

February 2024

Helping Districts Help Students is a monthly highlight of activities provided by IU13 in support of school district efforts.

Serving School Districts and Educators



Tech Media Integrators Collaborative: Monthly meetings provide school district technology and media staff with a forum for training and sharing in the uses of technology and media in curriculum and instruction. At the January meeting, IU13 instructional technology specialists provided an opportunity for collaboration and research on the upcoming PETE&C Conference in Hershey, as well as the topic of using artificial intelligence in education. Using the [SOLE framework](#) (Self-Organized Learning Environment), participants shared their driving questions, then chose a topic to research and shared their findings with the group.

Participants: (55) AC, COC, CL, CV, DON, EASD, ELANCO, ELCO, ETOWN, HEMP, LEB, LS, MC, MT, NP, PAL, PV, SDOL, WAR, IU13, and Other

Contact: Tim Leister, 717-947-1854 or timothy_leister@iu13.org

BrainPOP Science & STEELS: The new middle school science product from BrainPOP makes it easy for Pennsylvania students to 'practice the practices' required for success on their PSSAs and builds transferable skills, like evidence-based writing, critical thinking, and problem-solving, required by the new STEELS standards. Participants discovered how the BP Science investigations activate students' scientific learning with an embedded Claim-Evidence-Reasoning (CER) process anchored in exciting and relatable phenomena. New Engineering Projects engaged students in challenges where they applied their design and solution thinking through the engineering design process.

Participants: (11) EASD, ELANCO, LS, MC, MT, NP, SDOL, WAR, and IU13

Contact: Keith Royer, 717-947-1853 or keith_royer@iu13.org

Librarians' Collaborative: These collaborative meetings are for Lancaster and Lebanon County library stakeholders, including AccessPA member libraries, for the purpose of providing pertinent information concerning the IU13 IMS, educational technology resources, ethical and legal issues, and professional development opportunities. January Librarians' Collaborative meeting focused on library legislation and included a visit from Senator Aument to discuss Senate Bill 7 and House Bill 1659. Updates to the upcoming Reading Olympics student competition were also provided and discussed.

Participants: (35) AC, COC, CL, CV, DON, EASD, ELCO, ETOWN, HEMP, LEB, MC, MT, PAL, PM, PV, SDOL, and SOL

Contact: Tim Leister, 717-947-1854 or timothy_leister@iu13.org

Esport Collaborative: The Esports Collaborative brought together IU12 (York, Adams, and Franklin), IU13 (Lancaster, Lebanon), and IU14 (Berks). The purpose of the Esports Collaborative is to provide any middle school and high school educators interested in esports the opportunity to meet with a network of others to explore starting, exploring, and continuing esports programs. Time was provided to collaborate and share ideas, upcoming events, games, platforms, and opportunities with esports across PA. Current trends, opportunities for support, networking, and esports-related resources are also shared. Each collaborative meeting is planned to focus on participant needs and questions and to provide support.

Participants: (11) COC, CV, PV, IU12, and IU14

Contact: Keith Royer, 717-947-1853 or keith_royer@iu13.org

Lancaster-Lebanon Virtual Solutions (LLVS) Advisors' Collaborative: LLVS Collaborative Meetings are held monthly, and they are intended to provide Online/Virtual academy leaders/advisors an opportunity to network and collaborate with colleagues. During this meeting, a representative from Pearson Virtual Schools was in attendance and presented a demonstration of their curriculum and systems. Some topics covered include the admin and student view, synchronous opportunities, and system

capabilities. Advisors and district contacts also had an opportunity to network, ask questions, and receive feedback from member LLVS districts.

Participants: (21) AC, CL, COL, CV, ELANCO, HEMP, LEB, MC, MT, PV, SOL, WAR, and Other

Contact: Lindsey Harper, 717-947-1517 or lindsey_harper@iu13.org

IU13 Enriched Virtual Forum: Monthly meetings for the Enriched Virtual Forum (EVF) are designed to support district cyber academies to be the highest quality and most cost-effective programs which fully compete with other cyber charter programs available today. At the January meeting, the team from Annville-Cleona presented the changes that have been enacted with their rebranded Dutchmen Virtual Academy. The group also discussed the possible impacts of recent PA state house bill proposals and enacted legislation.

Participants: (15) AC, CV, ELANCO, MC, MT, PAL, PV, SDOL, and SOL

Contact: Tim Leister, 717-947-1854 or timothy_leister@iu13.org

IMS Refresh Committee: IU13 Instructional Media Services (IMS) provides a cost-effective and convenient program for educators to obtain high-quality digital media and educational equipment to complement classroom instruction. Every five years, IMS revamps and updates its resources to continue to meet districts' current needs and initiatives. All 22 school districts from Lancaster-Lebanon IU13 have district representatives on this committee to provide ideas and input on programming for the next iteration of the IMS that will span from 2025-2030. At January's virtual meeting, the results of the recent IMS Equipment and Digital Programs Survey were presented to the group and final opportunities were provided for districts to suggest programs to be added or removed in the future.

Participants: (22) AC, COC, CV, EASD, ELANCO, ETOWN, HEMP, LEB, LS, MC, PAL, PM, PV, SDOL, and Other

Contact: Tim Leister, 717-947-1854 or timothy_leister@iu13.org

STEELS Standards Overview: Participants gained insight to the new PA Science, Technology & Engineering, and Environmental Literacy and Sustainability (STEELS) standards, which are a powerful framework for student-centered learning. The session offered a K-12 framework overview, as well as time to collaborate with science colleagues.

Participants: (27) EASD, ELCO, HEMP, and Other

Contact: Jason Zimmerman, 717-947-1883 or jason_zimmerman@iu13.org

STEELS Institute: IU13 introduced the STEELS Institute, designed to build a network between educators, community institutions, industry partners, and students! This exciting three-day educational journey commenced on January 30th with over 20 school districts, higher education, community organizations, and business/industry leaders. The group's mission continues to equip educators with the tools necessary for effective STEELS implementation and building capacity within Lancaster and Lebanon counties. Day 1 focused on the implementation plan for the STEELS standards, areas of need, and strategic action planning. The rich, interactive discussions and dynamic networking opportunities build stronger connections and support in our IU13.

Participants: (130) AC, COC, CL, COL, CV, EASD, ELANCO, ETOWN, HEMP, LEB, MC, MT, NL, PM, PV, SDOL, SOL, WAR, IU13, and

Contact: Jason Zimmerman, 717-947-1883 or jason_zimmerman@iu13.org

Slavery, Sectionalism, and the Civil War: Teaching American History Socratic Discussion: The decades that preceded Abraham Lincoln's presidential election and the onset of secession and civil war saw an America increasingly divided over the future of slavery in the United States. This seminar explored the events and turmoil that ultimately led to the greatest conflict this nation endured. Participants were tasked with pre-readings that present a diversity of opinions regarding that division, and how best to resolve what Harry V. Jaffa called "the crisis of the house divided."

Participants: (14) COC, CV, DON, ELCO, MC, MT, NL, NPS, and Other

Contact: Brian Booker, 717-947-1078 or brian_booker@iu13.org

Coach Mentor Collaborative Meeting: The purpose of the IU13 Coaches' Mentor Collaborative meetings is to give instructional coaches in Lancaster and Lebanon counties an opportunity to: learn from and with peers, gain support from other PIIC coaches and PIIC mentor, and share issues, concerns, and solutions. Each meeting includes networking, professional development, and IU13 updates. This meeting focused on Instructional Playbooks, based on Jim Knight's model. Coaches collaborated to create "one pagers" and checklists of evidence-based strategies. Coaches also shared supporting activities that match these strategies. This will be an ongoing project to provide a resource for all coaches to utilize in their home district.

Participants: (31) AC, CV, EASD, ELANCO, ETOWN, LS, MC, MT, PAL, and PM

Contact: Kristina Fulton, 717-947-1869 or kristina_fulton@iu13.org

STEM Leadership Collaborative (LC) Meeting: The purpose of the IU13 Science, Technology, Engineering & Math (STEM) Leadership Collaborative Meetings is to give science, technology/engineering, and math leaders an opportunity to: stay informed of the most current information from the PDE and professional organizations, share that information with colleagues in their school or district, engage in collaborative professional learning for building their own capacity to lead, and serve as a resource for determining regional professional development needs.

Participants: (14) CL, ELCO, MC, MT, PAL, PM, IU13, and Other

Contact: Kristina Fulton, 717-947-1869 or kristina_fulton@iu13.org

Growing Number Sense and Reasoning with John SanGiovanni: In this session, participants learned about dynamic, doable activities that engaged students in meaningful ways to nurture number sense and develop fluency. A collection of ready-for-use resources were provided and explored so that the pursuit of number sense becomes a daily routine.

Participants: (44) CV, DON, ELANCO, ELCO, HEMP, MT, PAL, PV, NPS, SDOL, and Other

Contact: Kristina Fulton, 717-947-1869 or kristina_fulton@iu13.org

District Human Resources (HR) Exchange Meeting: The District HR Exchange brings district staff together to meet regarding updates to certification, benefits, negotiations, and any other updated information regarding Human Resources. The topics covered at this meeting included welcoming new members to the group, reviewing upcoming dates to remember (including the 2024 Pennsylvania Association of School Personnel Administrators), and the conference agenda. Other dates reviewed were the HR Exchange Conference and the opportunity for members to attend the Steve Cadigan presentation in March. Additional topics covered were a product offering from Frontline, and product updates from Red Rover, and contract negotiations. Also discussed were answers to several district questions regarding emergency permits, classroom monitors, recent School Code changes, tuition reimbursement challenges, and summer interns. In addition, the group continues to utilize Schoology, where HR resources and upcoming events are provided as a library for district use.

Contact: Flip Steinour, 717-606-1660 or flip_steinour@iu13.org

Guest Teacher Training: The Guest Teacher Training is a training provided to individuals interested in and applying to become a daily substitute teacher in Lancaster and Lebanon County public schools. Twelve candidates attended the training, which included an introduction to the vision, mission, scope, and programs of IU13 as well as an overview of the Guest Teacher Program and step-by-step instructions for getting started as a daily substitute professional.

Contact: Flip Steinour, 717-606-1660 or flip_steinour@iu13.org

Ed Tech Pool Counsel Training: Mark Walz of Sweet, Stevens, Katz and Williams, LLP presented a session titled “Deep Dive on Websites.” This session focused on the most common questions school administrators face when it comes to websites. What should be on a school website? What must be ADA accessible? Can you post student pictures without permission? Can you livestream audio from graduation? What control can be exercised over websites created by students? What about 3rd party sites? Mr. Walz also discussed these questions, and any additional thoughts as posed by the counsel members.

Participants: COL, HEMP, MT, NPS, NL, PASD, SDOL, WAR, and IU13

Contact: Jaime Torres, 717-606-1675 or jaime_torres@iu13.org

Technology Coordinator Meeting: This meeting provided a forum where technology coordinators could connect and network with others regarding technology issues in their schools. At this meeting, updates were provided regarding upcoming events and deadlines, as well as information of importance to technology coordinators.

Contact: Jaime Torres, 717-606-1675 or jaime_torres@iu13.org

District Communications & Public Relations Consortium – Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Copyright, and Website Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG): Mark Walz with Sweet, Stevens, Katz, and William, provides a legal update on changes in PA and Federal Law and caselaw updates that are likely to impact school communications professionals – such as: Act 151, data breaches, website accessibility, copyright issues related to AI, and other social media challenges impacting our work based on the development of AI.

Participants: (18) COC, COL, CV, CL, EASD, HEMP, LS, MT, PM, PV, WAR, SDOL, and IU13

Contact: Shannan Guthrie, 717-606-1702 or shannan_guthrie@iu13.org

Serving School Age Learners

LLVS Learner Engagement - Fizzics presented Light and Color: Students investigated the visible light spectrum, including color addition and subtraction, and explored luminescent minerals and other objects using ultraviolet light. Students also learned why sunsets are red, how to make colored shadows and create hovering images, and translucent, transparent, and opaque materials, refraction vs. reflection and how to make a telescope, and optical fiber and its use in hi-speed broadband technology.

Participants: (4) CV and DON

Contact: Melissa Adams, 717-606-1803 or melissa_adams@iu13.org

LLVS Learner Engagement - Constellations in the Winter Night Sky: Students learned about the stars and planets visible in the winter sky, and the science and history behind those objects.

Participants: (8) CV, DON, ELANCO, and MT

Contact: Melissa Adams, 717-606-1803 or melissa_adams@iu13.org

LLVS Learner Engagement, PA College of Art & Design: LLVS Online learners toured The PA College of Art & Design. The tour was led by one of our student ambassadors, and reviewed the history of the college and admissions process.

Participants: (6) CV

Contact: Melissa Adams, 717-606-1803 or melissa_adams@iu13.org

Student Enrichment Experience (SEE) Seminar, “The Fine Art of Deception”: In this presentation, students learned the similarities between artists and magicians. The presentation showcased how artists use illusion techniques to draw the viewer’s eye to certain aspects of their creation. Students were able to see art in a new light and magic as a science.

Participants: (11) CL, DON, EASD, ELANCO, HEMP, and MC

Contact: Meredith Yoder, 717-947-1182 or meredith_yoder@iu13.org

SEE Seminar, “Herpetology: The Sscience of Reptiles and Amphibians.”: During this seminar students got the chance to meet some of nature’s most intriguing creatures: reptiles and amphibians. Students learned about the unique biology that sets them apart from other animals and learned how these creatures play vital roles in keeping our environment balanced. The students were able to observe several live reptiles and amphibians throughout the seminar.

Participants: (89) EASD, ELANCO, ETOWN, LEB, MC, MT, NP, PAL, PV, SDOL, and SOL

Contact: Meredith Yoder, 717-947-1182 or meredith_yoder@iu13.org

SEE Seminar “Organizing Strategies for Students”: Students explored why organization is so important and how it plays a vital role in their success. Students learned how to prioritize and manage “to-do” lists so that they are always current. Students completed a self-assessment to identify the areas they need to form new habits in and learned practical tips on how to stay organized in those areas.

Participants: (40) EASD, ELANCO, LS, LEB, MC, PAL, and SDOL

Contact: Meredith Yoder, 717-947-1182 or meredith_yoder@iu13.org

Key:			
AC	Annville-Cleona	MT	Manheim Township
COC	Cocalico	NL	Northern Lebanon
COL	Columbia Borough	OCT	Octorara Area
CV	Conestoga Valley	PAL	Palmyra Area
CL	Cornwall-Lebanon	PM	Penn Manor
DON	Donegal	PV	Pequea Valley
ELANCO	Eastern Lancaster County	SDOL	School District of Lancaster
ELCO	Eastern Lebanon County	SOL	Solanco
ETOWN	Elizabethtown Area	WAR	Warwick
EASD	Ephrata Area	LanCTC	Lancaster County Career & Technology Center
HEMP	Hempfield	LebCTC	Lebanon County Career & Technology Center
LS	Lampeter-Strasburg	PDE	Pennsylvania Department of Education
LEB	Lebanon	IU13	Lancaster-Lebanon IU13
MC	Manheim Central	NPS	Nonpublic Schools



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