CENTRAL SUSQUEHANNA INTERMEDIATE UNIT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING Wednesday, February 19, 2025

CSIU Central Office 90 Lawton Lane Milton, PA 17847

DINNER - 5:45 p.m.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS - 6:30 p.m.

Budget and Finance Committee Buildings and Grounds Committee Human Resources Committee Technology/Marketplace Committee

BUSINESS MEETING - 7 p.m.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Call to Order

President Rhoads called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

1.2 Pledge of Allegiance

1.3 Roll Call - Directors present: 16; Directors absent: 1

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, Secretary	Milton Area	Χ	

1.4 Announcements

The next regular monthly meeting will begin at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, March 19, 2025 at the CSIU central office.

1.5 Recognition of Guests and Opportunity for Public Comment

Bernadette Boerckel, Chief Outreach Officer

Rae Ann Crispell, Administrative Support Director

Kenneth Erb, Manager of Buildings and Grounds

Nicholas Gallinot, Educational Consultant

Alan Hack, Chief Academic Officer

Kaitlyn Hall, Director of Early Childhood Education

Kevin Kilgus, Director of Financial Services

John Kurelja, Executive Director

Jared Lehman, Chief Innovation Officer

Brian Linaburg, Data Analytics, Research and System Educational Consultant

Terri Locke, Director of Special Education and Alternative Placement

Shileste Overton-Morris, Chief Programs Officer

Julie Petrin, Director of Behavioral Health Support Services

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, Jan. 15, 2025.

Motion to approve the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday, Jan. 15, 2025 as presented.

Motion by Thomas Eberhart, second by Slade Shreck.

Final Resolution: Motion passed unanimously.

Yes: Terry Boonie, William Brecker, Thomas Eberhart, Samuel Faulkner, John Graham, Lauren Hackenburg, David Hess, Robert Hormell, Jonathan Jones, Jeffrey Kashner, Brianna Maciejewski, William Pasukinis, Brenda Post, Bruce Rhoads, Slade Shreck, Alvin Weaver

1.7 Spotlight Segment

Bernadette Boerckel, chief outreach officer, introduced Julie Petrin, director of behavioral health support services, Nicholas Gallinot, educational consultant, and Brian Linaburg, data analytics, research and system educational consultant, who shared information about Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) and the CSIU's Continuum of Behavioral Supports for districts.

2. BOARD GOVERNANCE

None.

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

3.1 Monthly Financial Statements for January 2025 (Attachments)

Directors were asked to approve the following January 2025 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 January 2025 as presented.

Motion by Brenda Post, second by Lauren Hackenburg.

Final Resolution: Motion passed unanimously.

Yes: Terry Boonie, William Brecker, Thomas Eberhart, Samuel Faulkner, John Graham, Lauren Hackenburg, David Hess, Robert Hormell, Jonathan Jones, Jeffrey Kashner, Brianna Maciejewski, William Pasukinis, Brenda Post, Bruce Rhoads, Slade Shreck, Alvin Weaver

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

4.1 Keystone Purchasing Network (KPN) Bid Awards (Attachment)

Directors were asked to approve bid awards for the Association of Educational Purchasing Agencies (AEPA) contracts as presented.

• KPN-AEPA Bid Awards through Feb. 28, 2026

Motion to approve KPN bid awards as presented.

Motion by Terry Boonie, second by Thomas Eberhart.

Final Resolution: Motion passed unanimously.

Yes: Terry Boonie, William Brecker, Thomas Eberhart, Samuel Faulkner, John Graham, Lauren Hackenburg, David Hess, Robert Hormell, Jonathan Jones, Jeffrey Kashner, Brianna Maciejewski, William Pasukinis, Brenda Post, Bruce Rhoads, Slade Shreck, Alvin Weaver

4.2 Keystone Purchasing Network (KPN) Definite Quantity Line Item Bids (Attachment)

Directors were asked to approve the list of recommended KPN definite quantity line item bid awards effective for the 2025-26 purchasing cycle as presented.

KPN Definite Quantity Line Item Bids, Athletic Supply Category to:

- BSN Sports, LLC, Jenkintown, Pa., total sales volume \$10,136.84
- Henry Schein, Melville, N.Y., total sales volume \$4,062.12
- Pyramid School Products, Tampa, Fla., total sales volume \$20,431.81
- Riddell/All American, North Ridgeville, Ohio, total sales volume \$991.07
- School Health Corporation, Rolling Meadows, Ill., total sales volume \$27,734.34
- Sportsman's, Johnstown, Pa., total sales volume \$65,906.40

Motion to approve KPN definite quantity line item bids as presented.

Motion by Terry Boonie, second by Thomas Eberhart.

Final Resolution: Motion passed unanimously.

Yes: Terry Boonie, William Brecker, Thomas Eberhart, Samuel Faulkner, John Graham, Lauren Hackenburg, David Hess, Robert Hormell, Jonathan Jones, Jeffrey Kashner, Brianna Maciejewski, William Pasukinis, 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

• Carolyn D. Reitz, Lewisburg, received a master's degree from Pennsylvania State University, University Park. She has been employed as a special education teacher with Milton Area School District, and was previously a special education teacher with the CSIU. Ms. Reitz is recommended as an Early Intervention teacher at the master's +30 step 8 classification, effective March 20, 2025 (contingent upon receipt of required clearances), at an annual salary of \$68,222, according to the terms of the Collective Bargaining Agreement. Funds for this replacement position are available in the Early Intervention budget.

New Employees - Non-Instructional Staff

• Bernadette Aunkst, Watsontown, received a bachelor's degree from Bloomsburg University. She has been employed as a Pre-K Counts lead teacher with Loyalsock Childcare Center, Williamsport. Ms. Aunkst is recommended as a Head Start floater senior instructor at an hourly rate of \$21.25 (\$35,190 annually), effective Feb. 18, 2025 (contingent upon receipt of required clearances). Funds for this replacement position are

available in the Head Start budget.

- William F. Battaglia, Elizabethtown, received an associate degree from York Technical Institute, Lancaster. He has been employed as an assistant dining services director with Compass Group, Lancaster. Mr. Battaglia is recommended as a Center for Schools and Communities administrative and operations support supervisor at an annual salary of \$61,000, effective Feb. 20, 2025 (contingent upon receipt of required clearances). Funds for this replacement position are available in the CSC budget.
- Zuleika Crespo, Mt. Joy, received a bachelor's degree from Perdue Global University,
 West Lafayette, Iowa. She has been employed as a student support specialist with PA
 Migrant Education Program, Lebanon. Ms. Crespo is recommended as a family support
 project specialist at an annual salary of \$52,500, effective March 3, 2025 (contingent
 upon receipt of required clearances). Funds for this replacement position are available in
 the CSC budget.
- Tatyana Ford, Sunbury, received an associate degree from Ultimate Medical Academy, Tampa, Fla. She has been employed as a multi-media manager with Higher Hope International Ministries, Sunbury, and was previously a teaching assistant with Educare Preschool, Great Falls, Mont. Ms. Ford is recommended as a Head Start associate assistant at an hourly rate of \$15.25 (\$25,254 annually), effective Feb. 20, 2025 (contingent upon receipt of required clearances). Funds for this replacement position are available in the Head Start budget.
- Deke A. Showman, Edinboro, received a bachelor's degree from Edinboro University of Pennsylvania. He has been employed as a program supervisor with Northwest Tri-County Intermediate Unit, Edinoboro. Mr. Showman is recommended as a Statewide Migrant Education recruitment supervisor at an annual salary of \$67,500, effective March 20, 2025 (contingent upon receipt of required clearances). Funds for this replacement position are available in the CSC Migrant Education budget.
- Demarr D. Smith, Bloomsburg, received a diploma from Williamsport High School. He has been employed as a CPS-supported employment manager at Community Options, Bloomsburg. Mr. Smith is recommended as a classroom assistant at an hourly rate of \$15.50 (\$21,506.25 annually), effective Feb. 18, 2025 (contingent upon receipt of required clearances). Funds for this replacement position are available in the special education budget.

Position Transfers

- Alissa A. Deitterick, from 21st Century Community Learning Centers site coordinator (part-time) at a current hourly rate of \$28.58 to adult basic education instructor (full-time) at an hourly rate of \$19 (\$37,050 annually), effective Feb. 24, 2025
- **Kelli A. Eichenlaub**, from CARES data entry administrative assistant at a current hourly rate of \$18.97 (\$36,991.50 annually) to **accounts receivable specialist** at an hourly rate of \$23.33 (\$45,493.50 annually), effective Feb. 20, 2025
- Tiara N. Outzen, from staff accountant (full-time) at a current hourly rate of \$30.51 (\$59,494.50 annually) to staff accountant (part-time), also at an hourly rate of \$30.51, effective Feb. 21, 2025
- **Brittany A. Shniper**, from classroom assistant at a current hourly rate of \$13.75 (\$19,078 annually) to **instructional support program assistant** at an hourly rate of \$17.75 (\$24,628.13 annually), effective Jan. 8, 2025
- **Denise A. Williams**, from Head Start assistant at a current hourly rate of \$14.10 (\$23,349.60 annually) to **Early Intervention instructional assistant** at an hourly rate of \$13.50 (\$18,731.25 annually), effective Jan. 28, 2025

Salary Adjustment

• **Jessica R. Kaneski**, mental health support specialist, from a current hourly rate of \$22.35 (\$33,525 annually) to \$23.35 (\$35,025 annually) due to her obtaining her Registered Behavior Technician certificate, effective Feb. 20, 2025

Change in Start Dates

- Erin R. Butler, licensed school social worker, from April 3, 2025 to March 11, 2025
- Gabriella Tickle, classroom assistant, from Jan. 16, 2025 to Jan. 21, 2025
- Krystan J. Kyttle, occupational therapist, from Jan. 2, 2025 to Jan. 6, 2025

Resignations

- Jessica K. Epure, Early Intervention teacher, effective March 7, 2025
- Mary Rose Latorre, special education program supervisor, effective March 21, 2025
- Joseph W. Melvin, Center for Safe Schools director, effective Feb. 7, 2025
- Caitlin Patraw, Head Start floater senior instructor, effective Jan. 14, 2025
- Seth W. Phillips, adult basic education instructor, effective Jan. 23, 2025

Retirements

- Teresita Brosious, instructional support program assistant, effective May 29, 2025
- **Karen A. Shanoski**, family support and community engagement director, effective July 31, 2025
- Ann Robin Share, Early Head Start child development and instructional manager, effective June 13, 2025
- Tyson D. Six, Corrections Education industrial arts teacher, effective Apr. 1, 2025

Motion to approve full-time personnel recommendations as presented.

Motion by Slade Shreck, second by William Brecker.

Final Resolution: Motion passed unanimously.

Yes: Terry Boonie, William Brecker, Thomas Eberhart, Samuel Faulkner, John Graham, Lauren Hackenburg, David Hess, Robert Hormell, Jonathan Jones, Jeffrey Kashner, Brianna Maciejewski, William Pasukinis, Brenda Post, Bruce Rhoads, Slade Shreck, Alvin Weaver

5.2 Part-Time Personnel

New Employee - Non-Instructional Staff

• **Tonja R. Pennycoff**, ELECT student support specialist, at an hourly rate of \$21.50, effective Feb. 20, 2025 (contingent upon receipt of required clearances)

Change in Start Date

• **Leonessy Rolffot Ramirez**, Migrant Education student support specialist, from Jan. 16, 2025 to Jan. 24, 2025

Rescinded Job Offer

• **Gabrielle Escobar Molina**, CSIU rescinded the job offer for the Migrant Education recruiter position, which was approved at the Dec. board meeting.

Resignation

• **Robin D. Shrawder**, Migrant Education student support specialist, effective Jan. 9, 2025

Motion to approve part-time personnel recommendations as presented.

Motion by Slade Shreck, second by William Brecker.

Final Resolution: Motion passed unanimously.

Yes: Terry Boonie, William Brecker, Thomas Eberhart, Samuel Faulkner, John Graham, Lauren

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

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Hackenburg, David Hess, Robert Hormell, Jonathan Jones, Jeffrey Kashner, Brianna Maciejewski, William Pasukinis, 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 Teacher

Rylan Hartkorn

Substitute Aide

Aden Lewis

Motion to approve substitute personnel recommendations as presented.

Motion by Slade Shreck, second by William Brecker.

Final Resolution: Motion passed unanimously.

Yes: Terry Boonie, William Brecker, Thomas Eberhart, Samuel Faulkner, John Graham, Lauren Hackenburg, David Hess, Robert Hormell, Jonathan Jones, Jeffrey Kashner, Brianna Maciejewski, William Pasukinis, Brenda Post, Bruce Rhoads, Slade Shreck, Alvin Weaver

5.4 Holiday Schedule - 12-Month Non-Instructional Staff (Attachment)

Directors were asked to approve the 2025-26 holiday schedule for 12-month non-instructional staff.

Motion to approve the CSIU Holiday Schedule for 2025-26 as presented.

Motion by Slade Shreck, second by William Brecker.

Final Resolution: Motion passed unanimously.

Yes: Terry Boonie, William Brecker, Thomas Eberhart, Samuel Faulkner, John Graham, Lauren Hackenburg, David Hess, Robert Hormell, Jonathan Jones, Jeffrey Kashner, Brianna Maciejewski, William Pasukinis, Brenda Post, Bruce Rhoads, Slade Shreck, Alvin Weaver

5.5 Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) – Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit Education Association (CSIUEA) (Attachment)

Directors were asked to approve a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit Education Association (CSIUEA) and the CSIU regarding the creation of a voluntary school psychologist mentorship program.

Motion to approve a MOA with the CSIUEA and CSIU as presented.

Motion by Slade Shreck, second by William Brecker.

Final Resolution: Motion passed unanimously.

Yes: Terry Boonie, William Brecker, Thomas Eberhart, Samuel Faulkner, John Graham, Lauren Hackenburg, David Hess, Robert Hormell, Jonathan Jones, Jeffrey Kashner, Brianna Maciejewski, William Pasukinis, Brenda Post, Bruce Rhoads, Slade Shreck, Alvin Weaver

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

6.1 Building Renovations Contract

Administration recommended approval of a contract with Gordian, Greenville, S.C., through the Keystone Purchasing Network contract, for building renovations to the Watsontown Children's Center, at a cost of \$4,331,832.75. Renovations will include new double pane windows, LED lighting and ceilings in the original part of the building; walls to create a secure entrance for visitors; walls to separate the Luzerne County Community College from CSIU programs; new front doors; masonry repairs; replacement of a dry well in the playground area; and installation of a new HVAC and fresh air system for the entire building, including electrical upgrades.

Directors were also asked to approve the authorization of the executive director to approve any change orders that may occur up to a cumulative amount of \$100,000. Funds for this contract are available in the capital reserve budget.

Administration will provide any change orders for board review.

Motion to approve a contract with Gordian for building renovations as presented.

Motion by William Brecker, second by Slade Shreck.

Final Resolution: Motion passed unanimously.

Yes: Terry Boonie, William Brecker, Thomas Eberhart, Samuel Faulkner, John Graham, Lauren Hackenburg, David Hess, Robert Hormell, Jonathan Jones, Jeffrey Kashner, Brianna Maciejewski, William Pasukinis, Brenda Post, Bruce Rhoads, Slade Shreck, Alvin Weaver

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

No report.

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

9. NEW BUSINESS

None.

10. EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM MATTERS

10.1 Northumberland Area 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 Reports for November and December 2024
- Outcomes Reports for Fall 2024 (3 and 4 years old)
- Head Start/Early Head Start Eligibility, Recruitment, Selection, Enrollment, Attendance (ERSEA Plan) - Part 1302

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

Motion by Brianna Maciejewski, second by Brenda Post.

Final Resolution: Motion passed unanimously.

Yes: Terry Boonie, William Brecker, Thomas Eberhart, Samuel Faulkner, John Graham, Lauren Hackenburg, David Hess, Robert Hormell, Jonathan Jones, Jeffrey Kashner, Brianna Maciejewski, William Pasukinis, Brenda Post, Bruce Rhoads, Slade Shreck, Alvin Weaver

10.2 Bus/Van Driver Approval

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

- James Geiswite, Fishing Creek
- Daniel Groshek, Fishing Creek
- Erin McManus-Tasko, Weikel/Adam Busing

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

Motion by Brianna Maciejewski, second by Brenda Post.

Final Resolution: Motion passed unanimously.

Yes: Terry Boonie, William Brecker, Thomas Eberhart, Samuel Faulkner, John Graham, Lauren Hackenburg, David Hess, Robert Hormell, Jonathan Jones, Jeffrey Kashner, Brianna

Maciejewski, William Pasukinis, 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 7:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Alvin Weaver, Board Secretary

Amy Pfleegor,

Board Recording Secretary

14. INFORMATION ONLY

14.1 CSIU 907-A Report for 2023-24 Fiscal Year (Attachment)

Staff prepared and filed the PDE 907-A Report for Intermediate Units which identifies all contracts, interagency agreements, intergovernmental agreements, purchase orders, memoranda of understanding, agreements and other arrangements between a Commonwealth agency and the IU and between the IU and another or other IUs, which have a value of \$50,000 or greater.

The CSIU report for the 2023-24 fiscal year included 50 agreements which aggregated to \$39,980,864 in annual value.

A copy of the CSIU 2023-24 907-A Report and guidelines was attached for director's information.

14.2 Human Resources - Stipend Payments

The executive director authorized the following:

- individual stipend payment in the amount of \$1,250 to **Kaitlyn Brady**, Pre-K Counts teacher, who served as a mentor teacher from Jan. 1, 2024 to Dec. 31, 2024
- two individual stipend payments to the following individuals in the total amount of \$5,000 to serve as a mentor for the school psychologist mentorship program
 - Kathleen M. Alexander, school psychologist
 - Brian N. Linaburg, data analytics, research and system educational consultant
- per month stipend payments to Kelli A. Eichenlaub, CARES data entry administrative assistant, for January and February 2025 in the amount of \$750 for additional responsibilities for the teacher apprenticeship program (TAP) grant which are above and beyond her job duties
- per pay stipend payments to the following individuals in the amount of \$1,500 for National Board Certification as per the current Collective Bargaining Agreement
 - **Susan B. Amarante**, preschool speech therapist
 - **Heather L. Booth**, speech therapist
 - Jillian M. Compton, early intervention speech therapist
 - Kelley A. Dussinger, speech therapist
 - **Nicole S. Gessner**, speech therapist
 - Krystan J. Kyttle, occupational therapist
 - Carly M. Legg, speech therapist
 - Jennifer L. Rakovan, speech therapist
 - Stephanie A. Steeber, speech therapist
 - Kayla M. Thorpe, speech therapist

14.3 Human Resources - Staff Leaves of Absence

Paid Leaves of Absence

- **Shannon Boyles**, Early Intervention instructional support program assistant, from Jan. 18, 2025 to Feb. 28, 2025
- Liesl M. Lewis, reading/resource teacher, from Feb. 12, 2025 to March 26, 2025
- Catherine M. Spotts, instructional support program assistant, from Jan. 6, 2025 to March 22, 2025

Updated Unpaid Leave of Absence

 Megan Chapman, Head Start floater senior instructor, from Jan. 14, 2025 to March 12, 2025

Unpaid Leave of Absence

• Brittany N. Gardner, special education teacher, from Aug. 25, 2025 to Nov. 3, 2025

Return from Paid Leaves of Absence

Teresita G. Brosious, instructional support program assistant, effective Jan. 21, 2025

- Taylor A. Litchard, speech therapist, effective Jan. 22, 2025
- Catherine M. Spotts, instructional support program assistant, effective Feb. 12, 2025

Return from Paid/Unpaid Leaves of Absence

- Sara J. Boucher, Pre-K Counts assistant instructor, effective Jan. 13, 2025
- Tara L. Slyman, speech therapist (part-time), effective Feb. 4, 2025

14.4 Human Resources - Completion of New Employee Probationary Periods

The following staff members completed their new employee probationary periods:

- Brittany D. Beaver, behavior intervention assistant, effective Jan. 7, 2025
- Sara Exley, educational programs and substitute placement administrative assistant, effective Jan. 7, 2025
- Larissa Fetterhoff, classroom associate, effective Jan. 23, 2025
- Patricia Hursh, classroom assistant, effective Feb. 3, 2025
- William Jones, school police officer, effective Dec. 18, 2024
- Jessica R. Kaneski, mental health support specialist, effective Jan. 13, 2025
- Brad S. Landau, classroom assistant, effective Jan. 22, 2025
- Aya Mohamed, administrative assistant, effective Jan. 14, 2025
- Michelle L. Saul, Pre-K Counts assistant instructor, effective Dec. 18, 2024
- Heather S. Stotter, instructional support program assistant, effective Jan. 13, 2025
- Helna Vincent, Head Start floater senior instructor, effective Jan. 31, 2025

14.5 Sale of CSIU Vehicle

The Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit (CSIU) will sell the following vehicle to the Community Strategies Group, Bloomsburg, through the Susquehanna Valley United Way, Sunbury, for fair market value.

• (1) 2003 Ford Windstar - \$3,660

The CSIU maintains a strong partnership with the United Way and the Community Strategies Group, providing valuable services within the community and aligning with CSIU values.

The sale of this vehicle supports the Revolving Car Loan (RCL) Program, an initiative designed to assist individuals and families who lack reliable transportation, enabling them to gain or maintain employment and increase their income. Administered by the United Way in collaboration with local human service agencies, the program provides access to affordable auto loans for eligible participants who:

- Meet income eligibility criteria;
- · Are referred by an agency partner; and
- Commit to financial counseling, vehicle maintenance and regular check-ins.

By supporting this initiative, the CSIU contributes to the long-term economic stability of individuals in need, helping them achieve career growth through reliable transportation.

14.6 Administration – Staff Travel

John Kurelja, executive director, attended the *Education Research and Development Institute (ERDI) 2025 Winter R&D Institute* on Feb. 4-7, 2025 in Rancho Mirage, Calif. While there, he met with educational leaders, solution providers and retired education professionals to explore and collaborate on a specific practical challenge through sessions led by experienced practitioners. Funds for estimated expenses in the amount of \$730 were available in the administration budget. Flight, hotel and some meal costs were covered by ERDI.

Colleen Epler-Ruths, educational consultant, will attend the **Environmental Literacy Forum** on Feb. 25-26, 2025 in Shepherdstown, W.Va. While there, she will collaborate with regional leaders on advancing environmental education initiatives and exchange best practices and strategies to support educators in fostering environmental literacy across the region. Funds for estimated expenses in the amount of \$212.80 are available in the staff development budget.

Thomas Caruso, director of cooperative purchasing, and **Amber Lind**, cooperative purchasing programs manager, will attend the **North West Council of Educators Conference** on Feb. 26-28, 2025 in Seattle, Wash. While there, they will be exhibitors to promote the PEPPM cooperative purchasing program. Funds for estimated expenses in the amount of \$2,660 each are available in the joint purchasing budget.

Stephanie Colvin-Roy, Center for the Promotion of Social and Emotional Learning training and organizational development associate, will attend the **National Youth Advocacy & Resilience Conference** on March 2-5, 2025 in Savannah, Ga. While there, she will present on leveraging youth voice and be an exhibitor for the Center for the Promotion of Social and Emotional Learning (CPSEL) and I Can Problem Solve (ICPS) programs. Funds for estimated expenses in the amount of \$1,172 are available in the CPSEL and ICPS budgets.

Hiliary Haddon, ELECT program manager, and **Jillian Heinrich**, ELECT student support and outreach coordinator, will attend the **National Youth Advocacy & Resilience Conference** on March 2-5, 2025 in Savannah, Ga. While there, they will learn about current research-based educational programs and strategies that empower youth to overcome social, intellectual and emotional barriers that may threaten their safety, health, emotional needs and academic achievement. Funds for estimated expenses in the amount of \$1,832 and \$1,886, respectively, are available in the ELECT budget.

Shileste Overton Morris, chief programs officer, will attend the **2025 Women in Leadership Network Gathering** on March 3-5, 2025 in Palm Springs, Calif. While there, she will serve as part of the facilitation team for the event. This event is designed to empower, connect and inspire women leaders in the Education Service Agency community. The gathering provides an opportunity to network with like-minded professionals, share experiences and explore contemporary leadership issues. Funds for estimated expenses in the amount of \$1,030 are available in the Center for Schools and Communities budget.

14.7 Fiscal Communications

Jan. 2, 2025, an email from Grant Solutions notifying CSIU of the Notice of Award Revision for #03CH011898-05-01. This action approves the request of reduction of 72 Head Start slots, effective December 2024. The federal award amount remains \$2,012,157 for the budget period of Dec. 1, 2024 through Nov. 30, 2025.