CAIU
educational excellence *through leadership, partnership, and innovation*

Acting Executive Director's Report
June 23, 2011

NEWS

Congratulations to our students who graduated from the Emotional Support/Capital Area Partial Program and Multiple Disabilities Support/Life Skills Support Program on June 6 and 7, respectively. Thank you to the CAIU staff who organized both events and to the board members, school district special education directors, proud parents, friends, family members, and CAIU staff for celebrating this joyous occasion with our students. We are very proud of each graduate's achievements and wish them the very best.

On June 22, the CAIU was one of nineteen sites to participate in the second virtual conference sponsored by PDE and the intermediate units. The topic, ***Bringing Your Own Technology to School: Why? How?***, provided an opportunity for a statewide and local conversation about the financial benefits, legal implications, network and security issues, and classroom management implications for schools who may consider offering their students the opportunity to bring their own devices to school. Amy Morton, Executive Deputy Secretary of Education, provided opening remarks. Other presenters included Dotti Bollinger who provided a legal perspective and several administrators who have already implemented or are planning a "Bring Your Own Technology" initiative at their schools.

Organizational Goals Update:

- **Identify, define and implement regional practices for delivery of student services**
    - Alicia McDonald, along with superintendents, district special education directors, and CAIU staff continue to meet to review and revise the Regional Special Education Strategic Plan. There are two sub-committees, one focusing on fiscal review and the other on special education programming needs.
    - Holly Bryzcki, supervisor for Online Learning, continues to provide presentations for potential new members through Capital Area Online Learning Association (CAOLA). Student participation in CAOLA continues to expand. Participation by school districts in four intermediate units and is planned for 2011-12.
    - The CASA Strategic Planning Committee held three meetings. Several service delivery models are being researched. Input will be gathered from

school district superintendents. A follow-up meeting will be scheduled with the strategic planning committee.

- o CAIU staff has met with Edison Learning to discuss an online solution for Alternative Education programming.
- o Planning for the implementation of digital content delivery in geometry, physics, and biology is continuing throughout the spring and summer. Eighteen teachers in eight of our districts will be piloting the use of digital content in their classrooms. Approximately 1,300 students will be participating in this pilot project.

- **Design and implement plans, policies and procedures to consistently provide safe and secure environments for students, staff and visitors**
    - o The Core Safety Team meets monthly to review and provide input for the CAIU Emergency Operations Plan.
    - o The Enola Security Doors are fully operational providing a secure office space for our employees and new visitor sign-in procedures have been implemented.
    - o The CAIU's Radiological Emergency Response Plan was completed and submitted to the county emergency management agency. The CAIU and the Capital Area School for the Arts participated in the biennial Three Mile Island Drill in April.
    - o Hill Top Academy participated in the annual Severe Weather Drill. Participation in planned drills allows the school staff to review procedures and make changes if necessary.
    - o Memoranda of Understanding have been completed with local law enforcement for our preschool sites, Enola office building and Hill Top Academy.
    - o Agreements have been created between the CAIU Preschool sites and local school districts to establish shelter site locations in the event of an evacuation of the students and staff of our preschool programs. An agreement is also in place between CAIU-Hill Top Academy and Crabtree, Rohrbaugh & Associates for the same purpose.
    - o A representative from the PA Department of Health and CAIU staff met to conduct a site assessment of the Enola facility for the purpose of determining if the facility could be a potential POD (Point of Dispensing) site.

- **Consistently implement models of effective supervision and leadership**
    - o Professional Learning Communities are established across the Leadership Team. The purpose of these small group communities is to provide unique professional learning opportunities for our leadership team. Topics for the learning communities included two book studies, the Evaluation Process, Supervisor "101", Integration of Technology in Instruction, and Budget "101". For the second half of the year, new groups were formed around the topics of Alio Users Group, Supervising Staff with Performance Issues,

Supervising Superstar Staff Members, and Technology Users Group. Each group meets monthly and is facilitated by a member of the Leadership Team.
- o The revision of Professional Development Evaluation Program (PDEP) is complete. Rubrics for each of the job alike groups have been completed.
- **Model the appropriate integration of technology solutions to enhance all aspects of job performance**
  - o Cabinet members and supervisors have begun using ALIO financial software across teams for business and budget information.
  - o The Early Intervention (EI) supervisors and staff are working through the process for implementation of Pennsylvania's Enterprise to Link Information for Children Across Networks (PELICAN) - an information management system used to manage all the records of children receiving EI services across the Commonwealth.
  - o Links to Facebook and Twitter are established on the CAIU webpage. CAIU announcements of events are posted through these social media.
  - o Access into the Employee Portal in Alio is complete. Beginning in July, direct deposit statements will no longer be printed and mailed. Staff will access all pay information through the Employee Portal.
  - o Monarch Technologies is partnering with CAIU's Autism program to implement a program called "VizZle" (visual language technology) in our Autism classrooms. Teachers can create web-based lessons and get access to a large library of developmental materials. Currently, this is operating in 5 of our classrooms.
  - o Safari Montage has been implemented on PAIUnet and provides digital content for use by teachers across our districts.
  - o Wireless internet upgrade is complete at the Enola Office. Secured wireless is available to IU staff and the guest option is available for visitors in the building.
  - o The migration of PennData to the Pennsylvania Informational Management System (PIMS) continues. Processes and procedures are being developed to facilitate this transition.

NOTIFICATION OF ACTIVITIES
- July 13 – CAIU Regional Leadership Workshop – several members of Cabinet will be attending this leadership workshop along with several of our local districts' administrative teams
- July 14-15 – CAIU Cabinet Retreat
- July 26 – 15th Annual Champions for Children Golf Tournament