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Executive Director's Report October 27, 2016

PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

Nonpublic School Services

Services for nonpublic school students were established in Pennsylvania through Act 89 in 1975. Intermediate Units are required to establish a program of services to provide auxiliary services for students attending nonpublic and private schools. These services are funded through an annual state allocation based on the total nonpublic enrollment within the intermediate unit footprint. Within our CAIU region, services are provided at 42 nonpublic schools by 20 remedial specialists, 14 school counselors, 2 school psychologists, 15 Speech and Language Clinicians and 2 ESL staff. Services provided include:

- **Academic Remediation.** The major objective of teachers who provide remedial assistance is to help students maximize academic strengths while overcoming individual learning needs. Individual and small group instruction is aligned with classroom activities.
- **School Counseling.** School counselors work as a team with teachers, administrators, and parents. Counseling services are provided to elementary and secondary students.
- **Speech and Language Support.** Speech and language assessments are used to identify eligible students. Services are designed and individualized by a speech clinician to provide therapy for students with language difficulties, articulation, fluency, and voice usage.
- **Psychological Evaluation and Consultative Services.** Psycho-educational assessments are completed as a result of school based concerns. Assessments are used to gather additional information about the student in order to help him or her be successful in their present setting. The primary focus of consultative services is to define concerns related to individual student issues.

In addition to the Act 89 program, additional services are provided for staff and students through federal funds such as IDEA, Title IA and Title IIA.

NEWS

Technology Services

Regional Wide Area Network. The CAIU Technology Services team has been working collaboratively with our member school districts to plan the next generation Regional Wide Area Network (RWAN). On Monday, October 17th, the CAIU submitted a Request for Proposal (RFP) through the E-rate portal. Included in the RFP is upgraded fiber



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connections to all of our 24 school districts, 2 vocational technical schools. We currently have 1 Gbps connection to our schools and as blended learning has increased there is a need for more bandwidth. In addition to the RWAN connections, we included increased Internet bandwidth as well as district requests for their internal needs for a total of 52 separate connections.

Tinker Expo

The CAIU held its First Annual Tinker Expo on October 5, 2016. The Expo was a



success with over 115 attendees partaking in ten breakout sessions and tinkering at twelve different hands-on table displays focusing on the makerspace concept and innovative practice in the classroom. Highlights from the day included being able to experience Virtual Reality with Playstation, getting hands on with Lego Robotics, and creating working circuits with Raspberry Pi integration. Along with the inside events of the day, the day included a food truck rally with three food truck vendors for CAIU employees and attendees of the Tinker Expo. The Tinker Expo Committee is already planning the Second Annual Tinker Expo on October 24, 2017!



Student Services

Deaf/Hard of Hearing Program

- Jennifer McLaughlin, CAIU DHH classroom teacher, and Michele Kurtz, CAIU Educational Interpreter, are offering sign language lessons twice a month to teachers and staff at Conewago Elementary School. Our elementary Deaf and Hard of Hearing class is located in this building.
- At Susquehanna Township Middle School, CAIU Deaf and Hard of Hearing students, assisted by CAIU Educational Interpreter, Laurey Walker, presented information on deaf culture on the school's WAVE station to celebrate Deaf Awareness Week, September 26-30. On Tuesdays, beginning the week of October 11th, one student each week will teach a sign language lesson on the television station. Laurey has also labeled sign language vocabulary around the school. Students have already begun to try to communicate with the deaf/hard of hearing students during lunch.



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School-Age Speech/Language

- The School-Age Speech/Language program will continue to host Speech/Language Networking sessions for Speech/Language Pathologists employed by local school districts. This is a wonderful opportunity for these professionals to discuss issues pertinent to the role of a school-based speech/language pathologist. The first meeting of 2016-17 is scheduled for Friday, October 28th, from 1:00 – 3:30 p.m. in Enola.

Blind/Visually Impaired Support

- On August 11th and 12th, all CAIU teachers of the visually impaired attended the Low Incidence Institute, held in State College. During these two days of training, they learned how to use various iOS devices to support students with visual impairments.

Participation at the 'Fall Parent and Toddlers Together Workshops' at the Simpson Library in Mechanicsburg

- This workshop provides a setting in which parents and children can work and play together. It also brings in resource people from the community for parents to ask questions and gain information on different aspects of parenting and early childhood development.
- **Preschool** - Yvonne Wiley Shreffler, CAIU Preschool Speech Therapist, attended and answered parent questions and concerns about their children's speech development. Jean Gray, CAIU Preschool Educational Consultant, attended and provided information on child development and resources in the community and on the internet.
- **Audiology** - Diane Graybill, CAIU Audiologist, attended to serve as a resource for parents who had questions regarding hearing loss.

Preschool

- Preschool had their kick off for Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) on October 3rd. Approximately 100 preschool staff participated in 14 different PLCs ranging from social-emotional development, motor planning, dual language learners, service delivery collaboration, increasing parental involvement, instruction and coaching in the home, instruction through play, self-regulation, and promoting participation. Staff developed action plans and goals to focus on throughout the year. Staff will share their work with all preschool staff on May 25th as part of a professional development session.
- As part of the Evidence Based Grant, several CAIU preschool staff and staff from Follow Me Child Care participated in training for Promoting Alternative Thinking Strategies (PATHS).
- Donna Weldon, Service Coordinator, participated in a Resource Expo in collaboration with Capital Area Head Start sharing resources and materials about early intervention.



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- The educational team (teacher, OT, PT, SLP) in Kristin Leitzel's preschool class, at Options Child Care in Camp Hill, made a special request for an adaptive chair for one of their students. They shared the attached powerpoint (See attachment in Agendamanager) to help others understand the impact that this purchase had and how it helped the child become more independent.

CAMhP Program (Capital Area Mental health Program)

- CAMhP Program has completed its 2nd round of family/district check-ins to review academics and mental health status. Districts and families are extremely pleased with the outcome of the program and the success of their students. Currently, no students are being discharged and additional referrals are being submitted.

Instructional Coaches

- Coaches are working to support their initiatives in all classrooms and supporting staff and supervisors during the first marking period's data review meetings. Staff is using benchmark data from both academic and behavioral probes for these meetings.

Loysville Youth Development Center

- Eleven students have been released and 11 students have entered since early September. Currently there are 95 residents.
- Fourteen of the 95 students, or 15%, of the population already have their GED or High School Diploma. Two students passed the GED test this month.
- Students donated artwork and pictures to be sold at a silent auction to benefit the Caitlin's Smiles foundation. Students also made cards, in art class, to give to patients through the Caitlin's Smiles. These efforts were coordinated by Elena Taylor and Shane Davis, staff at the LYDC School.

ELECT

- Jody Forney-Cole and Melissa Rosado, two of the ELECT case managers, presented at the 42nd Annual Family Involvement Conference. Their topic is 'My Mom and Dad are Grads!- Teen Parents: Keeping the focus on education to promote success for future generations.'

OT/PT

- Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) began meeting this year. Many of the PTs are investigating how to increase the generalization of participation skills in regular school classes. OTs have chosen to collaborate on the topic of self-regulation with a goal of providing consistency in the types of strategies, vocabulary, and skills being used.

Autism/MDS

- On October 4th, Dina Roseberry, Autism Support teacher at East Pennsboro High School, was honored by Isaac's Deli for being a difference maker. She and the Autism Support classes at EPHS received lunch from Isaac's. The following post describing the event is from Isaac Deli's Facebook page.



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- *At the beginning of September, we asked our fans to tell us about a difference maker they know at work who deserved a catering from Isaac's. In the winning post we picked, Dee Dombach told us about her co-worker Dina Roseberry at the Capital Area Intermediate Unit at East Pennsboro High School. We got to meet both her and Dee today when we dropped off the catering prize...which Dina shared with the students in her class and fellow teachers! What an inspiration and a difference maker...keep up the awesome work you do, Dina! Thanks for letting us make your day.*
- Our Autism Support class at Central Dauphin Middle school has partnered with the Dauphin County Library System to create welcome tote bags for new library patrons. This project began last school year and was very successful. This project gives our students the opportunity to gain vocational skills while at the same time contributing to a worthy organization. We thank the DCLS for allowing our students to have this opportunity.
- Our Autism Support class at Dillsburg Elementary read an article from the News-2-U program in regards to 9/11 and honoring the local heroes in our community. As a result, the students made thank you cards that were sent along with a letter to the local police officers sharing their appreciation for their work in Carroll Township. The police department responded to the class indicating that they will be displaying the cards throughout their police station and also sent some Carroll Township Police Junior Officer stickers for the students.
- Our first collective Project Max meeting was held on October 4th with two of our classes collaborating on instructional strategies and technological innovations to incorporate grade level standards into our classes for students with complex learning needs.

Hospital

- We have worked with Pennsylvania Psychiatric Institute (PPI) to open another class for students ages 4-12. The classroom is nearly complete with an opening date of October 31st. The new area will accommodate 9 students who are in need of in-patient psychiatric care. CAIU staff will provide the educational part of the students' days.

NOTIFICATION OF ACTIVITIES

- Attended the monthly Central Region Executive Directors' meeting.
- Attended the PAIU Executive Directors' monthly meeting including a meeting with PDE staff.
- Participated in the PAIU Innovations/Entrepreneurial Capacity Committee meeting.
- Visited Hill Top Academy for classroom and student visits.
- Attended the monthly Chief Recovery Officer meeting at Harrisburg School District.



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- Began this year's school district administration team visits. The CAIU Cabinet members met with West Perry's administrative team on October 4th. These meetings provide an opportunity for districts to share feedback about CAIU services and for the CAIU team to learn about the needs of our districts. Our second district visit is scheduled with Lower Dauphin SD on October 25th.
- Attended Shippensburg Area SD's board meeting on October 10th to provide an overview of CAIU Programs and Services.
- Attended the PASA-PSBA School Leadership Conference including Women's Caucus Board Meeting.
- Held New Employees Orientation session on October 26th.

SAVE THE DATE

Project SEARCH - An **Open House** will be held on November 15th from 6:00-8:00 p.m. at Penn State Health Milton S. Hershey Medical Center. This event gives prospective students and families an opportunity to learn more about this exciting program.

The **5th Annual CAIU iPad Summit** will be held on Friday, December 2nd. Please visit the Smore (<https://www.smore.com/eh9u7>) and the Wikispace (<http://caiupadsummit16.wiki.caiu.org/home>) for more information.

Register here: <https://goo.gl/eNNQWH>