



educational excellence through leadership, partnership, and innovation

Executive Director's Report November 17, 2011

NEWS

We have received \$1250 in grant funding from the Highmark Healthy High 5 as part of the 2010-2012 PA CARES Grant Initiative to support our implementation and staff training of the Olweus Bullying Prevention Program at Hill Top Academy.

Patty Stephens, part of our ELECT-EFI staff, has been actively working in the community to communicate about the work we do with ELECT-EFI clients. ELECT-EFI supports pregnant and parenting teens in our participating school districts. As a result of her work, we received a \$1000 grant through the Local Community Contribution-Hunger Outreach Grant program (Wal-Mart foundation) to support the purchase of resources that these students need.

As part of our Career Presentations currently taking place at Hill Top Academy, Scott Faulkner, an engineer with Phoenix Contacts, shared his story and experiences of hard work and determination leading to his career.

Hill Top Academy Student Council sponsored a Pink-Out at the end of October to support Breast Cancer Awareness month.

The Technology Advisory Council (TAC) conducted an all-day work session at the CAIU on November 10th. The specific topics discussed included Virtual Desktops, InfosNap (paperless environment), Bring Your Own Technology, Deploying Windows 7, and eRate and the Children's Internet Protection Act.

In efforts to save costs and to increase opportunities for the growth of technology in schools that will have a positive impact on student achievement; we are looking at putting our Regional Wide Area Network (RWAN) out to bid this year. Although our current contract does not expire until 2014, we are looking to bid early to get pricing for a new five year contract beginning July 1, 2012. Our hope is that we can increase our amount of bandwidth about ten times and pay less than what we currently pay. Essentially, we are hoping to get Gigabit speeds (1000 Mbps) for less than what we are currently paying for 100 Mbps. There is no commitment when we go out to bid to get new pricing. Although, if the pricing is in the consortium's favor, we will be looking at commitments at a later date.

RECOGNITION

Harry Spilker, a Camp Hill student in the CAIU MDS program, had his photographs on exhibit at the Midtown Scholar Book and Art Festival at the Historic Harrisburg Association.



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Elizabeth Panek, a member of our Curriculum team, was a presenter at the Patten Expo in State College this month. Her topic was Communication for Participation: Meaningful AAC Vocabulary.

Peter Fidgett, a social worker at Hill Top Academy, presented at the National Association of Social Workers PA Conference (NASW-PA) in October about 'Building Inclusive Schools: Preventing Bullying and Discrimination.

Tracy Geist, Social Worker & Home School Visitor, presented her model for integrating therapy dogs into school setting at Widener University.

Nina Meanor, a speech pathologist in our Preschool program, will be speaking about Speech and Language Assessment to education majors at Messiah.

NOTIFICATION OF ACTIVITIES

- Attended the Central PAIU meeting in State College.
- Met with IUs participating in the Hybrid Learning Program
- Attended PAIU Conference in Bedford Springs
- Visited Millersburg SD and met with Superintendent
- Meet with Superintendent and Business Administrator from Derry Township SD
- Participated in Nutrition Audit for Hill Top Academy
- Met with staff from WITF to see how we can partner in the future
- Attended Making the Grade: Virtual Town Hall Meeting

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

- Open House for CASA tonight, Thursday, November 17, 2011 from 6pm to 8pm.
- Friday, November 18, 2011 - Deadline for nominations for the Thomas W. Holtzman, Jr. Educational Leadership Award
- Thursday, December 15, 2011 - CAIU Board meeting is a week early due to holiday
- Thursday, January 26, 2012 – 4th Annual Employee Social at the Enola Office
- Thursday, May 17, 2012 – Employee Recognition and Retirement Dinner at the C. Ted Lick Center at HACC