



MCIU HIGHLIGHTS

AN UPDATE FROM OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

March 23, 2016 Board Actions

BOARD BUSINESS

- Approved the minutes from the February 24, 2016 MCIU Board Meeting.
- Accepted the resignation of Michele Tinsman, MCIU Board member from Abington School District.
- Approved the second reading and adoption of the following new policies:

POLICY #	TITLE
716	Integrated Pest Management (New)
808	Food Services (New)

- Acknowledged the first reading of the following new policies:

POLICY #	TITLE
218.1	Weapons (New)
317.1	Weapons (New)
705	Safety (New)
718	Service Animals (New)

BUDGET APPROVALS & BID RECOMMENDATIONS

- Approved the revised Nonpublic School Services Budget for 2015-2016.
- Approved the Montgomery County School Entities 2016-17 Line Item Supply Bid Recommendations for Art Supplies, Custodial Supplies, General Supplies, Medical Supplies, and Copy Paper.

CONTRACTS & SERVICE AGREEMENTS

- Authorized a contract agreement with Penn Hills School District to provide stipend support for data submission for third year Cohort 1 teams for implementation of Project MAX.
- Authorized a contract agreement with Central Intermediate Unit 10 for contracted services for the Family Learning Conference.
- Authorized a professional development agreement with the School District of Springfield Township for the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit to support planning and provide instructional coaching for high school co-teaching teams.
- Authorized a professional development agreement with the North Penn School District for the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit to provide consultation on elementary science curriculum review.
- Authorized a professional development agreement with the North Penn School District for the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit to provide a workshop on critical thinking and analysis in the content area classroom.
- Authorized a professional development agreement with the Methacton School District for the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit to provide an elementary staff in-service program on core literacy instruction (shared reading and guided reading.)
- Authorized a contract agreement with Echoes and Reflections: Leaders in Holocaust Education to conduct a workshop.



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CONTRACTS & SERVICE AGREEMENTS (CONTINUED)

- Authorized a contract agreement with Dr. Andrea Honigsfeld to facilitate a workshop for the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit on Co-teaching: Collaborative Practices to Support ELLs.
- Authorized a contract agreement with LaVonna Roth, Inc. to provide a Brain-Powered Strategies workshop.
- Authorized contract agreements with various instructors to teach at the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit Advanced Placement Summer Institute.
- Authorized a professional development agreement with The Pennsylvania Cyber Charter School and the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit to provide vision therapy.
- Authorized the appropriate officers to enter into a consultant contract for early intervention provider services from various providers and the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit.
- Authorized a contract agreement with the Philadelphia Language Services, LLC to provide interpreter services in various languages.
- Authorized a service agreement with the Villa Maria Academy High School for the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit to provide implementation and professional development with a Schoology Enterprise Subscription.
- Authorized a service agreement with the Unionville-Chadds Ford School District for the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit to provide PowerSchool Assessment.
- Authorized a service agreement with Discovery Education with Single Sign On (SSO) Integration Service allowing the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit to be a distributor.
- Authorized a service agreement with Schoology to provide a digital learning environment for the Villa Maria Academy High School.

MARCH 23, 2016 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR UPDATE – Dr. John J. George

- Pennsylvania Budget: Governor Tom Wolf announced the end to the nine-month budget impasse during a news conference today. The Governor stated that he will not sign or veto the budget, therefore making it become law next week. This will allow funding to flow through to school districts to allow them to close out 2015-16 and begin working on budgeting for 2016-17. Now that the budget impasse is over, the timing is right for intermediate units to become more aggressive in their pursuit of additional funding for Early Intervention. Two members of the MCIU staff, Dr. Lois Robinson and Alison Scott, will be serving on a state-wide committee formed to address a new allocation formula.
- Pre-K Counts Update: Dr. Lois Robinson, Director of the Office of Student Services, reported that parents have shared their enthusiasm that the new Early Learning Academy at 1605 West Main Street “feels like a school” for their children. A total of 100 students are currently enrolled and have been attending this program since the opening day on February 29th.
- Head Start Update: While the MCIU continues to work with regional and national administrators of the Head Start Program to reduce enrollment figures from 490 to 450 students, the Green Lane location will remain open through the close of the 2015-16 school year.



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MARCH 23, 2016 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR UPDATE (CONTINUED)

- **Elementary Partial Hospitalization Program:** In order to fill a void in the county, the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit will be investigating the possibility of opening an Elementary Partial Hospitalization Program aimed at serving the growing number of students with significant behavioral challenges.
- **MCIU Budget:** Dr. George stated that the early budget returns are favorable with a count of 146 ayes and 0 nays for approval of the 2016-2017 Montgomery County Intermediate Unit District Membership Services Budget. As a reminder, all voting results are due to the MCIU by Friday, April 8, 2016.
- **Academic Competition:** On March 8, 2016, the Office of Professional Learning hosted the 24th annual Montgomery County Regional Academic Competition. The following schools and districts participated: Cheltenham, Hatboro-Horsham, Lower Moreland, Norristown, Pottsgrove, Pottstown, Souderton, Springfield, Spring-Ford, Upper Dublin, Upper Moreland, and Wissahickon. Dr. Donna Gaffney, Director of the Office of Professional Learning, congratulated Souderton Area High School as the regional champion and presented board member Donna Scheuren with a plaque to share with her district. The Souderton team will move on to compete at the Pennsylvania State Academic Competition at the Capitol Building on April 29, 2016.
- **Earth Day:** Last year, over 80 staff members volunteered to participate in the first MCIU Earth Day Celebration to help beautify our MCIU property as well as the surrounding community. The MCIU will continue this tradition again this year on Friday, April 22nd. Dr. George invited all MCIU board members to join staff members if their schedules allow.

UPCOMING EVENTS

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| • March 15-May 3, 2016 | MCIU Reading Olympics Competitions |
| • April 5, 2016 | MCIU Regional Computer Fair |
| • April 8, 2016 | MCIU Legislative Breakfast |
| • April 13, 2016 | MCIU Diversity Fair |
| • April 22, 2016 | MCIU Celebrates Earth Day |
| • March 23, 2016 | Next MCIU Board Meeting |
| • May 9, 2016 | MCIU Education Foundation Golf Classic |