



educational excellence through leadership, partnership, and innovation

Executive Director's Report August 28, 2014

CONGRATULATIONS

Speech Language Pathologists

Stephanie Kramer, an ASHA-certified Speech Language Pathologist employed in the CAIU School-Age Speech/Language Program, co-authored a study on strained voice quality, while a graduate student at Bloomsburg University, Bloomsburg PA. The results of this study have been accepted for presentation at the annual American Speech-Language-Hearing Association National Convention which will be held in November 2014. Over 12,000 Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists attend this annual conference. The title of the study is, "A Multi-Dimensional Examination of Strained Voice Quality". Multidimensional analysis using acoustic, aerodynamic, and electroglottographic methods was conducted to provide insight regarding measures that most effectively characterize vocal strain. Dr. Shaheen Awan, from Bloomsburg University, will present the results of the study. Additional co-authors include Diona Marie Chan and Jennifer Hillman.

Alice Womer, Speech Language Pathologist, has been selected to be a recipient of the 2014-15 Outstanding Teacher Award sponsored by the Shippensburg University School Study Council. Every year the Study Council takes pride in being able to recognize the accomplishments of so many outstanding teachers who largely, with minimal acclaim, work so hard on behalf of our students and our schools. Ann Bailets, Speech/Language Program Supervisor, shared that Alice "has been instrumental in researching evidence-based assessment and intervention strategies, particularly in the area of social skills and social cognition. Because of her on-going commitment to providing quality programming for students, she is always willing to assist colleagues within the intermediate unit and our local school districts. She is frequently called upon to provide training for regular and special education teachers, and speech and language pathologists. Additionally, districts seek her out because of her knowledge and expertise in meeting the needs of challenging students."

NEWS

CAIU Opening Week

School-age program staff returned for the 2014-15 school year during the week of August 18. Staff providing services for our preschool children returned on August 25. Beginning of the year program meetings are held at various times during this two week time period. Dr. Brunner and I visited each program meeting to welcome staff to the new school year.

Champions for Children Golf Tournament

The 18th Annual Champions for Children Golf Tournament was held on July 29 at the Cumberland Golf Club in Carlisle. We had 108 golfers and raised over \$8,300 from the event. Children served



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in the CAIU programs face many challenges; and the funds that were raised help meet the special needs of our students. Thank you to all who participated this year.

Nonpublic School Services

The Title I Summer Tutoring program concluded on July 31st. The Summer Tutoring Program was federally funded with Title I dollars and targeted students from Kindergarten to Sixth Grade who received Title I Remedial Reading services during this past school year. Thirty-two students residing in Central Dauphin, Harrisburg, Steelton-Highspire and Susquehanna Township school districts participated. This year, twenty-six parents attended a two day parent workshop that was held during the Summer School hours.

Student Services

Pupil Services

- There is a new district referral process in place for Diakon. This will be the first year districts will be able to refer a student to Diakon in addition to the court adjudicated system already in place
- Hershey Medical Center is inquiring about possible educational services in their Dialysis Center. Discussion with the hospital and districts is underway.
- The Pupil Services Network will continue this year with quarterly meetings for district and IU staff. Our first training for school psychologists is October 27 at the Enola office.

Hill Top Academy

We are continuing to work on staffing for two teachers and multiple EPP/PCA positions. We are fortunate that there are several good candidates for these positions. Staff has been actively preparing for the opening of school on August 25th, attending trainings and setting up their classrooms. We are looking forward to a good year!

CAPP (Capital Area Partial Program)

We continue to work closely with the licensing and insurance agencies to try to meet the targets for compliance with paperwork and treatment schedules. This continues to be extraordinarily challenging and the targets do not seem to be static. We are convening a small focus group of district representatives, who consistently demonstrate a need for placements in this program, and will be working with them to identify key characteristics of programming that are essential for future placement options. We will then expand that group to include our medical staff and additional stakeholders as we work to communicate our progress with the agencies and options that may be available to the CAIU and our member districts.



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Data Systems & PIMS

The first of the 2014/15 Data Quality Network (DQN) meetings was held on Wednesday, August 20 focusing on the new 14-15 Data Collection Consolidation and a multitude of changes affecting state reporting. CAIU was honored to be a host site for a statewide video conference and welcomed several presenters from PDE to our Enola office: Dale Hamby, Special Assistant, Department of Education, Jamie Gerkin, PDE Project Manager, Center for Data Quality & Information Technology, Julie Patton, PDE Project Manager, Center for Data Quality & Information Technology, and Brian Truesdale, Educator Effectiveness Data Coordinator.

NOTIFICATION OF ACTIVITIES

- Met with several of our new superintendents in our region: Dr. Jay Burkhart, East Pennsboro Area SD; Dr. Michael O'Brien, West Perry SD; Dr. Michele Orner, Halifax Area SD; Dr. Todd Stoltz, West Shore SD and Dr. Jeffrey Miller, Acting Superintendent at Susquehanna Township SD.
- Attended Preschool Graduation at Heather Donovan's class at Carroll Elementary.
- Visited Extended School Year (ESY) classes at Hill Top Academy.
- Attended Teachscape Coaches Clinic. I continue to work with our administrators on implementation of Educator Effectiveness and the use of Teachscape.
- Participated in the PAIU Planning Process Work Group – representatives from intermediate units will be meeting over the next few months to lead the process for establishing PAIU's strategic priorities for the coming years.