

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS' REPORT

MAY 2016

## DIRECTORS

### **Benton Area:**

Kathleen DeYong

### **Berwick Area:**

Daniel F. McGann,  
Secretary

### **Bloomsburg Area:**

Norman Mael

### **Central Columbia:**

Bruce E. Rhoads,  
Vice President

### **Danville Area:**

David Weader

### **Lewisburg Area:**

Tera Unzicker-Fassero

### **Line Mountain:**

Lawrence I. Neidig,  
Treasurer

### **Midd-West:**

Victor L. Abate

### **Mifflinburg Area:**

Dennis Keiser

### **Millville Area:**

Jody Love

### **Milton Area:**

Darlene Garcia-Johnson

### **Mount Carmel Area:**

William Brecker

### **Selinsgrove Area:**

Larry D. Augustine,  
President

### **Shamokin Area:**

Jeffrey Kashner

### **Shikellamy:**

Scott Karpinski

### **Southern Columbia Area:**

Thomas Reich

### **Warrior Run:**

Douglas L. Whitmoyer

The CSIU Board of Directors conducted its regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, May 18 at the CSIU central office.

## NEW BOARD REPRESENTATION

The CSIU Board of Directors welcomed **Norman Mael** as Bloomsburg Area School District's recently appointed representative.

## WORK-STUDY SESSION

### EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES

**Terri Locke**, who oversees all Early Childhood initiatives at CSIU, explained to the Board how Early Intervention (EI) is different from the more commonly known Head Start and Pre-K Counts programs. In addition to instruction, the 864 EI children served by CSIU this year may also receive services like speech/language therapy, physical/occupational therapy, vision/hearing support and orientation and mobility assistance. Unlike other early childhood programs, Early Intervention **must** be provided to children who are identified with a qualified delay or one or more disability — at no cost to the families. With an overarching goal of reducing the need and/or level of supports children will need when they enter the school system, Early Intervention is serving an increased number of children who require multiple services — more than 25 percent receive seven services in the CSIU region. Ms. Locke explained the funding challenges the program faces, having lost the federal school-based ACCESS funds and the state and federal allocations having been level funded (despite the increased needs of children). She concluded by highlighting the advocacy efforts made over the past year, statewide and regionally, to increase funding for Early Intervention programs.

## SPOTLIGHT SEGMENT

At the beginning of the meeting **Jennifer Williams**, director of Special Education and Early Childhood Services, shared a video with the board about the recent Celebrate Communicate (CC) Day. Ms. Williams explained that this was the 20th year of providing a carnival-like environment for the students to use their alternative communication devices to interact with others. She reported that a record 96 attendees representing 13 districts enjoyed a day with games, crafts, entertainment and lunch. More than 105 volunteers also attended the event to provide support to the students.

## FISCAL MATTERS

CSIU directors accepted monthly financial reports and approved payment requests for April. Directors also approved a facilities use agreement with Union County Housing Authority for office space for the WATCH Project, Keystone Purchasing Network Bid Awards, PEPPM 2016 Product Line Bid Awards and the appointment of Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP of Williamsport as auditor for the financial and single audit for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2016, 2017 and 2018.

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## **PERSONNEL MATTERS**

Directors elected three new staff members:

- Will Christensen, as WATCH Project career coordinator;
- Lyndi Hertzler, as client support specialist I; and
- Karla Procopio, as WATCH Project employment and outreach specialist.

Directors approved Aaron Billet as substitute teacher, and Sabrina Parker and Tammy Rice as substitute aides.

Directors also approved a title change for Tammie Christian and Valeria Forsha to WATCH Project career coordinators.

Directors accepted the following resignations:

- Susan Blyth, retiring as curriculum services project manager;
- Heather Hendrickson, as assistant instructor;
- Carol Kiersnowski, retiring as assistant instructor;
- Susan Miller, retiring as coordinator of Early Intervention Services;
- Lise Reardon, as administrative assistant, Pre-K Counts;
- Jamie Stahl, as human resources administrative support technician; and
- Cynthia Young, retiring as school bus driver.

Directors also approved the following:

- a memorandum of understanding for Charles Bomboy, Jr., corrections education program principal, and
- a supplemental application for federal funds that will award CSIU Head Start/ Early Head Start a 1.8 percent cost of living adjustment. These funds will be used to support the board-approved CSIU salary increases for HS/EHS staff, as well as associated operating costs.

## **POLICY AND PROGRAM MATTERS**

Directors approved the first reading of Board Policy No. 626, Federal Fiscal Compliance; No. 626.1, Travel Reimbursement–Federal Programs; No. 806 Child Abuse; and No. 827, Conflict of Interest; the second reading of Section 300 Policies–Employees (Policies No. 302–351); and the reaffirmation of Board Policy No. 3200, Income–Authorization for Grant Applications and Contracts authorizing the executive director to sign contractual agreements on behalf of the board.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

Directors approved the continuation of agreements with law firms providing chief counsel, general legal advice and counsel in specialized areas for the 2016-17 year.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

At the recommendation of administration, directors approved a concept with the CSIU Education Association for the term of July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2018, under the terms of any of the three options presented, provided that the Education Association ratifies one of the options by a May 19, 2016, 6 p.m., deadline.

## **NEXT MEETING**

The next regular meeting of the board is scheduled for Wednesday, June 15 at 7:30 p.m. in the CSIU central office.