

**CENTRAL SUSQUEHANNA INTERMEDIATE UNIT BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
Wednesday, January 21, 2026**

CSIU 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
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 7:03 p.m.

1.2 Pledge of Allegiance

1.3 Roll Call – Directors present: 10; Directors absent: 3; Vacant: 4

Director	District	Present	Absent
Ethan Benjamin	Danville Area	X	
Thomas Eberhart, Secretary	Mifflinburg 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	
Jeffrey Kashner	Shamokin Area	X	
Brianna Maciejewski	Southern Columbia Area	X	
William Pasukinis	Benton Area	X	
Bruce Rhoads, President	Central Columbia	X	
Slade Shreck, Vice President	Shikellamy	X	
Jessica Whitmoyer	Millville Area		X
Edward Zack	Mount Carmel Area		X
Vacant	Berwick Area		
Vacant	Bloomsburg Area		
Vacant	Midd-West		
Vacant	Milton Area		

1.4 Announcements

The next regular monthly meeting will begin at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 18, 2026 at the CSIU central office.

President Rhoads welcomed Mr. Benjamin as the new board representative for the Danville Area School District.

1.5 Recognition of Guests and Opportunity for Public Comment

Jamie Bartlett, Head Start Programs Manager
 Bernadette Boerckel, Chief Outreach Officer
 Benjamin Cohen, Center for Schools & Communities Director of Evaluation
 Rae Ann Crispell, Chief Administrative Officer
 Alan Hack, Assistant Executive Director/Chief Academic Officer
 Kaitlyn Hall, Director of Early Childhood Education
 Jessica Harry, Special Education and Off-Site Facilities Support Programs Supervisor
 Aaron Hauger, Work Foundations+ Student
 Monica Hauger, Parent of Aaron Hauger, Work Foundations+ Student
 Tony Hauger, Parent of Aaron Hauger, Work Foundations+ Student
 Kevin Kilgus, Director of Financial Services
 John Kurelja, Executive Director
 Jared Lehman, Chief Innovation Officer
 Terri Locke, Director of Special Education and Alternative Placement
 Shileste Overton-Morris, Chief Programs Officer
 Amy Pfleegor, Executive Office Manager/Board Recording Secretary
 Eric Shearer, Network Administrator
 Brian Snyder, Chief Financial and Operations Officer
 Robert Welch, Building Trades Teacher

1.6 Approval of Minutes (Attachment)

Directors were asked to approve the minutes of the CSIU Board of Directors meeting held on Wednesday, Dec. 17, 2025.

Motion to approve the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday, Dec. 17, 2025 as presented.

Motion by David Hess, second by Slade Shreck.

Final Resolution: Motion passed unanimously.

Yes: Ethan Benjamin, Thomas Eberhart, John Graham, David Hess, Robert Hormell, Jeffrey Kashner, Brianna Maciejewski, William Pasukinis, Bruce Rhoads, Slade Shreck

1.7 Spotlight Segment – Board Recognition

Alan Hack, Assistant Executive Director/Chief Academic Officer, introduced staff and a student from the Work Foundations+ program, who thanked directors for their commitment to the CSIU. Directors were also given appreciation gifts handcrafted by students at Work Foundations+ and North Central Secure Treatment Unit.

Robert Welch, Building Trades Teacher, shared how students designed and created the board appreciation gifts. **Jessica Harry**, Special Education and Off-Site Facilities Support Programs Supervisor, provided directors with information about Work Foundations+ and thanked the board for its support of the program.

2. BOARD GOVERNANCE

2.1 Director Appointments

Directors were asked to approve the following revised school district board representatives to the CSIU Board of Directors:

- **Mr. Victor Abate**, *Midd-West*

Replacement position effective Jan. 22, 2026 through June 30, 2026

- **Mr. Jonathan Jones, Bloomsburg Area**
Replacement position effective Jan. 22, 2026 through June 30, 2026
- **Ms. Toni Phillips, Berwick Area**
Replacement position effective Jan. 22, 2026 through June 30, 2026

Motion to approve the revised director appointments as presented.

Motion by Thomas Eberhart, second by John Graham.

Final Resolution: Motion passed unanimously.

Yes: Ethan Benjamin, Thomas Eberhart, John Graham, David Hess, Robert Hormell, Jeffrey Kashner, Brianna Maciejewski, William Pasukinis, Bruce Rhoads, Slade Shreck

3. BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE – Lauren Hackenburg, Chair; Robert Hormell, Committee Member

3.1 Monthly Financial Statements for December 2025 (Attachments)

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

Motion by Robert Hormell, second by David Hess.

Final Resolution: Motion passed unanimously.

Yes: Ethan Benjamin, Thomas Eberhart, John Graham, David Hess, Robert Hormell, Jeffrey Kashner, Brianna Maciejewski, William Pasukinis, Bruce Rhoads, Slade Shreck

3.2 CSIU Revised 2025-26 and Proposed 2026-27 General Operating Budgets (GOB) (Attachment)

Administration recommended approval of the Revised 2025-26 General Operating Budget (GOB) totaling \$1,705,735 and the Proposed 2026-27 GOB of \$2,163,890.

Pending initial approval by the CSIU Board, the Proposed GOB will be released to member-district boards of directors for their consideration February 2 through April 3. Upon approval by a majority of member-district boards of directors, the GOB will be presented to CSIU directors for final adoption prior to the April deadline.

Motion to approve the CSIU Revised 2025-26 and Proposed 2026-27 General Operating Budgets as presented.

Motion by Robert Hormell, second by David Hess.

Final Resolution: Motion passed unanimously.

Yes: Ethan Benjamin, Thomas Eberhart, John Graham, David Hess, Robert Hormell, Jeffrey Kashner, Brianna Maciejewski, William Pasukinis, Bruce Rhoads, Slade Shreck

4. TECHNOLOGY/MARKETPLACE COMMITTEE – Thomas Eberhart, Chair; John Graham, Committee Member

4.1 Keystone Purchasing Network (KPN) Contract Extensions (Attachment)

Directors were asked to approve contract extensions for the Keystone Purchasing Network (KPN) as presented.

- KPN Job Order Construction contract extensions month-to-month for March 2026

Motion to approve KPN contract extensions as presented.

Motion by Thomas Eberhart, second by William Pasukinis.

Final Resolution: Motion passed unanimously.

Yes: Ethan Benjamin, Thomas Eberhart, John Graham, David Hess, Robert Hormell, Jeffrey Kashner, Brianna Maciejewski, William Pasukinis, Bruce Rhoads, Slade Shreck

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

5.1 Full-Time Personnel

New Employees – Instructional Staff

- **Jason M. Butler**, Muncy, received a bachelor's degree from Millersville University. He has been employed as a maintenance employee with Bloomsburg University Foundation. Mr. Butler is recommended as a **corrections education teacher** at the bachelor's step 1 classification, effective Feb. 2, 2026 (contingent upon PDE approval of Type 01 Emergency permit and receipt of required clearances), at an annual salary of \$53,247, according to the terms of the Collective Bargaining Agreement. Funds for this replacement position are in the corrections education budget.
- **Stacy A. Hammer**, Bloomsburg, received a master's degree from Bloomsburg University. She has been employed as a reading specialist and teacher of the deaf and hard of hearing with the Western PA School for the Deaf, Clarks Summit. Ms. Hammer is recommended as a **teacher of deaf/hearing impaired** at the master's step 8 classification, effective Jan. 22, 2026 (contingent upon receipt of required clearances), at an annual salary of \$67,859, according to the terms of the Collective Bargaining Agreement. Funds for this new position are available in the special education budget.
- **Lindsay B. Ziller**, Orangeville, received a master's degree from Marywood University, Scranton. She has been employed as a school psychologist with Benton Area School District. Ms. Ziller is recommended as a **school psychologist** at the master's +60 step 14 classification, effective Feb. 2, 2026 (contingent upon receipt of required clearances), at an annual salary of \$84,153, according to the terms of the Collective Bargaining Agreement. Funds for this new position are available in the non-public education budget.

New Employees – Non-Instructional Staff

- **Alex Haberman**, Scottsdale, Ariz., received a diploma from Phoenix County Day School, Paradise Valley, Ariz. He has been employed as a customer resource center specialist with Edupoint Educational Systems, Mesa, Ariz. Mr. Haberman is recommended as a **client support specialist I** at an annual salary of \$50,000, effective Jan. 22, 2026 (contingent upon receipt of required clearances). Funds for this new position are available in the computer services budget.
- **Christina M. Rockey**, Mechanicsburg, received a master's degree from University of Baltimore. She has been employed as a Pennsylvania reporter with The Center Square, Chicago Ill. Ms. Rocky is recommended as a **communications and marketing coordinator** at an annual salary of \$58,500, effective Jan. 26, 2026 (contingent upon receipt of required clearances). Funds for this replacement position are available in the Center for Schools and Communities budget.

Position Transfers

- **Diann M. Aikey**, from alternative education teacher at a current annual salary of \$82,044 to **corrections education teacher**, also at an annual salary of \$82,044, effective Jan. 5, 2026
- **Casie J. Leshner-Raup**, from special education teacher at a current annual salary of \$71,969 to **Early Intervention teacher**, also at an annual salary of \$71,969, effective Jan. 20, 2026
- **Chloe T. Miller**, from Head Start associate assistant at a current hourly rate of \$17.64 (\$29,211.84 annually) to **Head Start instructor**, at an hourly rate of \$20.25 (\$33,534 annually), effective Jan. 22, 2026
- **Adrienne D. Rowe**, from alternative education teacher at a current annual salary of \$85,145 to **special education teacher**, also at an annual salary of \$85,145, effective Jan. 5, 2026
- **Tara A. Russo**, from alternative education special education teacher at a current annual salary of \$80,075 to **special education teacher**, also at an annual salary of \$80,075, effective Jan. 5, 2026

Changes in Start Date

- **Erin N. Bossler**, speech therapist, from Jan. 22, 2026 to May 4, 2026
- **Nancy B. Weigle**, cooperative purchasing bidding assistant, from Jan. 5, 2026 to Jan. 6, 2026

Resignations

- **Vincent Evans**, instructional support program assistant floater, effective Dec. 17, 2025
- **Tabitha Heistand**, non-traditional education support para-educator, effective Dec. 4, 2025
- **Joshua T. Hudak**, corrections education teacher, effective Jan. 22, 2026
- **Amanda S. Newhart**, Head Start senior instructor, effective Jan. 16, 2026
- **Brittany A. Shniper**, instructional support program assistant, effective Dec. 23, 2025
- **Catherine M. Spotts**, instructional support program assistant, effective Dec. 23, 2025

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

Retirement

- **Ann G. Miller**, workforce program manager, effective March 12, 2026

*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 Brianna Maciejewski.

Final Resolution: Motion passed unanimously.

Yes: Ethan Benjamin, Thomas Eberhart, John Graham, David Hess, Robert Hormell, Jeffrey Kashner, Brianna Maciejewski, William Pasukinis, Bruce Rhoads, Slade Shreck

5.2 Part-Time Personnel

New Employee – Non-Instructional Staff

- **Cameron A. Kline**, computer programmer intern, at an hourly rate of \$14, effective Feb. 2, 2026 to May 1, 2026

Resignation

- **Racheal M. Spotts**, incarcerated youth case manager, effective Dec. 23, 2025

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

Motion to approve part-time personnel recommendations as presented.

Motion by Slade Shreck, second by Brianna Maciejewski.

Final Resolution: Motion passed unanimously.

Yes: Ethan Benjamin, Thomas Eberhart, John Graham, David Hess, Robert Hormell, Jeffrey Kashner, Brianna Maciejewski, William Pasukinis, Bruce Rhoads, Slade Shreck

5.3 Substitute Personnel

Directors were asked to approve substitute personnel to work in CSIU classrooms and programs for the 2025-26 school year.

Substitute Teachers

Anna DiLossi

Kelly Heimbach

Aden Lewis

Motion to approve substitute personnel recommendations as presented.

Motion by Slade Shreck, second by Brianna Maciejewski.

Final Resolution: Motion passed unanimously.

Yes: Ethan Benjamin, Thomas Eberhart, John Graham, David Hess, Robert Hormell, Jeffrey Kashner, Brianna Maciejewski, William Pasukinis, Bruce Rhoads, Slade Shreck

6. BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE – Jeffrey Kashner, Chair; William Pasukinis, Committee Member

No report.

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 Report for November 2025
- Head Start/Early Head Start Staff "Tap Out" Policy and Procedure
- Head Start/Early Head Start Daily Wellness Check Policy

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

Motion by Thomas Eberhart, second by Slade Shreck.

Final Resolution: Motion passed unanimously.

Yes: Ethan Benjamin, Thomas Eberhart, John Graham, David Hess, Robert Hormell, Jeffrey Kashner, Brianna Maciejewski, William Pasukinis, Bruce Rhoads, Slade Shreck

11. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

None.

12. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

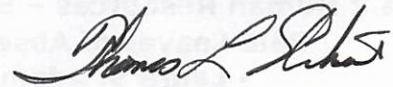
12.1 Executive Leadership – Dr. John Kurelja, Executive Director

13. ADJOURNMENT

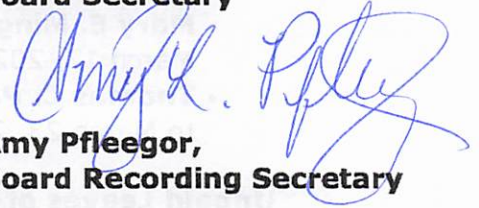
13.1 Adjourn Meeting

President Rhoads adjourned the meeting at 7:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



**Thomas Eberhart,
Board Secretary**



**Amy Pfleegor,
Board Recording Secretary**

14. INFORMATION ONLY

14.1 Human Resources – Stipend Payments

The executive director authorized the following:

- two installment stipend payments to the following individuals in the amount of \$1,500 for National Board Certification as per the current Collective Bargaining Agreement
 - **Jillian M. Compton**, Early Intervention speech therapist
 - **Kelley A. Dussinger**, speech therapist
 - **Carly M. Legg**, speech therapist
 - **Kayla Lentz**, board-certified behavioral analyst
 - **Chelsea L. Mensch**, speech therapist
 - **Gail A. Moore**, Early Intervention speech therapist
 - **Kristen M. Myers**, speech therapist
 - **Stephanie A. Steeber**, speech therapist
 - **Kayla M. Thorpe**, speech therapist

14.2 Human Resources – Staff Leaves of Absence

Paid Leaves of Absence

- **Laura S. Adams**, Early Intervention program supervisor, from Dec. 11, 2025 to Jan. 3, 2026
- **Kelly A. Dussinger**, speech therapist, from Dec. 12, 2025 to Jan. 9, 2026
- **Mary E. Mingle**, adult education program manager, from Dec. 16, 2025 to March 17, 2026
- **Thomas C. Paternostro**, non-traditional education teacher, from Jan. 5, 2026 to March 23, 2026

Unpaid Leaves of Absence

- **Laura D. Rice**, instructional support program assistant, from Dec. 10, 2025 to Jan. 30, 2026
- **Marcy A. Roth**, nutrition operations assistant (part-time), from Jan. 5, 2026 to April 5, 2026

Return from Paid Leaves of Absence

- **Laura S. Adams**, Early Intervention program supervisor, effective Jan. 5, 2026
- **Diann M. Aikey**, alternative education teacher, effective Dec. 8, 2025
- **Marya X. Rivera Concepcion**, Migrant Education student support coordinator, effective Jan. 5, 2026
- **Heather J. Toevs**, Early Intervention program evaluation consultant, effective Jan. 5, 2026
- **Jennifer Wright**, licensed school social worker, effective Jan. 5, 2026

14.3 Human Resources – Completion of New Employee Probationary Periods

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

- **Joy Fleming**, special education due process hearing officer, Dec. 9, 2025
- **Joshua D. Hinkel**, client support specialist, effective Dec. 17, 2025
- **Nicole R. Muscarella**, instructional support program assistant, effective Dec. 23, 2025
- **Joseph M. Petrin**, classroom assistant, effective Jan. 6, 2026
- **Dana J. Shrawder**, grant and budget analyst, effective Dec. 9, 2025
- **Kristi B. Startzel**, mental health support specialist, effective Dec. 17, 2025

- **Michelle Unroe**, classroom assistant, effective Dec. 23, 2025
- **Jacqueline S. Weiss**, classroom assistant, effective Dec. 23, 2025

14.4 Administration – Staff Travel

Matthew Sherwood, information technology support specialist I, attended the **Consumer Electronics Show (CES) 2026** on Jan. 6-9, 2026 in Las Vegas, Nev. While there, he evaluated emerging technologies, cybersecurity solutions and AI-driven tools that can support and enhance services provided by the CSIU. Funds for estimated expenses in the amount of \$3,566 were available in the technical support budget.

Amber Lind, cooperative purchasing programs manager, and **Carol Styers**, cooperative purchasing order compliance coordinator, attended the **Future of Education Technology Conference** on Jan. 11-13, 2026 in Orlando, Fla. While there, they were exhibitors to promote PEPPM cooperative purchasing programs. Funds for estimated expenses in the amount of \$2,560 and \$2,060, respectively, were available in the KPN and PEPPM budget.

Alan Hack, assistant executive director/chief academic officer, will attend the **ERDI Winter R&D Institute** on Jan. 25-28, 2026 in Tucson, Ariz. While there, he will engage with district and industry thought leaders to discuss and solve problems of practice facing schools and districts. He will also participate in networking opportunities, have access to expertise and analyses that inform product and service design, and experience a professional learning community that extends beyond the institute. Flights, hotels and most meals are covered by ERDI. Funds for estimated expenses in the amount of \$320 are available in the administration budget.

John Kurelja, executive director, and **Shileste Overton Morris**, chief programs officer, will attend the **ERDI Winter R&D Institute** on Jan. 27-30, 2026 in Tucson, Ariz. While there, they will engage with district and industry thought leaders to discuss and solve problems of practice facing schools and districts. They will also participate in invaluable networking opportunities with industry peers, gain access to expertise and analyses that inform product and service design, and experience a rich professional learning community that extends beyond the Institute. Flights, hotels and most meals are covered by ERDI. Funds for estimated expenses in the amount of \$470 and \$720, respectively, are available in the administration budget.

Kaitlyn Hock, educational consultant, will attend the **Assistive Technology Industry Association 2026** conference on Jan. 29-31, 2026 in Orlando, Fla. While there, she will be provided with the latest research, innovations and evidence-based practices in the field of assistive technology. She will also receive hands-on learning, direct collaboration with national experts and networking to enhance her capacity to guide districts in implementing effective solutions that promote equitable access to education for all students. Funds for estimated expenses in the amount of \$1,945 are available in the IDEA 611 Component II budget.

Lynne Howard, cooperative purchasing marketing specialist, and **Carol Styers**, cooperative purchasing order compliance coordinator, will attend the **California Association of Public Procurement Officials Conference** on Feb. 1-4, 2026 in San Diego, Calif. While there, they will be an exhibitor to promote the PEPPM program. Funds for estimated expenses in the amount of \$1,934.05 and \$1,647.39, respectively, are available in the joint purchasing budget.

14.5 Fiscal Communications

Nov. 24, 2025, a letter from Ron Ottinger (Executive Director – STEM Next Opportunity Fund) notifying CSIU of the approved grant award titled Opportunity AI – Pilot. The focus of this grant is to build the capacity of Out of School Time (OST) programming in Pennsylvania that activates Career Connected Learning related to AI. Grant #CoP2025036 is in the amount of \$50,000 for the period of Oct. 1, 2025 through Sept. 30, 2026.

Nov. 26, 2025, an email from Grant Solutions notifying CSIU of the Notice of Award (NOA) for Grant #03CH013463-01-00. This NOA awards 2025-26 Head Start (\$2,777,816) and Early Head Start (\$1,246,497) funding in the amount of \$4,024,313 for the period of Dec. 1, 2025 through Nov. 30, 2026.

Nov. 26, 2025, an email from Kimberly Rode, Ed. D. (Director – Pennsylvania Departments of Education and Human Services, Office of Child Development and Early Learning) notifying CSIU of the 2025-26 Preschool Early Intervention (EI) revised allocations of: State Early Intervention \$6,322,572.51; IDEA 619 \$793,753.49; and IDEA 611 Component 1 \$578,987. The total 2025-26 revised allocation is \$7,695,313.

Dec. 15, 2025, an email from Maribel Martinez (Fiscal Management SPC 2 – Pennsylvania Department of Education, Bureau of School Support) notifying CSIU of the 2025-26 Migrant Education Program (MEP) approved grant award. Project #017-25-0101 is in the amount of \$1,526,891 for the period of July 1, 2025 through Sept. 30, 2026.