



## ***To The Point. . .***

### **Key points and highlights from the April 28, 2010 Board Meeting**

#### **Board Actions**

The Board recognized Margaret “Peg” McHugh, a Nonpublic School Services counselor, as the recipient of the annual Bobbie S. Goodman Award, named in memory of a former MCIU reading specialist in the Nonpublic School Services Division. Peg was commended for her dedication to teaching, personal caring for students, creativity, professional support for colleagues, commitment to friendship and loyalty to the MCIU.

The Board approved Jeffrey Sultanik to serve for another one-year term as the MCIU solicitor.

#### **Executive Director’s Report**

Dr. Shiveley reminded the Board that a new board member orientation will be held on May 10 at 3:30 pm.

Dr. Shiveley received a request from the Association of Educational Service Agencies (AESAs) to provide a presentation at the annual conference held the first week of December. He asked board members to consider if they would like to work with him on developing a presentation.

#### **DIVISION REPORTS**

##### **Human Resources—Jane W. Mansuy**

Mrs. Mansuy highlighted that her division held its first ever one-day workshop for Human Resources/Payroll/Benefits Assistants to share ideas and procedures. The workshop was attended by 35 district staff representing 15 districts.

Mrs. Mansuy requested and received approval for various personnel items, including the appointment of one professional staff, one request for extended unpaid leave, two salary adjustments, one return to service and three retirements. Also approved were two requests for unpaid leave, two reclassifications and one retirement for teacher assistant/ support staff. The Board approved requests for two summer, temporary positions as well as staffing for the Extended School Year, which runs from July 6-August 5. The Board approved two 1:1 Temporary Teacher Assistants; one for the Emotional Support Program and one for the Autistic Support Program as well as one web and data application developer and a supplemental contract position for PaTTAN. One staff was approved as a mentor for the Induction Program. Four conference requests were approved and four professionals and two teacher assistants for the substitute list.

##### **Management Services – Stan H. Wisler**

Mr. Wisler asked for and received approval on the following action items:

- Recommendation to accept the 2010-2011 Act 30 contract funds that are forwarded to several Private Residential Rehabilitation Institutions
- Recommendation to accept the GASB 45 Valuation Agreement for actuarial services

- Recommendation to award supply bids and fixed rate discount bids for the Montgomery county School Entities Joint Purchasing Board
- Recommendation for approval of \$30,000 in grant funds from the Department of Community and Economic Development
- Recommendation to approve an IDEA Regular Project Budget Revision application in the amount of \$22,144,814

### **Special Education Division – Dr. Jeanmarie Mason**

Dr. Mason reported on the most recent Special Education Director’s meeting hosted by the MCIU. The County Human Services Administrator, Eric Goldstein, spoke to the group about behavioral health services offered through the county.

The Special Education Division has received almost 94 requests this year for evaluations from nonpublic school Equitable Participation purposes, which determines if a child is eligible and in need of special education.

Dr. Mason reminded the Board about the MCIU Education Foundation Annual Golf Classic which will be held May 17 at the Blue Bell Country Club. Golfers are needed as well as sponsors and door prizes.

### **Division of Legislative Services and Grant Development - Dr. Mary Jane Gales**

Dr. Gales reported that PDE Secretary Zachorchak tendered his resignation effective May 9<sup>th</sup>. He has accepted the position of Superintendent of the Allentown School District starting in July. Governor Rendell nominated Tom Gluck, Executive Deputy Secretary for the past five years, to replace him. The nomination is subject to confirmation by the Senate.

Last month the Montgomery County School Directors Legislative Committee met with Joe Torsella, chair of the State Board of Education, Adam Schott, Executive Director, and Tim Allwein, PSBA. The meeting was beneficial in opening an avenue of communications with the state board.

Education funding for next year’s state budget is in question again in light of the \$472 million shortfall in the transportation budget caused by the federal government rejecting the state’s proposal to toll Interstate 80. The governor has called for a special session which is scheduled for May 4<sup>th</sup> to address this issue.

### **Technology & Information Services – Gail Kennedy**

Mrs. Kennedy reported that TIS hosted the first ever PowerSchool Users Group on March 23<sup>rd</sup> to encourage PowerSchool users to collaborate, share ideas and problem solve.

TIS will soon be offering schools a new product called Stoneware which provides its users the ability to access computer applications, content and documents from anywhere, using any device. TIS is currently testing the product and will be conducting a pilot with a district this fall.

### **Curriculum, Instruction, & Professional Development –Kendall Glouner**

Mrs. Glouner highlighted that the most recent high school principal’s meeting was held at Souderton High School. These meetings, held quarterly, will be held at different venues to give principals the opportunity to tour other facilities and learn about programming at that school.

Mrs. Glouner also reported on a PDE videoconference that CIPD hosted to assist LEAs with maintaining Pennsylvania Information Management System (PIMS) data and how that data affects Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP). Seventy-seven people attended.

### **PaTTAN – Dr. Janet Sloand**

Dr. Sloand highlighted that PaTTAN has assumed the lead for the state on a new professional development series targeted specifically for school psychologists. The series entitled “PA Promotes Best Practices in School Psychologists” is designed to provide information, training and on-going support regarding the changing role of psychologists, including RtI, behavioral assessments and participating in data analysis teams . About 350 psychologists have attended the two offerings provided this year.

### **Communications Division—Kristen Rawlings**

Mrs. Rawlings reported that she has been assisting Pottsgrove and Springfield school districts with communications projects, including their newsletters and district calendars.

The Voices of Inspiration Award for Teaching Excellence will be held May 6 at the Blue Bell Country Club. Board members interested in attending should contact Mrs. Rawlings.

### **Division Spotlight: Nonpublic School Services Division – Dr. Kenneth Voss**

Dr. Voss provided an overview of his division and the 2010-2011 Nonpublic School Services Budget which will be presented for action at the May 26, 2010 board meeting. Highlights of the presentation are as follows:

- Act 89 of 1975 of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania mandated auxiliary educational services for nonpublic schools in remedial reading and math, speech/language therapy, guidance/counseling/consultation and psychological services. Intermediate Units were designated to provide these services.
- More than 95% of the funding for the Nonpublic School Services Division comes from Act 89 state funds. The division also receives state and federal programs and grants, including Title funds, Homeless and Safe and Drug Free Schools funding.
- Montgomery County’s nonpublic, non-profit school enrollment decreased 4.01% over the last year due to the relocation of two schools to Delaware County and decreasing enrollment at other schools. The MCIU Nonpublic School Services Division is still the largest division of its kind in the Commonwealth, excluding Philadelphia.
- The Division is proposing a \$11.3 million budget for the 2010-2011 school year. This reflects a 3.63% increase. Act 89 funds are projected at \$10,710,670 and federal/state program and grant revenues are projected at \$772,558.
- The Division proposes the addition of 3 FTE (counselor, remediation teacher and speech therapist) to manage the increased requests for services from the schools. This increase can be absorbed since 12 staff members retired last year and only three were replaced.

Dr. Voss and his staff also highlighted the Literacy, Math and Study Skills Parent Nights that are provided throughout the year. The evening programs are designed to help parents reinforce learning at home by actively participating in their child’s lessons and activities.

**The next MCIU Board of Directors meeting will be held on  
May 26, 2010  
at 7:45 p.m.**