The CSIU Board of Directors conducted its regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, April 19 at the CSIU central office.

WORK-STUDY SESSION

POST AUDIT REVIEW

Auditors from Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP reviewed the single financial audit with directors prior to the meeting. After conducting an audit of more than 130 program budgets that make up the general fund, auditors commended staff and noted the audit was "as good as it gets."

COMMUNICATION AUDIT REVIEW

In November, the Board approved a contract with the National School Public Relations Association (NSPRA) to conduct a communication audit that aligns with the first priority of the CSIU’s Strategic Plan: to improve two-way communication and focus on proactive communication strategies that build trust, credibility and support for CSIU services. After reviewing extensive communication materials, plans and procedures and conducting 17 focus group sessions, NSPRA Executive Director Rich Bagin summarized observations, findings and recommendations. CSIU administrators will consider all recommendations to improve and enhance organizational and internal communication, as the next Strategic Planning cycle is soon underway.

BOARD GOVERNANCE

AUTHORIZATION OF MARCH 2017 ACTION ITEMS

Board Officers reviewed and approved all items included on the Business Meeting Agenda with Addendum for March 15, 2017.

CSIU BOARD OF DIRECTORS’ MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2017–18

Directors set the 2017-18 schedule for CSIU Board of Directors’ meetings. All meetings will be the third Wednesday of the month unless otherwise noted, and will begin at 7:30 p.m. The full schedule is listed on the website.

CSIU GENERAL OPERATING BUDGET

In January, CSIU directors gave their initial approval of the preliminary 2017-18 CSIU General Operating Budget (GOB) of $1.1 million for services provided primarily to member school districts on a fee basis. It was then released to district boards for their consideration before final adoption by the CSIU board, which occurred at the April meeting.

Following are the results of the district votes:

- all 17 district boards approved the CSIU’s GOB;
- at the time of voting, 86 percent of all district directors were present; and
- of the total votes received, 130 directors were in favor, 1 opposed and 1 abstained.
FISCAL MATTERS

CSIU directors accepted monthly financial reports and approved payment requests for March. Directors also approved the bid for the CSIU conference center facilities update, the PenTeleData proposal for the CSIU internet consortium bid and the CSIU purchase of internet service from PenTeleData.

PERSONNEL MATTERS

Directors elected three new staff members:
• Nicole Campbell, as direct certification technical assistance coordinator;
• Zachary Gass, as facilities/custodial services assistant; and
• Robert Sprenkle, Jr., as Office for Dispute Resolution special education coordinator.

Directors also approved:
• a stipend payment for Karlen Light, Pre-K Counts teacher, who served as teacher mentor for the 2016-17 school year;
• Lorrie Bruckhart and Lois Purcell, as substitute teachers, for the 2016-17 school year;
• change in resignation to retire date for Victoria Frace, reading/resource teacher; and
• the following resignations:
  • Heather Andrews, resigning as career counselor specialist;
  • Patricia Flynn, retiring as reading/resource teacher;
  • Kristen Gemberling, resigning as Head Start instructor;
  • Mary Hart, retiring as Head Start assistant instructor;
  • Michala Holland, resigning as Head Start assistant instructor;
  • Debra Johnson, resigning as corrections education secretarial assistant;
  • Ann Marcinek, retiring as reading/resource teacher;
  • Jean McKinney, resigning as Head Start family and health coordinator; and
  • Andrew Wislock, resigning as employment outreach specialist.

POLICY COMMITTEE REPORT

Directors rescinded Board Policies No. 5111 Admission and 5124 Parent Conferences and accepted at second reading Board Policies No. 201 Admission of Students and 212 Reporting Student Progress. Directors also accepted at second reading revisions to Board Policy No. 005 Organization.

POLICY AND PROGRAM MATTERS

Directors approved the following Northumberland Area Head Start and Early Head Start items:
• Supplemental Assistance Program Funding Application;
• Monthly Report for February;
• Strategic Plan Mid-Year Update; and

Directors also approved the Assurance for the Operation of Special Education Services and Programs/Quality Space for 2017-18 School Year and renewal of an agreement with Sweet, Stevens, Katz & Williams, LLP for education and technology pool counsel legal services consultation for 2017-18.