. For this reason, she paints with both her left and right hands. Not only is she amazing, so is her work! Proceeds from sale of her art will go to help find a cure for AHC.



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RECOGNITION

- **Paulette Walker**, CAIU Multiple Disabilities Support (MDS) teacher at Camp Hill High School, was awarded an educational grant from Central PA Down Syndrome Awareness Group. She has been awarded a package of apps and gift cards for educational apps for the classroom iPad (worth approximately \$460). The staff and students are excited to be able to have more opportunities to explore this device in educational uses!

NOTIFICATION OF ACTIVITIES

- Cindy Mortzfeldt and I attended the Carlisle Area School Board meeting where we presented information on CAIU.
- Participated in the Pennsylvania Association of School Administrators (PASA) Women's caucus in preparation for the conference in May where we will have Dr. Cheri Lovre discuss, "Media Relations for Schools: Crisis Communications."
- CAIU participated in the Three Mile Island disaster drill.
- Attended Regional PAIU meeting in State College where we discussed various PDE initiatives and funding.
- Brian Griffith, Director of Curriculum Services and Holly Brzycki, Online Learning Supervisor, presented Capital Area Online Learning Association (CAOLA) to the executive directors at the PAIU Executive Directors' meeting. Several other IUs have inquired about the program.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

- **CAIU Retiree and Staff Recognition Dinner** - The 12th Annual CAIU Retiree and Staff Recognition dinner will be held on **Thursday, May 16, 2013** at the Holiday Inn, Grantville.
- Loysville Youth Development Center Graduation – **Friday, May 31, 2013** at 1:00 pm.
- CASA 12th Annual Performance and Gala - **May 9, 2013** at 5:30 pm, Whitaker Center for Science and the Arts.