

CENTRAL SUSQUEHANNA INTERMEDIATE UNIT BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
Wednesday, April 15, 2026

2025-104

Central Susquehanna LPN Career Center
15 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 7:01 p.m.

1.2 Pledge of Allegiance

1.3 Roll Call – Directors present: 11; Directors absent: 4; Vacant: 2

Director	District	Present	Absent
Victor Abate	Mid-West		X
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	
Jonathan Jones	Bloomsburg Area		X
Jeffrey Kashner	Shamokin Area	X	
William Pasukinis	Benton Area	X	
Toni Phillips	Berwick Area	X	
Bruce Rhoads, President	Central Columbia	X	
Slade Shreck, Vice President	Shikellamy	X	
Amy Waldron	Milton Area	X	
Jessica Whitmoyer	Millville Area		X
Vacant	Mount Carmel		
Vacant	Southern Columbia Area		

1.4 Announcements

President Rhoads announced that an executive session will be held following the Spotlight Segment to discuss personnel matters and to consider the purchase of real estate.

The next regular monthly meeting will begin at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, May 20, 2026 at the CSIU central office.

1.5 Recognition of Guests and Opportunity for Public Comment

- Ashlee Bower, Central Susquehanna LPN Career Center Director of Operations
- Reanna Buehler, Special Education Program Supervisor
- Rae Ann Crispell, Chief Administrative Officer
- Meghan Dale, Special Projects Managing Coordinator
- Kenneth Erb, Buildings and Grounds Manager
- Heather Goshert, Practical Nursing Program Instructor
- Adam Hartzell, Auditor
- Lyndi Hertzler-Reichenbach, Client Solutions Manager
- Kevin Kilgus, Director of Financial Services
- John Kurelja, Executive Director
- Jared Lehman, Chief Innovation Officer
- Betty Anne Leiby, Practical Nursing Program Instructor
- Terri Locke, Director of Special Education and Alternative Placement
- Michelle Michaels, Cooperative Purchasing Bidding Specialist
- Shileste Overton-Morris, Chief Programs Officer
- Kate Mowery, Auditor
- Zachary Paca, Practical Nursing Administrative Assistant
- Brian Paulhamus, Director of Technology
- Tonja Pennycoff, Practical Nursing Program Instructor
- Amy Pfleeger, Executive Office Manager/Board Recording Secretary
- Jessica Probst, Central Susquehanna LPN Career Center Dean of Students
- Pastor Daniel Renno, Mount Carmel Area School District Board Representative
- Jessica Roberts, Pre-K Counts Team Supervisor
- Laura Saccente, Center for Schools and Communities Assistant Director
- Eric Shearer, Network Administrator
- Brian Snyder, Chief Financial and Operations Officer
- Kelly Swanson, Center for Schools and Communities Communications Manager

President Rhoads welcomed Pastor Daniel Renno from Mount Carmel Area School District. The board will vote later in the agenda to accept Pastor Renno as his school district's board representative to the CSIU Board.

President Rhoads also welcomed CSIU staff who are participating in the PAIU Aspiring Leaders program. Dr. Kurelja provided directors with a brief description of the program and introduced the staff participating in the program.

1.6 Approval of Minutes (Attachment)

Directors were asked to approve the minutes of the CSIU Board of Directors meeting held on Wednesday, March 18, 2026.

Motion to approve the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday, March 18, 2026 as presented.

Motion by Slade Shreck, second by David Hess.

Final Resolution: Motion passed unanimously.

Yes: Ethan Benjamin, Thomas Eberhart, Lauren Hackenburg, David Hess, Robert Hormell, Jeffrey Kashner, William Pasukinis, Toni Phillips, Bruce Rhoads, Slade Shreck, Amy Waldron

1.7 Spotlight Segment

Ashlee Bower, Director of Operations, and **Jessica Probst**, Dean of Students, both at the Central Susquehanna LPN Career Center, provided information to directors regarding the LPN Center and its 59 years of providing nursing education in the Susquehanna Valley. The LPN Center is approved by the PA State Board of Nursing and is accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing.

President Rhoads called an executive session to discuss personnel matters and to consider the purchase of real estate.

The executive session began at 7:41 p.m. and ended at 8:12 p.m.

2. BOARD GOVERNANCE

2.1 Director Appointment

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

- **Pastor Daniel Renno**, Mount Carmel Area
Replacement position effective April 16, 2026 through June 30, 2028

Motion to approve a director appointment as presented.

Motion by David Hess, second by Lauren Hackenburg.

Final Resolution: Motion passed unanimously.

Yes: Ethan Benjamin, Thomas Eberhart, Lauren Hackenburg, David Hess, Robert Hormell, Jeffrey Kashner, William Pasukinis, Toni Phillips, Bruce Rhoads, Slade Shreck, Amy Waldron

2.2 Director Resignation

Mrs. Brianna Maciejewski, Southern Columbia Area School District, submitted her resignation from the CSIU Board of Directors effective March 30, 2026 after two years of service.

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

3.1 Monthly Financial Statements for March 2026 (Attachments)

Directors were asked to approve the following March 2026 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 March 2026 as presented.

Motion by Lauren Hackenburg, second by David Hess.

Final Resolution: Motion passed unanimously.

Yes: Ethan Benjamin, Thomas Eberhart, Lauren Hackenburg, David Hess, Robert Hormell, Jeffrey Kashner, William Pasukinis, Toni Phillips, Bruce Rhoads, Slade Shreck, Amy Waldron

3.2 2026-27 CSIU General Operating Budget (GOB) (Attachment)

The GOB is a compilation of four programs the CSIU offers primarily to member districts on a fee-for-service basis. The PA Public School Code allows intermediate units to ask the state to deduct money from school district subsidies to fund IU programs. Our member districts do not pay a subsidy to belong to the CSIU. They pay only for services they

select from CSIU offerings. Approval of this budget does not obligate districts to purchase any CSIU programs for the 2026-27 school year.

The CSIU directors gave initial approval of the preliminary 2026-27 general operating budget of \$2,163,890 in January. Following that approval, the preliminary budget was released to district boards for their consideration. Official approval of the CSIU's 2026-27 general operating budget has been received from all 17-member district boards of directors.

The 2026-27 budget totaling \$2,163,890 represents a \$1,308,568 increase from the 2025-26 original budget totaling \$855,322. The increase was primarily due to the addition of the Beyond Boundaries and Virtual Learning programs to the 2026-27 budget.

Motion to approve the General Operating Budget for 2026-27 as presented.

Motion by Lauren Hackenburg, second by David Hess.

Final Resolution: Motion passed unanimously.

Yes: Ethan Benjamin, Thomas Eberhart, Lauren Hackenburg, David Hess, Robert Hormell, Jeffrey Kashner, William Pasukinis, Toni Phillips, Bruce Rhoads, Slade Shreck, Amy Waldron

3.3 Transfer of Funds

Administration recommended the transfer of \$3,000,000 from the fiscal year 2025-26 general fund balance to the capital reserve fund, effective April 16, 2026. The capital reserve funds will be used in accordance with the Pa. Municipal Code for projects and deferred maintenance needs.

Motion to approve the transfer of funds as presented.

Motion by Lauren Hackenburg, second by David Hess.

Final Resolution: Motion passed unanimously.

Yes: Ethan Benjamin, Thomas Eberhart, Lauren Hackenburg, David Hess, Robert Hormell, Jeffrey Kashner, William Pasukinis, Toni Phillips, Bruce Rhoads, Slade Shreck, Amy Waldron

3.4 Annual Audit (Attachments)

Directors were asked to accept the June 30, 2025 Single Audit by Baker Tilly US, LLP.

Motion to accept the June 30, 2025 Single Audit as presented.

Motion by Lauren Hackenburg, second by Robert Hormell.

Final Resolution: Motion passed unanimously.

Yes: Ethan Benjamin, Thomas Eberhart, Lauren Hackenburg, David Hess, Robert Hormell, Jeffrey Kashner, William Pasukinis, Toni Phillips, Bruce Rhoads, Slade Shreck, Amy Waldron

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

4.1 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, pending documentation, for the 2026-27 purchasing cycle.

KPN Definite Quantity Line Item Bids, Copy Paper (July 2026 Delivery) Category

to:

- Contract Paper Group, Inc., Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, total sales volume \$780,006.00
- Staples Contract & Commercial, Framingham, Mass., total sales volume \$17,631.43
- Veritiv Operating Company, Jacksonville, Fla., total sales volume \$84,991.20

Motion to approve KPN definite quantity line item bids, contingent upon receipt and approval of final documentation, as presented.

Motion by Thomas Eberhart, second by Lauren Hackenburg.

Final Resolution: Motion passed unanimously.

Yes: Ethan Benjamin, Thomas Eberhart, Lauren Hackenburg, David Hess, Robert Hormell, Jeffrey Kashner, William Pasukinis, Toni Phillips, Bruce Rhoads, Slade Shreck, Amy Waldron

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

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

- KPN Job Order Construction (JOC) Contractor Awards for Paving through March 31, 2027

Motion to approve KPN bid awards as presented.

Motion by Thomas Eberhart, second by Lauren Hackenburg.

Final Resolution: Motion passed unanimously.

Yes: Ethan Benjamin, Thomas Eberhart, Lauren Hackenburg, David Hess, Robert Hormell, Jeffrey Kashner, William Pasukinis, Toni Phillips, Bruce Rhoads, Slade Shreck, Amy Waldron

5. HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE – Slade Shreck, Chair; Bruce Rhoads, Committee Member

5.1 Full-Time Personnel

New Employees – Non-Instructional Staff

- **Morgan L. Delsite**, Sunbury, received a diploma from Commonwealth Connections Academy, Harrisburg. She has been employed as a private nanny and previously as a school-age childcare worker with the YMCA, Sunbury. Ms. Delsite is recommended as a **Head Start assistant** at an hourly rate of \$14.50 (\$24,012 annually), effective April 7, 2026 (contingent upon receipt of required clearances). Funds for this replacement position are available in the Head Start budget.
- **Melissa A. Stuck**, Danville, received a bachelor's degree from Bloomsburg University. She has been employed as a communication facilitator with Interprettek, Bloomsburg. Ms. Stuck is recommended as a **communication facilitator** at an hourly rate of \$19.25 (\$26,709.38 annually), effective Aug. 4, 2026 (contingent upon receipt of required clearances). Funds for this replacement position are available in the special education budget.
- **Yudys Fernandez Tavarez**, West Milton, received a diploma from University of the State of New York Education Department. She has been employed as an assistant community manager with Michaels Organization, Milton. Ms. Fernandez Tavarez is recommended as an **administrative assistant** at an hourly rate of \$20.20 (\$39,390 annually), effective April 1, 2026 (contingent upon receipt of required clearances). Funds for this new position are available in the Impact AWARE grant.

Changes in Start Date

- **Bedgira Azcona**, recruitment specialist, from March 19, 2026 to April 1, 2026
- **Lindsay B. Ziller**, school psychologist, from Feb. 2, 2026 to March 24, 2026

Position Transfers

- **Jessica M. Allen**, from CARES data entry administrative assistant, at a current hourly rate of \$23.32 (\$45,474 annually) to **education services project specialist**, at an hourly rate of \$24.65 (\$48,067.50 annually), effective April 16, 2026
- **Tara Persun**, from Head Start assistant, at a current hourly rate of \$14.96 (\$24,773.76 annually) to **Head Start associate assistant**, at an hourly rate of \$16.50 (\$27,324 annually), effective March 19, 2026
- **Matthew H. Sherwood**, from information technology support specialist I, at a current hourly rate of \$24.39 (\$47,560.50 annually), to **communications and AI innovation specialist**, at an annual salary of \$51,650, effective April 16, 2026

Salary Adjustment

- **Bedgira Aczona**, recruitment specialist, from a current hourly rate of \$21.80 (\$42,510 annually) to \$19.80 (\$38,610 annually), due to an institutional hold on transcript, effective April 1, 2026

Furloughs

- **Caleb A. Petrin**, special education teacher, effective June 30, 2026 due to transfer of program
- **Tracy A. Smith**, special education teacher, effective June 30, 2026 due to transfer of program

Resignations

- **Anne D. Artley**, Early Head Start family and health coordinator, effective April 2, 2026
- **Jami K. Vankirk**, operations assistant, effective March 10, 2026

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

Retirement

- **Thomas W. Naugle**, senior technology consultant, effective July 10, 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 Thomas Eberhart.

Final Resolution: Motion passed unanimously.

Yes: Ethan Benjamin, Thomas Eberhart, Lauren Hackenburg, David Hess, Robert Hormell, Jeffrey Kashner, William Pasukinis, Toni Phillips, Bruce Rhoads, Slade Shreck, Amy Waldron

5.2 Part-Time Personnel

New Employees – Non-Instructional Staff

- **Genesis G. Myers**, Migrant Education student support specialist, at an hourly rate of \$22, effective April 16, 2026 (contingent upon receipt of required clearances)
- **Emily Salerno-Oswald**, English as a Second Language instructor, at an hourly rate

of \$19, effective April 16, 2026 (contingent upon receipt of required clearances)

Retirement

- **Donald W. Gallo**, nutrition aide/custodian, effective May 27, 2026

*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 Thomas Eberhart.

Final Resolution: Motion passed unanimously.

Yes: Ethan Benjamin, Thomas Eberhart, Lauren Hackenburg, David Hess, Robert Hormell, Jeffrey Kashner, William Pasukinis, Toni Phillips, Bruce Rhoads, Slade Shreck, Amy Waldron

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

Heather Haynos

Emily Ulrich

Substitute Aide

Amelia Pennycoff

Motion to approve substitute personnel recommendations as presented.

Motion by Slade Shreck, second by Thomas Eberhart.

Final Resolution: Motion passed unanimously.

Yes: Ethan Benjamin, Thomas Eberhart, Lauren Hackenburg, David Hess, Robert Hormell, Jeffrey Kashner, William Pasukinis, Toni Phillips, Bruce Rhoads, Slade Shreck, Amy Waldron

5.4 Senior Leader Employment Agreements (Attachments)

Board President Bruce Rhoads appointed an Ad-Hoc Committee to evaluate changes to the senior leader agreements. Current agreements expire June 30, 2026. Directors were asked to approve the following employment agreements for the term of July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2029, per recommendation of the Committee.

- **Bernadette U. Boerckel**, chief outreach officer
- **Rae Ann Crispell**, chief administrative officer
- **Alan J. Hack**, assistant executive director/chief academic officer
- **Jared D. Lehman**, chief innovation officer
- **Shileste Overton Morris**, chief programs officer
- **Brian L. Snyder**, chief financial and operations officer

Motion to approve senior leader agreements as presented.

Motion by Slade Shreck, second by David Hess.

Final Resolution: Motion passed unanimously.

Yes: Ethan Benjamin, Thomas Eberhart, Lauren Hackenburg, David Hess, Robert Hormell, Jeffrey Kashner, William Pasukinis, Toni Phillips, Bruce Rhoads, Slade Shreck, Amy Waldron

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

Committee Member**6.1 Lease Agreement – Luzerne County Community College**

Directors were asked to approve a lease agreement between the CSIU and Luzerne County Community College, as tenant, at 1100 Main Street, Suite 2, Watsontown, at an annual capital fee of \$40 per credit, paid in two annual installments. This lease is for the term July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2030 and will include six classrooms, a science lab, a computer lab and storage space.

Motion to approve a lease agreement with Luzerne County Community College as presented.

Motion by Jeffrey Kashner, second by David Hess.

Final Resolution: Motion passed unanimously.

Yes: Ethan Benjamin, Thomas Eberhart, Lauren Hackenburg, David Hess, Robert Hormell, Jeffrey Kashner, William Pasukinis, Toni Phillips, Bruce Rhoads, Slade Shreck, Amy Waldron

6.2 Purchase of Vehicle

Directors were asked to approve the purchase of a 2026 Ford Explorer from Sunbury Motors Company, Sunbury, at a cost of \$47,295, under the terms and conditions of the COSTARS contract. This vehicle will be assigned to the facilities department fleet to be used by various departments traveling to off-site events. It will provide sufficient seating for staff and cargo space for transporting materials and equipment. Funds for this purchase are available in the capital reserve budget.

Motion to approve the purchase of a vehicle as presented.

Motion by Jeffrey Kashner, second by David Hess.

Final Resolution: Motion passed unanimously.

Yes: Ethan Benjamin, Thomas Eberhart, Lauren Hackenburg, David Hess, Robert Hormell, Jeffrey Kashner, William Pasukinis, Toni Phillips, Bruce Rhoads, Slade Shreck, Amy Waldron

6.3 Asbestos Abatement Contract

Directors were asked to approve a contract with Sargent Enterprises Inc., Jim Thorpe, Pa., for the removal and disposal of asbestos floor tiles and materials at the Watsontown Children's Center at a cost of \$86,324. This project will take place in three phases. Funds for this contract are available in the capital reserve budget.

Phase 1: 2,610 square feet 2025-26 school year

Phase 2: 7,164 square feet 2025-26 school year

Phase 3: 6,533 square feet 2026-27 school year

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 \$8,000.

Motion to approve a contract with Sargent Enterprises, Inc. as presented.

Motion by Jeffrey Kashner, second by David Hess.

Final Resolution: Motion passed unanimously.

Yes: Ethan Benjamin, Thomas Eberhart, Lauren Hackenburg, David Hess, Robert Hormell, Jeffrey Kashner, William Pasukinis, Toni Phillips, Bruce Rhoads, Slade Shreck, Amy Waldron

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

7.1 Board Policy Mandated Review (Attachment)

In compliance with CSIU Board Policy 830, Security of Computerized Personal Information/Breach Notification, which states that Policy 830 must be reviewed at least annually and updated as necessary. Policy 830 has been reviewed, and no changes were recommended at this time.

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

9. NEW BUSINESS

None.

10. EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM MATTERS

10.1 Northumberland Area Head Start and Early Head Start (Attachment)

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

- Head Start/Early Head Start Monthly Report for February 2026

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

Motion by Thomas Eberhart, second by Ethan Benjamin.

Final Resolution: Motion passed unanimously.

Yes: Ethan Benjamin, Thomas Eberhart, Lauren Hackenburg, David Hess, Robert Hormell, Jeffrey Kashner, William Pasukinis, Toni Phillips, Bruce Rhoads, Slade Shreck, Amy Waldron

10.2 Education and Technology Pool Counsel Legal Services Consultation

Administration recommended renewal of an agreement for pool counsel legal services consultation with Sweet, Stevens, Katz & Williams LLP for the 2026-27 school year in the amount of \$15,750. The purpose of the pool is to provide education and technology legal services consultation to the CSIU and member districts/schools in the form of telephone and email advice and opinions concerning special education, ESSA compliance, student services and student civil rights issues. This information is provided to the administrator or the administrator's designee. For the 2026-27 school year, 17 districts and the Columbia-Montour Area Vocational Technical School have committed to continued participation in the pool at a rate of \$600 per LEA.

Directors were asked to approve the renewal agreement for pool counsel legal services with Sweet, Stevens, Katz & Williams LLP for the 2026-27 school year in the amount of \$15,750.

Motion to approve a renewal agreement with Sweet, Stevens, Katz & Williams LLP as presented.

Motion by Thomas Eberhart, second by Ethan Benjamin.

Final Resolution: Motion passed unanimously.

Yes: Ethan Benjamin, Thomas Eberhart, Lauren Hackenburg, David Hess, Robert Hormell, Jeffrey Kashner, William Pasukinis, Toni Phillips, Bruce Rhoads, Slade Shreck, Amy Waldron

10.3 Assurance for the Operation of Special Education Services and Programs/Quality

Space for the 2026-27 School Year

The CSIU is required to annually submit documentation to the Pennsylvania Department of Education, assuring that all special education services and programs/quality space operated by the CSIU are in compliance with all state and federal laws, regulations and procedures.

Directors were asked to authorize staff to submit the Assurance for the Operation of Special Education Services and Programs/Quality Space for the 2026-27 School Year.

Motion to authorize staff to submit documentation as presented.

Motion by Thomas Eberhart, second by Ethan Benjamin.

Final Resolution: Motion passed unanimously.

Yes: Ethan Benjamin, Thomas Eberhart, Lauren Hackenburg, David Hess, Robert Hormell, Jeffrey Kashner, William Pasukinis, Toni Phillips, Bruce Rhoads, Slade Shreck, Amy Waldron

10.4 Bus/Van Driver Approval

Directors were asked to approve school bus and van drivers for the CSIU's student transportation programs for the 2025-26 school year.

Rohrer

Octavia Stapleton

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

Motion by Thomas Eberhart, second by Ethan Benjamin.

Final Resolution: Motion passed unanimously.

Yes: Ethan Benjamin, Thomas Eberhart, Lauren Hackenburg, David Hess, Robert Hormell, Jeffrey Kashner, William Pasukinis, Toni Phillips, Bruce Rhoads, Slade Shreck, Amy Waldron

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 8:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

**Thomas Eberhart,
Board Secretary**

**Amy Pfleeger,
Board Recording Secretary**

14. INFORMATION ONLY

14.1 CSIU Board of Directors Committee Survey 2026-27 (Attachments)

CSIU directors were asked to complete the CSIU Board of Directors Committee Survey for 2026-27.

14.2 Nominations Committee

The Board President appointed the following board members to the Nominations Committee: **David Hess**, Chair, and **Jessica Whitmoyer**. The Committee will meet prior to the May board meeting and present its recommendation for a slate of board officer candidates at the May meeting. Election of officers for 2026-27 will take place at the June reorganization meeting.

14.3 Human Resources – Stipend Payments

The executive director authorized the following:

- monthly stipend payments to **Luis E. Lopez**, classroom assistant, in the amount of \$165 per month from April 1, 2026 to May 29, 2026 for providing duties for the school nutrition program during the 2025-26 school year, which are above and beyond his job description

14.4 Human Resources – Staff Leaves of Absence

Paid Leave of Absence

- **Michelle K. Kern**, safe schools coordinator, effective March 3, 2026 to March 23, 2026

Unpaid Leave of Absence

- **Jennifer A. Bower**, Early Head Start family partner/home visitor, effective March 16, 2026 to May 7, 2026

Return from Paid Leave of Absence

- **Michelle K. Kern**, safe schools coordinator, effective March 23, 2026

Return from Unpaid Leave of Absence

- **Helna Vincent**, Head Start senior floater instruction, effective March 30, 2026

14.5 Human Resources – Completion of New Employee Probationary Periods

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

- **Laura D. Arvelo**, instructional support program assistant, effective March 6, 2026
- **Anne D. Artley**, Early Head Start family and health coordinator, effective Feb. 4, 2026
- **Madhav P. Chamlagai**, recruitment specialist, effective March 27, 2026

14.6 Administration – Staff Travel

Emily Reedy, Head Start regional team supervisor, attended the **Big 5 Training of the Trainer** on March 24-26, 2026 in Richmond, Va. While there, she was certified to train CSIU staff on the recent implementation of Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports for the Head Start program. Funds for estimated expenses in the amount of \$971 were available in the Head Start budget.

Samuel Faulkner, clinical director of outpatient psychological services, will attend the **2026 Southeastern School Behavioral Health Conference** on April 15-17, 2026 in Greenville, S.C. While there, he will present on evaluating access to pediatric mental health services across traditional and school-based settings. Funds for estimated expenses in the amount of \$1,275.40 are available in the Project Aware Impact Grant

budget.

John Kurelja, executive director, will attend ***ERDI's Spring Thought Leader Symposium*** on April 26-28, 2026 in Chicago, Ill. While there, he will join district leaders, solution providers and emeritus educators to reflect, collaborate and grow as leaders navigating constant change. Through leadership stories, applied frameworks, interactive workshops and deep dialogue, participants will explore how personal leadership behaviors influence team dynamics, organizational culture and readiness for change. Funds for estimated expenses in the amount of \$500 are available in the administration budget. Flight, hotel and most meals are covered by ERDI.

James Gerl, special education hearing officer, will attend the ***LRP's National Institute*** on April 26-29, 2026 in New Orleans, La. While there, he will receive information on the latest compliance concerns and trending issues in special education. Funds for estimated expenses in the amount of \$3,972.76 are available in the Office for Dispute Resolution budget.

Heather Goshert and **Tonja Pennycoff**, practical nursing program instructors, will attend the ***2026 National Nurse Educator Summit*** on April 26-29, 2026 in Tucson, Ariz. While there, they will take part in a professional development experience that will focus on the critical issues facing healthcare and nursing education today, with topics to help educators prepare future nurses. Funds for estimated expenses in the amount of \$2,652 and \$1,750, respectively, are available in the LPN Career Center budget.

Mark Carollo, associate director of cooperative purchasing, **Lynne Howard**, cooperative purchasing marketing specialist, **Amber Lind**, cooperative purchasing programs manager, and **Cassie Seabridge**, cooperative purchasing marketing specialist, will attend the ***2026 Association of Educational Purchasing Agencies (AEPA) Annual Spring Meeting*** on April 27-29, 2026 in Omaha, Neb. While there, they will attend the AEPA business meeting and discuss marketing strategies with current vendors. Funds for estimated expenses in the amount of \$2,375, \$1,596, \$1,795 and \$2,133.38, respectively, are available in the joint purchasing budget.

Shileste Overton Morris, chief programs officer, will attend ***ERDI's National Council of Innovative Instructional Leaders Spring Symposium*** on April 28-30, 2026 in Chicago, Ill. While there, she will take part in a supportive and collaborative space for participants to think deeply, question assumptions, reflect honestly, process complexity, ideate with peers and determine the most meaningful next steps as systems leaders and champions for all children. Funds for estimated expenses in the amount of \$307 is available in the administration budget. Flight, hotel and most meals are covered by ERDI.

Jared Lehman, chief innovation officer, and **Brian Snyder**, chief financial and operations officer, will attend the ***Express Scripts Outcomes Symposium*** on April 29 to May 1, 2026 in San Diego, Calif. While there, they will attend an exclusive experience designed to spark strategic thinking, strengthen high-value connections and deliver insights that can be acted on immediately. Stepping into health's new horizon, they will take part in bold ideas to become practical solutions and the future of care shaped through action and collaboration. All expenses are covered by Evernorth or PA Trust.

Contrell Armor, Pennsylvania Statewide Afterschool/Youth Development Network director, will attend the ***2026 50 State Afterschool Network Leaders Meeting*** on May 12-14, 2026 in Denver, Colo. While there, he will attend the annual meeting as required for the designated lead from each of the 50 statewide afterschool networks supported by

the Mott Foundation. Funds for estimated expenses in the amount of \$1,736 are available in the Mott Foundation budget.

Matthew Butensky, youth development program manager, will attend the ***Thrive From the Start In-Person Convening*** on May 19-20, 2026 in New Orleans, La. While there, he will attend the in-person convening required for all grantees outlined and budgeted in the grant contract. Funds for estimated expenses in the amount of \$1,277 are available in the Thrive Grant budget.