

**CENTRAL SUSQUEHANNA INTERMEDIATE UNIT BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2024**

SIU Central Office
90 Lawton Lane
Milton, PA 17847

HEAD START TRAINING / DINNER – 5:30 p.m.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS - 6:30 p.m.

Budget and Finance Committee
Human Resources Committee
Technology/Marketplace

BUSINESS MEETING - 7 p.m.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Call to Order

President Rhoads called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

1.2 Pledge of Allegiance

1.3 Roll Call – Directors present: 11; Directors absent: 6

Director	District	Present	Absent
Terry Boonie	Midd-West		X
William Brecker	Mount Carmel Area		X
Thomas Eberhart	Mifflinburg Area	X	
Dr. Samuel Faulkner	Danville Area	X	
Dr. John (Jove) Graham	Lewisburg Area	X	
Lauren Hackenburg, Treasurer	Line Mountain		X
David Hess	Selinsgrove Area	X	
Robert Hormell	Warrior Run	X	
Jonathan Jones	Bloomsburg Area	X	
Jeffrey Kashner	Shamokin Area	X	
Brianna Maciejewski	Southern Columbia Area		X
Susan Myers	Millville Area		X
William Pasukinis	Benton Area		X
Brenda Post	Berwick Area	X	
Bruce Rhoads, President	Central Columbia	X	
Slade Shreck, Vice President	Shikellamy	X	
Dr. Alvin Weaver	Milton Area	X	

1.4 Announcements

The next regular monthly meeting will begin at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 20, 2024 at the CSIU central office.

1.5 Recognition of Guests and Opportunity for Public Comment

Kellie Bates, Leadership Susquehanna Valley
 Bernadette Boerckel, Chief Outreach Officer
 Rae Ann Crispell, Administrative Support Director
 Kenneth Erb, Manager of Buildings and Grounds
 Alan Hack, Chief Academic Officer
 Kaitlyn Hall, Director of Early Childhood Education
 Pamela Karnes, EA Representative
 Kevin Kilgus, Director of Financial Services
 John Kurelja, Executive Director
 Jared Lehman, Chief Innovation Officer
 Shileste Overton-Morris, Chief Programs Officer
 Amy Pfleegor, Executive Office Manager/Board Recording Secretary
 Laura Saccente, Center for Schools and Communities Assistant Director
 Eric Shearer, Telecommunications Technology Network Coordinator
 Brian Snyder, Chief Financial and Operations Officer

1.6 Approval of Minutes (Attachment)

Directors were asked to approve the minutes of the CSIU Board of Directors meeting held on Wednesday, Sept. 18, 2024.

Motion to approve the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday, Sept. 18, 2024 as presented.

Motion by Slade Shreck, second by Jonathan Jones.

Final Resolution: Motion passed unanimously.

Yes: Thomas Eberhart, Samuel Faulkner, John Graham, David Hess, Robert Hormell, Jonathan Jones, Jeffrey Kashner, Brenda Post, Bruce Rhoads, Slade Shreck, Alvin Weaver

1.7 Spotlight Segment

There was no spotlight presentation this month.

2. BOARD GOVERNANCE

2.1 Officer Position

Directors were asked to nominate and elect a CSIU Board Secretary to fill the position vacated by Slade Shreck (Shikellamy) who was elected as CSIU Board Vice President at the Sept. 18, 2024 meeting. This replacement position will be effective immediately and run through June 30, 2025. Dr. Alvin Weaver, Milton Area School District, was nominated and elected as the new Board Secretary.

Motion to approve the CSIU Board of Directors nomination for Board Secretary as presented.

Motion by David Hess, second by Thomas Eberhart.

Final Resolution: Motion passed unanimously.

Yes: Thomas Eberhart, Samuel Faulkner, John Graham, David Hess, Robert Hormell, Jonathan Jones, Jeffrey Kashner, Brenda Post, Bruce Rhoads, Slade Shreck, Alvin Weaver

3. BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE - Lauren Hackenburg, Chair; Robert Hormell, Jonathan Jones and Brenda Post, Committee Members

3.1 Monthly Financial Statements for September 2024 (Attachments)

Directors were asked to approve the following September 2024 financial statements:

- Financial Report;
- Program Balance Sheet; and
- General Fund Accounting Payment Summary. Funds for payment are available in program budgets.

Motion to approve monthly financial statements for September 2024 as presented.

Motion by Robert Hormell, second by Brenda Post.

Final Resolution: Motion passed unanimously.

Yes: Thomas Eberhart, Samuel Faulkner, John Graham, David Hess, Robert Hormell, Jonathan Jones, Jeffrey Kashner, Brenda Post, Bruce Rhoads, Slade Shreck, Alvin Weaver

4. TECHNOLOGY/MARKETPLACE COMMITTEE - Jonathan Jones, Chair; Terry Boonie, Thomas Eberhart and Alvin Weaver, Committee Members

4.1 PAIUnet Dissolution and Resolution (Attachment)

PAIUnet, established in 2008 to provide cost-effective telecommunications and support services for Intermediate Units (IUs), school districts, schools, and libraries, is set to be dissolved by June 30, 2026 due to advancements in broadband technology making its services no longer cost-effective. Directors were asked to approve the rescission and dissolution of PAIUnet Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement and Resolution.

Motion to approve rescission and dissolution of PAIUnet Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement and Resolution as presented.

Motion by Jonathan Jones, second by John Graham.

Final Resolution: Motion passed unanimously.

Yes: Thomas Eberhart, Samuel Faulkner, John Graham, David Hess, Robert Hormell, Jonathan Jones, Jeffrey Kashner, Brenda Post, Bruce Rhoads, Slade Shreck, Alvin Weaver

4.2 PEPPM Catalog Bid Awards – Contract Extensions (Attachment)

Directors were asked to approve the extension of the PEPPM Catalog contracts through Dec. 31, 2025.

Motion to approve the extension of the PEPPM catalog contracts as presented.

Motion by Jonathan Jones, second by John Graham.

Final Resolution: Motion passed unanimously.

Yes: Thomas Eberhart, Samuel Faulkner, John Graham, David Hess, Robert Hormell, Jonathan Jones, Jeffrey Kashner, Brenda Post, Bruce Rhoads, Slade Shreck, Alvin Weaver

4.3 Purchase of Dell Laptops and Docks

Directors were asked to approve the purchase of 53 Dell Latitude 5550 laptops at a cost of \$65,720 and 35 Dell Thunderbolt docks at a cost of \$5,845, from Winslow Technology Group, Waltham, Mass., a PEPPM vendor. These laptops and docks will be used for employee technology services at the CSIU central office. Funds for this purchase are available in the computer services budget.

Motion to approve the purchase of Dell laptops and docks as presented.

Motion by Jonathan Jones, second by John Graham.

Final Resolution: Motion passed unanimously.

Yes: Thomas Eberhart, Samuel Faulkner, John Graham, David Hess, Robert Hormell, Jonathan Jones, Jeffrey Kashner, Brenda Post, Bruce Rhoads, Slade Shreck, Alvin Weaver

5. HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE - Slade Shreck, Chair; Brianna Maciejewski and Bruce Rhoads, Committee Members

5.1 Full-Time Personnel

New Employee – Instructional Staff

- **Justin Sharp**, Marion Heights, received a bachelor's degree from Bloomsburg University. He has been employed as a teacher with North Schuylkill School District, Ashland. Mr. Sharp is recommended as a **special education teacher** at the

bachelor's step 6 classification, effective Dec. 16, 2024 (contingent upon receipt of required clearances and PDE approval of Type 01 emergency permit), at an annual salary of \$60,329, according to the terms of the Collective Bargaining Agreement. Funds for this replacement position are available in the special education budget.

New Employees – Non-Instructional Staff

- **Barbara E. Ditty**, Watontown, received a diploma from Line Mountain High School, Herndon. Ms. Ditty has been employed as a lead direct service worker with Suncom Industries, Northumberland. Ms. Ditty is recommended as a **classroom assistant** at an hourly rate of \$15.50 (\$21,506.25 annually), effective Oct. 17, 2024 (contingent upon receipt of required clearances). Funds for this replacement position are available in the alternative placement budget.
- **Richard Donahoe**, Temple, received a master's degree from Arcadia University, Glenside. He has been employed as an engineer IT systems with Foundever, Miami, FL. Mr. Donahoe is recommended as a **programmer analyst** at an annual salary of \$65,000, effective Oct. 17, 2024 (contingent upon receipt of required clearances). Funds for this replacement position are available in the computer services budget.
- **Maurice T. Geary**, Danville, received a bachelor's degree from Pennsylvania State University, University Park. He has been employed as a substitute teacher with the CSIU, and was previously a correctional officer with the Federal Bureau of Prisons, Allenwood. Mr. Geary is recommended as an **instructional support program assistant** at an hourly rate of \$17 (\$23,587.50 annually), effective Oct. 17, 2024 (contingent upon receipt of required clearances). Funds for this replacement position are available in the special education budget.
- **Seth W. Phillips**, New Columbia, received a bachelor's degree from Pennsylvania State University, University Park. He has been employed as a vocational rehabilitation specialist with Living Unlimited Inc., Williamsport. Mr. Phillips is recommended as an **adult basic education instructor** at an hourly rate of \$17.25 (\$33,637.50 annually), effective Nov. 1, 2024 (contingent upon receipt of required clearances). Funds for this replacement position are available in the adult education budget.
- **Miranda G. Vining**, Danville, received an associate degree from Eastern Gateway Community College, Steubenville, OH. She has been employed as an in-school youth workforce specialist with Central Susquehanna Opportunities, Shamokin. Ms. Vining is recommended as a **client support specialist I** at an annual salary of \$49,000, effective Oct. 21, 2024 (contingent upon receipt of required clearances). Funds for this replacement position are available in the computer services budget.
- **Amy F. Willoughby**, Danville, received a master's degree from Bloomsburg University. She has been employed as a director of special education with Southern Columbia Area School District, Catawissa. Ms. Willoughby is recommended as an **Early Intervention evaluation system supervisor** at an annual salary of \$92,500, effective Jan. 2, 2025 (contingent upon receipt of required clearances). Funds for this new position are available in the Early Intervention budget.

Position Transfers

- **Beth A. Manyara**, from Office for Dispute Resolution special education coordinator (part-time) at a current hourly rate of \$29.73, to **Office for Dispute Resolution special education coordinator (full-time)** at an annual salary of \$58,000, effective Dec. 9, 2024

Changes in Start Dates

- **Helen Hyun**, Migrant Education student support specialist, from Sept. 19, 2024 to Sept. 24, 2024
- **Brandi L. Miller**, special education teacher, from Sept. 26, 2024 to Sept. 19, 2024
- **Diane E. Shamory**, Early Head Start senior family partner/home visitor, from Sept. 19, 2024 to Sept. 23, 2024

Furloughs

- **Luis E. Beltran**, Millersville University Migrant Education recruitment coordinator, effective Sept. 30, 2024, due to the Millersville University purchase for service agreement not being renewed
- **Ivelisse Dunham**, Millersville University Migrant Education team leader, effective Sept. 30, 2024, due to the Millersville University purchase for service agreement not being renewed
- **Amanda L. Guzman**, Millersville University Migrant Education team leader, effective Sept. 30, 2024, due to the Millersville University purchase for service agreement not being renewed
- **Marianela Mancebo**, Millersville University Migrant Education team leader, effective Sept. 30, 2024, due to the Millersville University purchase for service agreement not being renewed

Resignations

- **Kelsey David**, occupational therapist, effective Nov. 8, 2024
- **Haley Dorman**, Head Start assistant, effective Sept. 17, 2024
- **Chanda Parker**, Head Start assistant instructor, effective June 14, 2024
- **Anita Williams**, non-traditional education support coordinator, effective Sept. 27, 2024

*Please note that the effective date listed above is the last paid working day.

Motion to approve full-time personnel recommendations as presented.

Motion by Slade Shreck, second by Jonathan Jones.

Final Resolution: Motion passed unanimously.

Yes: Thomas Eberhart, Samuel Faulkner, John Graham, David Hess, Robert Hormell, Jonathan Jones, Jeffrey Kashner, Brenda Post, Bruce Rhoads, Slade Shreck, Alvin Weaver

5.2 Part-Time Personnel

New Employees – Non-Instructional Staff

- **Beth A. Manyara**, Office for Dispute Resolution special education coordinator, at an hourly rate of \$29.73, effective Oct. 17, 2024 to Dec. 9, 2024 (contingent upon receipt of required clearances)
- **Yadira Pena**, Migrant Education student support specialist, at an hourly rate of \$18.68, effective Oct. 17, 2024 (contingent upon receipt of required clearances)

Motion to approve part-time personnel recommendations as presented.

Motion by Slade Shreck, second by Jonathan Jones.

Final Resolution: Motion passed unanimously.

Yes: Thomas Eberhart, Samuel Faulkner, John Graham, David Hess, Robert Hormell, Jonathan Jones, Jeffrey Kashner, Brenda Post, Bruce Rhoads, Slade Shreck, Alvin Weaver

5.3 Substitute Personnel

Directors were asked to approve substitute personnel to work in CSIU classrooms and programs for the 2024-25 school year.

Substitute Teachers

Amanda Bowersox

Nisa Lehman

Classroom Monitor

Christine Hunsberger

Motion to approve substitute personnel recommendations as presented.

Motion by Slade Shreck, second by Jonathan Jones.

Final Resolution: Motion passed unanimously.

Yes: Thomas Eberhart, Samuel Faulkner, John Graham, David Hess, Robert Hormell, Jonathan Jones, Jeffrey Kashner, Brenda Post, Bruce Rhoads, Slade Shreck, Alvin Weaver

6. BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE – William Brecker, Chair; Jeffrey Kashner and William Pasukinis, Committee Members

No report.

7. POLICY COMMITTEE - Slade Shreck, Chair; Bruce Rhoads, Committee Member

7.1 Board Policy Revisions – Second Reading/Adoption (Attachments)

The policies listed below were presented for second reading and adoption. They were reviewed and approved by the Board Policy Committee, executive director, senior leaders and legal counsel.

Revised Policies:

309.1 Telework

807 Opening Exercises/Flag Displays

Motion to adopt, at the second and final reading, the revised policies as presented.

Motion by Slade Shreck, second by Jonathan Jones.

Final Resolution: Motion passed unanimously.

Yes: Thomas Eberhart, Samuel Faulkner, John Graham, David Hess, Robert Hormell, Jonathan Jones, Jeffrey Kashner, Brenda Post, Bruce Rhoads, Slade Shreck, Alvin Weaver

7.2 New Board Policy – Second Reading/Adoption (Attachment)

The policy listed below was presented for second reading and adoption. It was reviewed and approved by the Board Policy Committee, executive director, senior leaders and legal counsel.

New Board Policy:

815.1 Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence

Motion to adopt, at the second and final reading, the new policy as presented.

Motion by Slade Shreck, second by Jonathan Jones.

Final Resolution: Motion passed unanimously.

Yes: Thomas Eberhart, Samuel Faulkner, John Graham, David Hess, Robert Hormell, Jonathan Jones, Jeffrey Kashner, Brenda Post, Bruce Rhoads, Slade Shreck, Alvin Weaver

7.3 Board Policy Revisions – First Reading (Attachment)

The policy listed below was presented for first reading. It was reviewed and approved by the Board Policy Committee, executive director, senior leaders and legal counsel.

Revised Policy:

805.2 School Security Personnel

Motion to accept, at first reading, the proposed revised policy as presented.

Motion by Slade Shreck, second by Jonathan Jones.

Final Resolution: Motion passed unanimously.

Yes: Thomas Eberhart, Samuel Faulkner, John Graham, David Hess, Robert Hormell, Jonathan Jones, Jeffrey Kashner, Brenda Post, Bruce Rhoads, Slade Shreck, Alvin Weaver

7.4 New Board Policies – First Reading (Attachments)

The policies listed below are being presented for first reading. They have been reviewed and approved by the Board Policy Committee, executive director, senior leaders and legal counsel.

New Policies:

103.2 Non-Discrimination Based on Sex Under Title IX Beginning August 1, 2024 for Students

103.2 Attachment: Incident Report Form

104.1 Non-Discrimination Based on Sex Under Title IX Beginning August 1, 2024 for Employees and Non-Student Complaints

104.1 Attachment: Incident Report Form

Motion to accept, at first reading, the proposed new policies as presented.

Motion by Slade Shreck, second by David Hess.

Final Resolution: Motion passed unanimously.

Yes: Thomas Eberhart, Samuel Faulkner, John Graham, David Hess, Robert Hormell, Jonathan Jones, Jeffrey Kashner, Brenda Post, Bruce Rhoads, Slade Shreck, Alvin Weaver

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

9. NEW BUSINESS

None.

10. EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM MATTERS

10.1 Northumberland Head Start and Early Head Start (Attachments)

According to federal regulations, the CSIU Board of Directors is the governing body of the CSIU's Head Start programs; therefore, the following items were presented for approval.

- Head Start/Early Head Start Monthly Report for August 2024
- Head Start/Early Childhood Learning & Knowledge Center Overview Fact Sheet

Motion to approve the Head Start/Early Head Start items as presented.

Motion by Robert Hormell, second by Jonathan Jones.

Final Resolution: Motion passed unanimously.

Yes: Thomas Eberhart, Samuel Faulkner, John Graham, David Hess, Robert Hormell, Jonathan Jones, Jeffrey Kashner, Brenda Post, Bruce Rhoads, Slade Shreck, Alvin Weaver

10.2 Early Intervention Classroom User Agreement (Attachment)

The CSIU utilizes classroom space throughout the five-county region on an as-needed and as available basis. St. Luke Lutheran Church, Bloomsburg, agrees to allow the CSIU's Early Intervention Program to use facilities within St. Luke Lutheran Church free of charge. This agreement will automatically renew prior to the beginning of the following school year unless the CSIU or St. Luke Lutheran Church mutually agree to revisions of any of the terms and conditions no later than March 31 of the current school year term.

Motion to approve a Classroom User Agreement for the 2024-25 school year as presented.

Motion by Robert Hormell, second by Jonathan Jones.

Final Resolution: Motion passed unanimously.

Yes: Thomas Eberhart, Samuel Faulkner, John Graham, David Hess, Robert Hormell, Jonathan Jones, Jeffrey Kashner, Brenda Post, Bruce Rhoads, Slade Shreck, Alvin Weaver

10.3 Bus/Van Driver Approval

Directors were asked to approve two additional school bus and van drivers for the CSIU's student transportation programs for the 2024-25 school year. These additional drivers are

employed through outside transportation contractors.

Motion to approve two additional school bus and van drivers for the CSIU's student transportation programs as presented.

Motion by Robert Hormell, second by Jonathan Jones.

Final Resolution: Motion passed unanimously.

Yes: Thomas Eberhart, Samuel Faulkner, John Graham, David Hess, Robert Hormell, Jonathan Jones, Jeffrey Kashner, Brenda Post, Bruce Rhoads, Slade Shreck, Alvin Weaver

11. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

None.

12. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

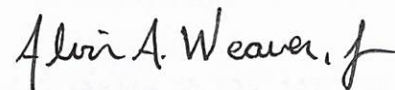
12.1 Executive Leadership - Dr. John Kurelja, Executive Director

13. ADJOURNMENT

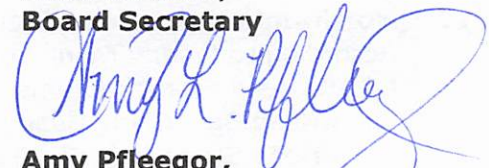
13.1 Adjourn Meeting

President Rhoads adjourned the meeting at 7:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



**Alvin Weaver,
Board Secretary**



**Amy Pfleeger,
Board Recording Secretary**

14. INFORMATION ONLY

14.1 Human Resources Annual Report (Attachment)

Presented was the Human Resources Annual Report for 2023-24.

14.2 Annual CSIU Back-to-School Report 2024-25 (Attachment)

Presented was the current CSIU operating programs, with a comparison to the figures from last school year.

14.3 Annual CSIU Program Statistics 2023-24 (Attachment)

Presented was a listing of programs and services conducted by the CSIU during 2023-24 and, where appropriate, the number of clients served.

14.4 Human Resources – Staff Leaves of Absences

Paid Leave of Absence

- **Michelle K. Kern**, safe schools coordinator, intermittent from Sept. 3, 2024 to Sept. 2, 2025

Paid/Unpaid Leave of Absence

- **Christopher A. Maust**, Head Start assistant, intermittent from Aug. 22, 2024 to Aug. 21, 2025

Return from Paid Leaves of Absence

- **Melodee S. Leshner**, Corrections Education teacher, effective Sept. 16, 2024
- **Jan A. Scherer**, Statewide Adoption and Permanency Network helpline supervisor, effective Sept. 9, 2024

Return from Unpaid Leaves of Absence

- **Tara Persun**, Head Start assistant, effective Sept. 11, 2024
- **Chelsea D. Taylor**, Pre-K Counts teacher, effective Sept. 16, 2024

14.5 Human Resources – Stipend Payments

The executive director authorized the following:

- monthly stipend payments to **Shirley A. Bastian**, special education executive assistant, in the amount of \$250 per month from July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025, for providing administrative duties for the school nutrition program during the 2024-25 school year, which are above and beyond her job description
- updated stipend amount to **Nanette Cooper**, licensed clinical social worker, from \$1,500 to \$5,000 submitted to the Sept. board, for group and individual clinical supervision to two CSIU staff members during the 2024-25 school year, which is above and beyond her job description
- monthly stipend payments to **Jami K. VanKirk**, classroom assistant, in the amount of \$165 per month from Sept. 1, 2024 to Sept. 30, 2025, for providing administrative duties for the school nutrition program during the 2024-25 school year, which are above and beyond her job description

14.6 Human Resources – Probationary Periods

The following staff members have completed their new employee probationary periods:

- **Corey R. Gallagher**, career counselor specialist, effective Sept. 9, 2024
- **Arianne J. Hoffman**, Head Start family and health coordinator, effective Sept. 20, 2024
- **Paige Poticher**, summer electronic benefit transfer project specialist, effective Sept. 27, 2024
- **Nigel C. Spudes**, mental health support specialist, effective Sept. 20, 2024

14.7 Administration – Staff Travel

Kenneth Erb, manager of buildings and grounds, and **Tony Hauger**, buildings and grounds lead technician, will attend the **National Facility Management and Technology** conference on Oct.

29-30, 2024 in Las Vegas, Nev. While there, they will take part in in-depth presentations addressing key facilities management concepts including technology, maintenance, operations and space management. Funds for estimated expenses in the amount of \$1,212 each are available in the buildings and grounds budget.

Thomas Caruso, director of cooperative purchasing, and **Amber Lind**, cooperative purchasing programs manager, will attend the **Florida Association of School Business Officials and Florida School Finance Officers Association Conferences** on Nov. 4-6, 2024 in Jacksonville, Fla. While there, they will exhibit to promote the Keystone Purchasing Network and PEPPM programs. Funds for estimated expenses in the amount of \$1,632 each are available in the joint purchasing budget.

Lyndi Hertzler, client solutions manager, and **Todd Roney**, director of computer services, will attend the **Synergy Connect 2024 Conference** on Nov. 6-8, 2024 in Anaheim, Calif. While there, they will expand the partnership with Edupoint senior management and client base in Pennsylvania. Funds for estimated expenses in the amount of \$2,248 each are available in the computer services budget.

Rijelle Kraft, family support managing coordinator, will attend the **2024 Children's Trust Fund Alliance Annual Membership Meeting** on Nov. 12-14, 2024 in Phoenix, Ariz. While there, she will learn best practices to support families in preventing child abuse and neglect, hear from speakers who will share cutting edge information and expand thinking on how to move ahead in ways that will best support families as well as networking opportunities. Funds for estimated expenses in the amount of \$2,365.34 are available in the childrens trust fund budget.

Benjamin Simmons, Center for Schools and Communities project specialist, project specialist, and **Taylor Teichman**, youth development coordinator, will attend the **National Association for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth** conference on Nov. 16-19, 2024 in Orlando, Fla. While there, they will increase their knowledge and expand their professional network as a delegate of Pennsylvania. They will also be presenters at the conference. Funds for estimated expenses in the amount of \$2,810 and \$2,745, respectively, are available in the homeless children and American Rescue Plan homeless budgets.

Thomas Caruso, director of cooperative purchasing, and **Amber Lind**, cooperative purchasing programs manager, will attend the **2024 California IT in Education (CITE) Conference** on Nov. 18-20, 2024 in San Diego, Calif. While there, they will exhibit to promote the PEPPM program. Funds for estimated expenses in the amount of \$1,950 each are available in the cooperative purchasing budget.

Colleen Epler-Ruths, educational consultant, will attend the **National Association for Gifted Children 2024 Conference** on Nov. 20-24, 2024 in Seattle, Wash. While there, she will gather and share best practices for supporting high-ability children, hear from keynote speakers and attend innovative sessions filled with proven strategies for the classroom. Funds for estimated expenses in the amount of \$3,560.60 are available in the gifted equity liaison budget.

14.8 Fiscal Communications

Sept. 25, 2024, an email from Holly Fan (Fiscal Management Specialist – Pennsylvania Department of Education, Bureau of Special Education) notifying CSIU of funding for the 2024-25 Office for Dispute Resolution (IDEA Special Education 611 Discretionary). The award amount is \$2,900,000 for the period of July 1, 2024 through Sept. 30, 2025.

Sept. 27, 2024, an email from Curtis Gussler (Preschool Program Manager – PA Office of Child Development & Early Learning) notifying CSIU of a funding increase for the 2024-25 Pennsylvania Pre-K Counts (PKC) Program. The Cost Per Child for full-time PKC slots will increase from \$10,000 to \$10,500. Part-time slots will increase from \$5,000 to \$5,250. Contract amendments will be provided by Oct. 4, 2024.