



educational excellence through leadership, partnership, and innovation

Executive Director's Report

March 22, 2012

NEWS

Focused on Living and CAIU Vocational Program Receives \$500 Target Field Trip Grant

As part of a nationwide program, Target created the Target Field Trip Grants, which allow schools to extend learning opportunities beyond the classroom. These grants help schools to continue in providing children with unique, firsthand learning experiences.

Recently, the CAIU received notification that our Focused on Living and the CAIU vocational program received a \$500 Target Field Trip Grant.

The grant money will be used to provide travel training to students served by the CAIU. This travel training will be provided in the Harrisburg area and may include bus and taxi trips.

Special thanks to Ruth Knapp and Barbara Sperber who wrote the grant proposal.

Fundraisers

- HTA Student Council is coordinating a 'Shoe Drive' for people in need – lightly used shoes are welcomed.
- There is a fundraiser for ongoing veterinary care of the Service Dogs at Hill Top (student-made pet collars and leashes).

Winter Story Family Night

Early Intervention Council sponsored a Winter Story Family Night with Floyd Stokes (aka Super Reader) with approximately 50 families in attendance.

RECOGNITION

- On March 10th, Susan Kutz (Training and Consultation) was the keynote speaker at the Kappa Delta Pi, Epsilon Chapter's new member initiation ceremony at Shippensburg University. There were over 20 new inductees and their families in attendance, including KDP's governing members and advisors. The presentation was entitled "Kutz's top 5" and included: 1. Shift happens, 2. Be a life-long learner, 3. Collaborate, collaborate, collaborate, 4. Know how to access and utilize resources and 5. Love what you do.
- On March 24, **Alice Womer**, speech pathologist, & Greer Aukstakalnis, occupational therapist, will be presenting at the 2012 Journey through Special Education Conference sponsored by CPARC (The Arc of Cumberland and Perry Counties).
- In April, **Nicole Showers**, autism consultant, is presenting an Autism 101 session at the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children in Alexandria, VA.



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NOTIFICATION OF ACTIVITIES

Educational Policy and Leadership Meeting

Attended the Educational Policy and Leadership meeting in Harrisburg where there was a historical presentation of education funding and the impact of the Governor's proposed budget on districts.

CAIU Building and Grounds Committee Meeting

Attended the CAIU building and grounds committee where we discussed the history of Hill Top lease and ways to move forward.

Hill Top Alternate Planning

Met with several superintendents this month to discuss alternative programs for Hill Top.

CPVTS New Administrative Director Search

Will be offering assistance to the Cumberland Perry Area Vocational Technical School as they search for a new administrative director. Dr. Mary Rodman is planning on retiring on August 24, 2012.

2012 Superintendents' Spring Leadership Conference

Attended superintendent retreat in Bedford Springs where we worked with Rob Mancabelli on developing Twenty-First Century learning environments.

AASA Conference

This month, I attended the AASA National Conference on Education in Houston, Texas. The title of the conference was "Big Conversations. Big Solutions." One of the best sessions I attended was by Julie Mathiesen on Mass Customized Learning.

Student Services Site Visits

On March 23, I will be visiting some of our student services sites in Perry and Cumberland Counties (Loysville YDC, Early Intervention at Carroll Elementary in West Perry, Deaf/HH at Middlesex in Cumberland Valley, and Walnut Bottom Preschool in Carlisle).

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

- **Thursday, May 17, 2012** - CAIU Employee Recognition Dinner. Please place this on your calendar.
- **Friday, April 20, 2012** from 7:00p.m. – 10:00p.m. - The Annual Champions for Children Bingo, CAIU, Enola.
- **May 10, 2012** at 5:30p.m. – 10:00p.m. - CASA's 11th Annual Performance and Gala, Whitaker Center for Science and the Arts