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## Executive Director's Report

September 22, 2016

### Program Spotlight

#### English as a Second Language (ESL) and Title III

The Capital Area Intermediate Unit offers English as a Second Language (ESL) for students limited in English proficiency to school districts, charter school, non-public schools, and Technical Schools. Our highly qualified teachers are assigned to schools on an as-needed basis via the district contact. The ESL Program includes referral/intake, assessment of language proficiency, state test administration, individual or small group direct instruction, push in instruction, staff development, supervision, logistics/scheduling, and curriculum. Our current staff includes 3 full time and 3 part-time ESL teachers and one ESL Consultant. Currently, we are supporting approximately 125 students in 26 schools.

Our CAIU Title III Consortium consists of twenty school district/charter school/AVTS (*Big Spring, Camp Hill, Commonwealth Charter Academy, Cumberland Valley, Dauphin County Technical School, Derry Twp., East Pennsboro Area, Halifax Area, Infinity Charter School, Lower Dauphin, Middletown Area, Millersburg Area, Northern York County, Shippensburg Area, South Middleton, Steelton Highspire, Susquehanna Twp., Susquenita, Upper Dauphin Area, West Perry*).

Title III dollars are used to support the position of an ESL Consultant (Ann Tenan) who works directly with schools to create quality ESL Programs, consult with teachers supporting English Language Learners, provide professional development, provide ESL Networking, and communicate regularly on ESL issues and policies. Monies are used for supplemental supports and materials, professional development, technology and resources (Rosetta Stone, Imagine Learning, iReady).

### NEWS

#### "My Bike" Presentation and Parade Event

On Monday, August 29<sup>th</sup>, we had the privilege to again host the "My Bike" event on behalf of Variety. Seven children received bikes and at least ten other children were fitted for bikes. Special guests included PA Secretary of Administration, Sharon Minnich, and PA State Senator, Rob Teplitz. The children and families demonstrated their joy as they rode their bikes in a parade through the lobby amidst cheers from IU staff.





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## Curriculum Services

### **South Central PA Consortium for Excellence and Equity**

The CAIU will offer for a second year, in partnership with the Penn Center for Educational Leadership at the University of Pennsylvania under the direction of Dr. Robert Jarvis, the South Central PA Consortium for Excellence & Equity. This consortium is driven by a mission to positively transform the lives of each and every one of our students by preparing them for success in post-secondary education and in life – especially our diverse children and youth who have traditionally struggled academically in our schools, or who might likely be the first in their family to attend and graduate from college. Six workshops will be offered throughout the 2016-17 school year with a focus on engaging diverse learners, creating family and community partnerships, understanding the effects of poverty on learning, and creating culturally responsive schools. We are offering an additional opportunity this year for middle school students. The Student Leadership Institute is planned for October 26<sup>th</sup> with a focus to help support the development of the leadership and academic potential of diverse middle level students.

## Student Services

The PA Pediatric Physical Therapy Association has announced that Lori Glumac is the recipient of the 2016 Pediatric Special Interest Group Award of Excellence as unanimously voted on by the selection committee. This award will be presented on October 29th at their meeting. Congratulations to Lori!!

The CAIU Project MAX team, Greer Aukstakalnis (OT), Lisa Smiley (Autism Consultant), and Emily Sidelinger (SLP), presented about their work at a poster session during the PaTTAN Low Incidence Conference in August. Project MAX is a PaTTAN initiative to support teams serving students with complex support needs and supporting access to the general curriculum and presuming student competence.

### **Loysville Youth Development Center (LYDC)**

- There are currently 95 residents at the site and school. Fifteen of the 95 residents, 16% of the population, already have their GED or High School Diploma. We will be looking at additional vocational programming to best meet the needs of this population.
- Loysville YDC started the Standardized Program Evaluation Protocol (SPEP) evaluation process on September 1. This is an institution wide effort. The SPEP process will generate a score that rates the effectiveness of the total facility regarding programming, services, education, treatment, recidivism, vocational training, employability, etc. It will take several months before a score is generated. The school provided information about the services we provide.
- There were five teacher openings this year at LYDC. One position is currently vacant (Industrial Technology – Shop).
- State Senator Rob Teplitz toured the facility on September 6<sup>th</sup>. He spent a good deal of time at the school with many questions about the education program and students we serve. He is the newest member of the LYDC Community Advisory Board.



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### **Pupil Services/ELECT-EFI/CAMhP/Diakon/Educational Coaches**

- Diakon/Center Point Day Program opened this year with 22 students ~ 16 of which are district referred students. This is the highest beginning of the year enrollment to date.
- CAMhP ~ the new mental health program continues to look for a new “home” but is at Hill Top Academy for the time being. That program continues to grow with new referrals being submitted.
- With the new coaches on staff, Hill Top Academy and district-based classrooms are streamlining the intake process. This process has the districts following the same procedures for all intakes. We have already received positive feedback from districts.
- ELECT-EFI ~ welcomes Jan Cuva-Primmer as a new case manager. In addition, we now have Perry County as part of our service area. This was previously supervised by Tuscarora IU #11.

### **Hill Top Academy**

- Current Enrollment: 113 with 13 new referrals
- The 2016-2017 school year at Hill Top Academy is off to a great start! In year 2 of Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS), we have implemented a School-Wide reinforcement system with our "Labs Loot" currency. Staff and students have embraced this new PBIS system and it has quickly become a part of the culture and identity of the school.
- Hill Top Academy is pleased to be able to continue encouraging positive connections with the Upper Allen Police Department this school year. Officers have already visited classrooms to read to students on Fridays and will continue to be a positive presence in our classrooms and during school-wide celebrations.
- Hill Top Academy again will partner with Messiah College to host interns from their Special Education Teacher Preparation program. This semester we will welcome and support 14 teacher interns into our Hill Top classrooms.
- To start the year, Hill Top Academy has sent home 48 backpacks full of food for our neediest families each weekend. This has been possible through our partnership with New Hope Ministries in Mechanicsburg and their Power Packs program. Power Packs is a food and nutrition program, where students in need receive food in backpacks on Fridays to take home over the weekend.

### **Preschool/Early Intervention**

- Terry (Kennedy) Telep, program supervisor, has been invited to participate on the United Way of Carlisle & Cumberland County Success by 6 Advisory Board.
- We have received an Evidence Based Grant (\$17,937) to support our partnering with Follow Me Childcare Center to ensure that the social emotional development of young children is proceeding at an appropriate pace through the implementation of periodic social emotional screenings while providing trainings and support to early childhood site and families. We will utilize a Professional Learning Community of Social and Emotional development to focus on this as well and PATHS Curriculum (Promoting Alternative Thinking Skills).
- The Preschool Program participated in a focus group with The Perry County Literacy Council and The Foundation for Enhancing Communities on 9/12/16. Discussions centered around conducting an in-depth needs assessment that documents the challenges faced by families with young children accessing early childhood education, including cultural, economic, and geographic barriers.



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- Our internal Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) kick off is 10/3/16; we have approximately 15 PLCs for staff to choose from. Groups will share their experiences and what they learned throughout the school year on the final professional development day on May 25, 2017.
- We continue to partner with local colleges and high school students who are interested in early childhood special education. We have three Shippensburg University special education candidates working in the Preschool Program, a student volunteer from Messiah College who is working at our Delbrook Preschool and, in addition we have two senior high school students working at Lemoyne Preschool and Options Preschool. We continue to partner with Messiah College interns from their Special Education Teacher Preparation program.

### **Reconciliation of 2015-16 School-age Special Ed Contracts & Services**

- Our Regional Special Ed Plan Agreement created a process for reconciliation of any excess revenue or expense shortfall. The 2015-16 school year ended with excess revenue in our special ed contract budget of \$940,698.62, which is 5% of our overall special ed contracts (\$18,882,449)
- We had 41 school entities contract with us (local and out of area districts, charters, and other entities). Thirty-five of them will be receiving refunds and two will receive invoices.

### **District Based Classrooms**

- We have opened our brand new Autism Support class at Steelton Elementary with much success. The staff and students have been welcomed very well by the faculty within the building.
- Our Project Max initiative has expanded to our High School Multiple Disabilities Support class (Paulette Walker). Collaborative meetings are scheduled throughout the year during which our teams (including speech and OT) will develop an action plan to help the students obtain maximum access to grade level, general education curriculum.
- Staff at East Pennsboro Middle and High Schools have worked very well together throughout the schedule changes needed there. They are sharing rooms and staff in order to keep education going as smoothly as possible. We thank the administration at East Pennsboro Area School District for all of their support during this time.
- Our Autism Support class at Susquehanna Township High School has begun plans to increase pre-vocational and community-based instructional activities. Some of these will occur within the building while others will occur out in the community. These activities will be used to help students improve social skills and build valuable daily living skills.

### **Hospital Programs & Project SEARCH**

- Plans are under way to add an additional class to the in-patient hospital program at the Pennsylvania Psychiatric Institute (PPI). This class is for students ages 4-12 and is anticipated to be open at the end of October.
- A Project Search Open House will be held on November 15 at Penn State Health Medical Center. This event gives prospective students and families an opportunity to learn more about this exciting program.



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## **NOTIFICATION OF ACTIVITIES**

- Attended the monthly Central Region Executive Directors' meeting. The meeting was held at IU 13 and we had the opportunity to tour their onsite medical facility.
- Attended the PAIU Executive Directors' monthly meeting including a meeting with PDE staff.
- Participated in the PAIU Government Relations Committee meeting.
- Attended the Professional Advisory Committee meeting at CPAVTS.
- Attended the monthly Chief Recovery Officer meeting at Harrisburg School District