



MCIU CONNECTION

Staff Changes

The MCIU is pleased to welcome the following new administrators to the organization.



Dr. Leticia Rodriguez (left) has joined the MCIU as Assistant Director of Human Resources. Leticia most recently worked as the Director of HR for the Spring-Ford Area School District and

before that she served as HR Director at Montgomery County Community College.

Dr. Barbara Burke-Stevenson (top right) will serve as Acting Director of Special Education. Dr. Burke-Stevenson will be filling the position previously held by Dr. Jeanmarie Mason until

a permanent replacement is hired. Dr. Burke-Stevenson most recently served as acting superintendent of Phoenixville and Methacton school districts and before that as superintendent of New Hope-Solebury School District.



Mark Brooks (left) will serve as the new Facilities Supervisor. Mark joins

the MCIU from the Pequea Valley School District in Lancaster County. Mark replaces Facilities Supervisor, Joe Harrington, who retired after 25 years of service.

This July, the MCIU also bid a fond farewell to John McBride, TIS, who worked for the MCIU for 32 years, John Styer, TIS and Len Gricoski, Management Services. We wish all of our retirees the very best of the luck with their future plans.

In addition to the new interim director, the Special Education Division has a number of other staffing changes. Howard Levy will be serving as the single point of contact for all early intervention programs. Cheryl Wise will assume supervisory responsibilities for the school-age autism programs. Two supervisor substitutes, Sue Knickerbocker and Delores Furlan, will be supporting both early intervention and school-age programs while full-time supervisors are being recruited.

The following changes were also made in the support staff reporting structure:

- Dr. Burke-Stevenson: Debbie Conaway (x110)
- Howard Levy: Tina McAllister (x301) and Lisa Boffa (x180)
- Dr. Joan Evans: Joanne Piazza-Gill (x318) and Diane Saylor (x125)
- Sue Knickerbocker and Delores Furlan: Sue Heffron (x172) and Sarah Nestor (x113)

MCIU Annual Report Receives National Award of Excellence

The MCIU Annual Report (2008-2009) received an Award of Excellence in the annual publications contest sponsored by the National School Public Relations Association (NSPRA).

There were 583 entries in this year's contest -- only 54 received Awards of Excellence! The Annual Report will be on display at the NSPRA National Seminar in Charlotte, NC this July to serve as an exemplar for other public relations practitioners. The Annual Report also received an Award of Excellence from the Pennsylvania School Public Relations Association (PenSPRA) and an Award of Honor for the MCIU Update newsletter.



(left to right) MCIU Board Vice President, Marie Knox, recognizes outgoing Board member, Paul Baumgartner, Souderton School District, with Dr. Jerry W. Shiveley, Executive Director/CEO. Paul served on the MCIU Board for 2 1/2 years and will be missed for his insight, enthusiasm and support for the MCIU.



MONTGOMERY COUNTY INTERMEDIATE UNIT

An Educational Service Agency Supporting School Excellence

MCIU Connection

The bi-weekly newsletter of the
**Montgomery County
Intermediate Unit**

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Questions? Comments?

Story Ideas?

Contact Kristen Rawlings

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Talk like a Techie

Did you know the meaning of these tech terms?

Pharming: Pharming is a scam that redirects users to false websites without their knowledge.

Phishing: Phishing is an email scam intended to steal your personal information. Common techniques are to send an email that appears to be from your bank, eBay, PayPal, etc and ask you to click a link in the email to update your account information. The link takes you to another web server that stores your private account information for use by the scam artist.

RSS: It stands for Real Simple Syndication -- a method of pulling news content automatically to your computer, handheld device or cell phone. Most popular news and trade journals provide RSS feeds that can be viewed through special programs called RSS Readers. The content is pulled dynamically so that it is always current.

Whole Leadership

A Continuing Series on Teachings from the Jorgensen Learning Center

Dr. Ray Jorgensen explains that good leaders should be intentional about Whole Leadership. This requires constant monitoring of our leadership style and conversations. Staff are encouraged to ask the following questions when leading a meeting or having a private conversation with another person:

- ★ How did this meeting go for you?
- ★ Do you see things the same/differently?
- ★ How does that land on you?
- ★ What are you thinking, feeling, noticing, learning?
- ★ What are you wondering?
- ★ What can I do to help you?

Make a commitment to...

- ★ Purposefully use questions
- ★ Ask questions to get to know other staff members personally
- ★ Ask more explicitly what people are thinking/feeling
- ★ Ask what success looks like when talking about goals
- ★ Probe – Ask questions until you reach a common understanding



MCIU Receives \$25,000 CCRES Grants

The MCIU received \$25,000 in grants from CCRES to help fund new programs and services, including the Special Education Division's Apartment Program and first summer camp.

▶ \$5,000 for the STARS Camp to fund start-up costs for the new summer camp at the Anderson School. The Special Education Division camp is being held July 6 through August 6 for children 8 through 13 years of age.

▶ \$4,800 for the Summer Campership Program for 2011 submitted by MCIU Education Foundation. This summer, the Foundation was able to provide scholarship awards to 28 students with disabilities to attend various summer camps.

▶ \$5,200 for the Montgomery County Schools Benefits Trust to offset the cost of establishing a trust.

▶ \$5,000 for the Transition Program's new Apartment Program to purchase furniture to outfit an apartment. The new

program is designed to help students with disabilities, ages 16 to 20, enhance independent living skills in an apartment setting. Small groups of four students

work with a certified special education teacher and job coach.

▶ \$5,000 for the Transition Program's new Practical Assessment Exploration System (PAES) Assessment Program. The Transition Program will purchase assessment materials & provide training to create a PAES Lab that will be available to middle and

high school students with disabilities. The lab will help students develop job skills and learn proper behaviors on the job.

"We are very pleased to have CCRES support to help with the MCIU's mission of providing new, innovative programs and services to Montgomery County students and schools," said Dr. Jerry W. Shiveley, Executive Director/CEO.

