



educational excellence through leadership, partnership, and innovation

Executive Director's Report to the Board

July 24, 2008

This month marks the end of my first full year as executive director. Therefore, I will use this month's report to provide a summary status on my 07-08 goals. For next month, I would like to propose my goals for 08-09.

Annual Goal #1: Entry Plan

The Executive Director will develop and complete an entry plan which focuses on establishing relationships with key stakeholder groups (CAIU Board, CAEA, CAIU staff, Superintendents, PDE, local legislators, PAIU executive directors, area business and community leaders, state professional associations, and regional higher education leadership personnel).

- ✓ I completed 18 visits to our member districts' Boards of Directors over the past four months. This coming year, I will try to schedule the remaining six visits, which include Central Dauphin, Derry Township, Harrisburg, Greenwood, Steelton-Highspire and Halifax. Beginning in 2009-2010, I plan to visit on a three-year rotation, visiting eight districts per year.
- ✓ This month I am meeting individually with our new superintendents. I met with Dr. William Harner from Cumberland Valley School District and Jemry Small from West Shore School District. I am scheduled to meet with Dr. Deborah Wortham from Steelton Highspire at the end of this month. We are very fortunate to have a strong and collaborative team of superintendents in our IU.
- ✓ The CAIU Communications Plan Summary, shared at last month's meeting, provides the means for maintaining ongoing communication with the CAIU Board, CAIU staff, local legislators, district superintendents and other central office administrators, building principals, and many others.
- ✓ My membership on the Capital Area School for the Arts Steering Committee, The Champions for Children Board of Directors, and the Capital Region Partnership for Career Development Board of Directors provides opportunities to interact with many businesses, community agencies and postsecondary institutions.

Annual Goal #2: Strategic Plan

The Executive Director will develop and begin to implement a strategic plan designed to achieve and sustain the CAIU mission.

- ✓ The CAIU Cabinet will review the Client Satisfaction Survey results and finalize the Strategic Plan at their July 25th retreat in preparation for final presentation to the CAIU Board in August. Thank you to Mechanicsburg Area School District for making their board room available to us for our retreat.

Annual Goal #3: Student Facilities

The Executive Director will secure student facilities which meet programmatic needs for center-based students.

- ✓ Hill Top Academy is on schedule for opening in August 2009. Planning for the building dedication and staff picnic event scheduled for September 13th is underway.

- ✓ The CAIU has signed a letter of intent to lease about 9000 square feet on the first floor of Strawberry Square in downtown Harrisburg to house the Capital Area School for the Arts beginning in 2009-2010. For the next sixty days CAIU will work with the Harrisburg Development Corporation to determine if the space can be designed to accommodate the school. A lease agreement would then be presented to the Board in September for official action in October.
- ✓ CAIU's Champions for Children capital campaign will be underway in August with a fundraising goal of \$1,760,000. These funds will help equip the Hill Top Academy and new CASA location and begin an endowment program so that tuition rates can remain affordable.

Annual Goal #4: Public Awareness

The Executive Director will enhance public awareness of the CAIU through improved public relations efforts and through the internal organization's awareness of the CAIU mission.

- ✓ The new CAIU website went live on July 1, 2008 as scheduled. Both employee and client feedback has been very positive. The website is designed to embody our mission. Two entities have already approached the CAIU to explore web design services.
- ✓ The new logo also went into effect on July 1. Until one changes their logo, I don't believe it is possible to realize just how many places the old one can be found!
- ✓ Our partnership with Wendt Communications will continue in 2008-2009. The substantially improved media presence achieved through frequent press coverage is reflected in the 07-08 summary chart provided at last month's meeting.

Annual Goal #5: Instructional Technology Solutions

The Executive Director will provide leadership in 1) establishing PAIUnet, a private, high speed, statewide internet service for IUs and school districts; and 2) developing a strategic regional approach to distance learning solutions.

- ✓ An executive summary and "next steps" document regarding a regional solution for on-line learning has been developed and will serve as the basis for discussion at an early August meeting of the Superintendents' Curriculum Committee.
- ✓ PAIUnet is in the process of receiving proposals for project management, having achieved the goal of establishing themselves as an intergovernmental agency.

Coming Up: *Our annual All Staff "Opening Day" is scheduled for Friday, August 22. Thank you to East Pennsboro Area School District for continuing to make their high school available to us for this event.*