Excellence Through Service

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Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit is a student-centered education agency committed to Excellence through Service.

2005-06 Local Revenue
$25,170,214

2005-06 State Revenue
$29,259,481

2005-06 Federal Revenue
$12,064,256
Business Services

The Business Office oversees the fiscal operations of the various programs operated by the Intermediate Unit. These operations include all financial management including invoicing, purchasing, and biweekly payroll for approximately 1200 employees.

The Intermediate Unit currently offers eight educational and service programs including Special Education, Transportation, Business Office, Curriculum, Corrections, MIS, Preschool, Provider, to the Carbon and Lehigh county school districts. Each program is supported by local, state, and federal dollars. We are currently using forty-two budgets to account for the revenue and expenditures within each program.

The Business Office coordinates the bidding of co-operative purchasing of supplies for the school districts. The Intermediate Unit is also partnering with LCTI to warehouse and distribute various supplies.

2005-06 Total Expenditures-By Program

2005-06 Total Revenue-By Revenue Source

CLIU Board of Directors 2005 - 2006

President: Terry Richwine, East Penn School District
Vice-President: Dennis Vavra, Panther Valley School District
Secretary: Diane L. Carfara, Non-member CLIU
Treasurer: Darlene Yeakel, Palmerton Area School District
Members:

CLIU Cabinet 2005 - 2006

Executive Director: Dr. Frank J. Ferrari
Executive Director: Robert J. Keegan, Jr.
Executive Director: Ivy L. Bauman, Director
Executive Director: Cathy Groller, Director
Business Services: Kimberly Talipan, Director
Curriculum and Instruction/ Educational Technologies: Stephen Unis, Director
Human Resources: Philip Fiore, Assistant Director
Management Information Systems: John Houser, Director
Special Programs and Services: Tee Decker, Assistant Director
Solicitor: Jeffrey Tucker, Esquire
Solicitor: Sweet, Stevens, Tucker & Katz

2005-06 Total Revenue-By Revenue Source
The Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit experienced many changes in the 2005-06 school year. The Intermediate Unit implemented a major restructuring of its Business Department and internal business practices culminating in the development of an extensive budget document for the Board of Directors, School Districts, and Community.

With the help of our Board, School District Superintendents, Business Managers, and Special Education Administrators, CLIU Administration was able to implement cost containment measures to save our school districts over $2 million dollars in educational costs during the past 2005-06 school year.

CLIU received and monitored over $66,493,951 in funds during the past school year. Some of the grants include the following:

- **Getting-to-One Technology Integration**
  - Mentor Grant $1,525,000.00
  - eSPARC (Evaluation of Student and Parent Access through Recycled Computers) $682,014.00
- **Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities Act Grant** $36,435.00
- **Act 183** $495,000.00
- **Pennsylvania Literacy Framework** $6,137.50
- **Governor’s Institute for Environment & Ecology** $180,356.00
- **College and Career Transition Initiative** $24,000.00
- **School Improvement** $31,014.25
- **PAGE 1** $7,832.00
- **Inclusive Practices Mini-Grant Program** $10,000.00
- **Special Education Performance Grant #4** $10,000.00
- **Paraeducator Training** $5,000.00
- **Department of Community and Economic Development Grant** $5,000.00
- **Alternative Education Grant - Jim Thorpe** $15,000.00
- **Alternative Education Grant - Palmerton** $30,000.00
- **Total** $3,052,788.75

**Governor’s Schools of Excellence**

This past year, within Carbon and Lehigh Counties, over thirty students from Lehigh Valley High Schools and Technical Schools participated in the Governor’s Schools of Excellence. Students participated in programs that included: Agricultural Sciences, Arts, Global Entrepreneurship, Health Care Professions, Information Technology, International Studies, Science, and Teaching. The Governor’s Schools were held at colleges and universities across Pennsylvania.

**Strategic Plan/Middle States**

CLIU participated in a Middle States Mid-Point Review of the Strategic Plan. It was found that 96.3% of the IU’s Strategic Plan had been successfully completed before the due date in 2008. CLIU was the first Intermediate Unit in Pennsylvania to receive Middle States Accreditation in 2003. In February, 2006, CLIU received high marks in its mid-year review evaluation from Middle States.

**Applications - PowerSchool**

Our PowerSchool consortium continued to gain strength as our districts excel in using the product to meet their needs. Two of our districts have rolled out PowerSchool Parent Modules which allow parents to view attendance, grades and assignments over the web. This feature allows the parents to get involved in the daily happenings of their children.

PowerSchool also came out with a new product called PowerSchool Premier. This version is based on a stronger database which allows easier manipulation of the data. It also has a web based grade book which is a great enhancement for the product. The web based grade book will allow easier updates to the software and easy access for teachers.

Our consortium trainings continued this year. Our customers find the group trainings that are offered for free as part of the ongoing contract very helpful and informative. As the group is becoming more advanced, we are also offering more advanced trainings for those users interested in getting the most out of the software.

**Programmers and In-house Packages**

Our programmers have been working diligently on five programs for our districts. In a joint venture between MIS and CLIU’s Human Resource’s Department, The Human Resources package was designed to ease human resource functions and is becoming very popular. We now support two IU’s and two school districts using the package. The facilities tracker program is designed to track the use of facilities throughout the district as well as track work orders for maintenance and technology. We are currently beta testing this in one of our districts. Our data warehouse package is moving along with our original member districts. The package is designed to help districts analyze and interpret their data as they make decisions based on the data.

Finally, our Child Accounting Tracking System (CATS), has taken on another function that is becoming very popular. This summer we rolled out CATIEP, which is an IEP software program that is tied into CATS to track students IEP’s throughout the year. The program pulls from existing data in the CATS program to help facilitate the IEP process. We currently have one district using the package, two scheduled for training, and one preparing to implement.

**Desktop Publishing**

Desktop Publishing continued to do an excellent job creating publications to support and promote our IU. The quality of our publications are known throughout the state, even the Department of Education uses our service to promote their goals.
EFUND Grant

The MIS department, in conjunction with our Educational Technologies department and IU 29, were successful in being awarded an EFUND grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Education. This grant is for a total of $1.4 million. The monies from this grant will be used to upgrade equipment in our school districts, upgrade connections to the network, and increase educational opportunities for our districts over the next three years.

Only twelve EFUND grants were awarded across the state, so we were fortunate to be selected for the first round. By pooling the resources of three counties, we will be able to leverage our buying power to decrease costs and increase services to the schools.

We also expanded our network into the northern tier of the state by completing a connection to the University of Scranton. This connection expands our Internet 2 footprint to include IU’s 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, and 29. A number of media days were held at the University of Scranton to introduce Internet2 to the area. Members of the media and local education agencies are all very excited about the possibilities that this connection creates.

As we continue to grow and lead the state in the area of networking, our accomplishments are being recognized across the state. We are currently one of five IU’s sitting on a Statewide Technology Infrastructure Board that is working on plans to develop a statewide network that will tie all IU’s and their member school districts together on one network.

New Building

Our IT staff has been preparing for the move to the new building. Part of this process was to install our new IP network based phone system in all of the office areas and remote buildings. This installation resulted in significant savings over our old PBX phone system. This process is now complete.

The move to the new building also requires us to redesign parts of our network to ensure that we can move our datacenter and operate efficiently from our new location. We have been working on the necessary changes in fiber optic and communication line routing for phones, data, video and satellite transmissions.

Finally, the design of the new building itself has been a tedious process as we design the building to meet our current and future needs. The new building will incorporate some high tech features such as our IP telephone system, a network based heating and cooling control system, network based security system to control the monitoring for alarms and access to doors and elevators throughout the building.

Student Forum

Student Forum had another productive and successful year. The purpose of Student Forum is to provide students with the opportunity to discuss current issues of concerns to high school students and share this information with their peers. Topics this year included: The Student Forum Ballroom Blitz; Credit, Debt, and Identity Theft; Juggling Stress During the Holiday Season; College Prep 101; Website Safety/Garage Band; Street Smarts/Awareness; Hypnosis; and Who’s Living Down at the Jordan Creek.

Carbon Lehigh Special Needs Children’s Foundation (CLSNCF)

The CLSNCF broadened its horizons this year by adding three new projects to its agenda. In addition to the Special Needs Summer Camping experience, the Foundation now supports the Carbon Lehigh School Bus Safety Competition and the Social Workers Emergency Service Project. The Social Workers Project provides food and clothing to special needs children and families in an emergency and special food baskets during the holidays.

Teacher Leadership Program

The Teacher Leadership Program hosted twenty-six students during the 2005-06 school year. The program is a joint effort between Lehigh University, CLIU, and the fourteen school districts. A teacher leader is defined as a teacher who enhances school leadership primarily from a classroom perspective rather than from a formal or supervisory position. Each participant is responsible for developing a research-based case study which addresses a current challenge in education.

School Board Conference

This year, the Carbon Lehigh School Boards Conference was attended by over 80 administrators and school board members. Collaboration between CLIU 21 and LCCC provided for a social/business evening in which networking occurred. The evening culminated with a presentation by Thomas Gentzel, Executive Director of the Pennsylvania School Boards Association.

Emergency Management

Quarterly meetings were held this past year at CLIU to address the concerns and needs of students and school personnel related to emergencies, trauma events, homeland security, suicide, student deaths, and the pandemic influenza. The meetings were attended by representatives from each school district, the Carbon County and Lehigh County Emergency Managers, and continues to be open to other community agencies interested in learning about emergency preparedness.

Board and Administrative Changes

The CLIU Board of Directors changed its membership in a major way during the 2005-06 school year. New to the Board this year includes: Dr. Herman Corradetti, Parkland; Eileen Abruzzi, Whitehall-Coplay; Mary Ziegler, Salisbury Township; Evelyn Semanoff, Lehighton Area; Charles Versaggi, Allen-
Executive Director’s Message

Nonpublic School Services and Special Education held meetings and consulted with nonpublic administrators and parents to continue to develop a written agreement as required in IDEA ’04 of equitable participation, child find, and service delivery. An agreed upon plan was developed and submitted to PDE for approval.

Related Services

The Speech Language Support Staff served 1,506 students in CLIU public school and nonpublic school settings during the 2005-2006 school year. This was an increase of one-hundred ninety-three students from last school year. Participation in ACCESS reimbursement for Medical Assistance continued during the 2005-2006 school year due to an increase in the number of students receiving speech/language, occupational and physical therapies.

Deaf/hard of hearing classes, itinerant hearing impaired support, itinerant vision impaired support, orientation and mobility, sign language interpreting, occupation therapy, physical therapy, and audiology, and adaptive physical education served twenty-nine more students during the 2004-2006 school year. The aforementioned services were provided to children in the fourteen school districts, early intervention, Mercy Special Learning Center, as well as students who have service agreements under Chapter 15 of the Pennsylvania School Code.

Work Experience Program

The 2005-2006 Work Experience Program began with approximately 90% of the students referred starting by the first week of school. The Work Experience Program concluded the year utilizing twenty-eight full-time job coaches involving one-hundred forty-five different business sites. A total of two-hundred ninety students were referred to this program during the course of the 2005-2006 school year. This represents an increase of 16% over the previous year. A total of two-hundred thirty-six students participated at some point from September until June. The total number of community hours this year was approximately 79,000 hours, which was an increase of 3% more than the previous year.

The Work Experience Program was able to receive additional funding through grants and donations from the following community resources: Hockendaqua Athletic Association, Wal Mart, Dalla’s Machine, Inc., and Whitehall Township County Commissioners (Department of Community and Economic Development). The funds were used for direct benefit for the students in purchasing equipment, transportation for social activities, community relations promotions and reinforcers.

Dr. Frank J. Ferrari
Robert J. Keegan, Jr.

Goal One
The IU will continue to offer the highest level of quality service while identifying additional revenue sources and implementing cost containment measures.

Goal Two
The CLIU will improve services to CLIU stakeholders by continuing to develop and implement a facilities plan for transition to a new service center.

Goal Three
The CLIU will prepare for a Middle States mid-term review by continuing to examine, develop, and implement quality programs and services to increase student achievement.

CLIU Board Adopted: July 18, 2005

The 2005-06 CLIU Goals in retrospect:

Goal One – CLIU worked diligently to provide quality services in a cost-effective manner and developed committees with the school districts to address the cost of special education and other services. Goal #1 will continue to be a priority in the 2006-07 school year with a focus on transportation costs.

Goal Two – The planning process for moving to a new service center occurred on a regular basis through the 2005-06 school year. Target date for the move is late September, 2006.

Goal Three – CLIU completed its midpoint evaluation and has completed a 96.3% of its Strategic Plan Goals.
The CLIU continued to operate programs for juvenile offenders at the Lehigh County Detention Center, Youth Forestry Camp (YFC) #2, and the Adventure Challenge Therapy (ACT) Camps in Jim Thorpe and Wind Gap. The programs at YFC #2, and the ACT Camps served two-hundred fifty students during the past year.

Lehigh County Detention Center completed construction of a new facility that includes four classrooms, an office, faculty room and a gymnasium with locker facilities. The CLIU staff/students occupied the new building beginning on November 30, 2005. During this past year over four-hundred eight students were served at this facility.

Early Intervention

The Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit, Project CONNECT, is providing direct services to approximately 1,380 eligible preschool children and their families. Project CONNECT directly employs a staff of seventy-four members, of which forty-three are professionals (psychologist, teachers, and speech therapists) and twenty-nine are para professionals, and one supervisor and one support staff. Occupational therapy, vision, hearing, and orientation and mobility are contracted with the CLIU itinerant school age services. In addition to these direct services, the CLIU Project CONNECT contracts with the following providers: Carbon County Head Start, Head Start of the Lehigh Valley, Easter Seals of the Lehigh Valley, Vitalistic Therapeutic Center, Abington Speech Pathology, and Carol Walck and Associates. A total of two-hundred eighty children (an increase of thirty children from 2004-2005) transitioned from the Early Intervention County Programs (Birth to three) to the CLIU (three to five years old) preschool programs during the 2005-2006 school year. A total of four-hundred fifty-eight children (three to five years old) preschool programs in constituent districts as compared to four-hundred twelve children in the 2004-2005 school year.

Nonpublic School Services

Under Act 89, Nonpublic School Services served over one thousand students during the 2005-2006 school year through direct and/or indirect consultation and instruction, not including speech services. The number of speech screenings and direct services to students increased.

Nonpublic School Services provided an administrative strand related to human resources topics including hiring, interviewing, benefits, evaluations, and other documents necessary for legal and comprehensive employment practices. Nonpublic School Services provided professional development strands for nonpublic school teachers in the areas of autism, technology, and Safe and Drug Free Schools.

Corrections Education Programs

The Curriculum and Instruction Department continues to support the Pennsylvania Department of Education’s initiative, Pennsylvania Literacy Framework (PLF) by offering focused staff development opportunities. This year we collaborated with the Lehigh Valley Writing Project to meet the goals outlined in our state proposal. We offered a workshop geared for the secondary level for developing informational and functional writing pieces providing teachers with instructional practices to aid them in their classroom instruction. For the elementary level, a series of Writing Across the Curriculum Workshops were held for K-3, 4-6, 7-12. Cynthia Bartynski collaborated with the Writing Project to organize these events and to offer two different study groups which met several times from March to June for participants to continue sharing the multiple strategies learned and discussion of Best Practices as they implemented them in their classrooms.

Pennsylvania Literacy Framework

In September, Cynthia Bartynski worked with IU curriculum coordinators from around the state and representatives from the Pennsylvania Department of Education to develop tools and a roll-out plan to help districts with the PA Science Assessment Anchors. This work continued throughout the fall of the year as new materials were released from PDE.

To support this work the CLIU offered two workshops entitled Using the PA Science Anchors: one was held in October and the other in April. Participants totaled well over one-hundred for the workshops and all of our districts and vocational schools were represented.

The sessions provided information on how to read and interpret the anchors as well as, hands-on activities and planning time to examine actual classroom lessons to determine the alignment with PA Standards and the Science Anchors. These workshops were held for all classroom teachers and administrators.

A new professional development workshop for teachers of grades K-3 was held on April 11, 2006. The workshop entitled Reading to Learn the Content: Focus on K-3 Environment & Ecology was presented by the Pennsylvania Department of Education’s Office of Environment and Ecology. The participants represented ten of our districts and IU. The workshop utilized nonfiction reading books and hands-on inquiry based activities to address the environment and ecology standards. Teachers received the reading materials, activity guides for Project Learning Tree and Project Wild and newly developed standards-based lesson plans with activities to use with their students. The goals of the day were for participants to examine children’s nonfiction literature to learn how to develop the major ideas of environment and science, and expand their repertoire of instructional strategies that will support students’ learning that probe student’s understanding of environment and science. The standards and assessment anchors for these grade levels were integrated throughout the day. The participants not only valued the extensive materials but the expertise in delivery and knowledge from Dr. Patricia Vaths, PDE.
Another popular science offering is our StarLab workshop which was held for our districts on October 14, 2005. Parkland provided space for us at the Troxell Building. Bill Handy and Denise Oswald from Parkland were our instructors. Seven of our districts attended this workshop. StarLab provides participants with a unique way to teach content areas related to the stars utilizing this portable planetarium. All teachers that use the StarLab must attend a training workshop. Participants also receive a comprehensive resource guide which contains tips on troubleshooting and countless lessons to integrate the planetarium into the classroom. These labs continue to be utilized very heavily in our schools.

Student Forum
In November the CLIU Board had a brief presentation by the CLIU Advisor, Whitehall’s advisor, and two of their student representatives, Tim Burke and Allison Dobrowolski, with information about Student Forum. Student Forum membership consists of four high school students from each school district including two juniors and two seniors. The students shared their experiences and the value of the program to them as student participants.

Cynthia Bartynski serves as the CLIU’s Advisor to Student Forum. This is an organization made up of juniors and seniors from twelve of our districts’ high schools and one vocational school. The students meet monthly from October to May at different area high schools. The purpose of Forum is to provide students with the opportunity to discuss current issues of concern to high school students, to share these ideas and relay the information to the students’ peers, to promote higher thinking of the community level, and to gain an understanding of the issues at hand while representing the image of one’s school.

The students elect a President, Vice President, and Secretary as officers to represent them for the year. With approximately one hundred twenty students in attendance, the culminating May 2006 meeting was held at the Parkland School District and the Trexler Zoo.

Reading Apprenticeship
The work in Adolescent Literacy continues to evolve and expand. Two full-day workshops were held, one in December and one in April, as follow-up sessions to the 2005 Summer Reading Institute. Colonial IU 20 and CLIU co-sponsored a Train the Trainers Institute from July 25-29, 2005 to encourage the continued growth of Adolescent Literacy pedagogy. An additional Winter Conference sponsored by West Ed to support the professional

Special Programs and Services
The 2005-2006 school year included some changes, enhancements, and additions to CLIU-operated Special Programs and Services.

Two new Emotional Support programs opened at the Lehigh Learning and Adjustment School (LLAS). One classroom is a Partial Hospitalization program. The CLIU obtained approval and licensing through the Department of Public Welfare to add this program. The half-day Hearing Impaired Support classroom at Parkland High School is now a full-day program. The CLIU opened a new Life Skills Support program at Parkland High School and closed a Multisabilities Support program at Parkland High School.

Three Early Intervention classrooms that were located in churches moved to the Troxell Building in the Parkland School District. The Troxell Building is more centrally located in Lehigh County allowing for shorter bus runs for the preschool students.

The CLIU reported a total of 8843 school age students with disabilities on the December 1, 2005 Child Count. This is an increase of three hundred forty-three students from December 1, 2004. Significant increases are noted in the areas of autism and learning disabilities. IU wide the number of students with mental retardation has decreased.

The following is a summary by division of special services in the areas of behavioral health, corrections, early intervention, nonpublic school services, related services, transportation, and work experience.

Behavioral Health
The Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit 21 Behavioral Health Services Programs continue to expand in order to meet the behavioral health needs of mentally ill and emotionally disturbed children and their families. Behavioral Health Rehabilitative Services (formerly P-50) served two hundred six clients this fiscal year, an increase of 8.8% from last fiscal year. The Psychiatric Outpatient Clinics (formerly P-29) served two hundred ten clients this fiscal year, an increase of 9.4% from last fiscal year.

The CLIU Partial Hospitalization Program served two hundred sixty-five students during the 2005-2006 school year. This program afforded identified students the opportunity to access mental health services in conjunction with their educational programs. Students within these programs received individual and group counseling as well as weekly psychiatric services.
Human Resources

The HR Department’s focus for the 2005-2006 was to review internal processes to assist the organization with accountability. One of the main focuses of the HR Department was to assist all departments with the budget process. The HR Department played an instrumental role in developing budget forms specifically dealing with benefit and salary expenditures. The HR Database was utilized to its greatest extent to provide accurate data within efficient timelines.

Health and Wellness

A Health and Wellness Committee was developed which will provide opportunities to staff to improve their health in the 2006-2007 fiscal year. To support this initiative, a Benefits Headliner has been distributed monthly alerting staff to benefit options and/or opportunities that they may not be taking advantage of routinely. In addition, the new employee orientation includes an interactive segment in which staff members are introduced to benefit web pages and pertinent benefit information on the CLIU Web Page.

Certification

Implementation of ever-changing certification requirements for Professional Staff has been an ongoing challenge this past year. We have diligently kept up with the many changes the Department of Education has made regarding the requirements to become highly qualified and properly certified. As the 2005-2006 year came to a close, the CLIU was in line with Bridge requirements and was awaiting finalization of the HOUSSE. In addition, we reviewed our Level I to Level II procedure and created on-going reports to insure that staff do not lapse their certification while employed at the CLIU.

Human Resources Services

In an on-going effort to assist departments, the HR Department developed a Selection and Management manual for our Transportation Department. In conjunction with the use of this manual, the HR Department began to facilitate the transportation selection process. Our goal was to streamline the process as well as communicate effectively with all potential applicants.

In addition to the above highlights, the HR Department provides day-to-day services including the coordination of the following: workers compensation, evaluations, staff disciplinary measures, grievances, unemployment claims, health benefits, long term disability, life insurance, Flex 125 program, tuition reimbursement, absence records, Board Agenda development, leaves, certification, Act 48, selection process, Safety Committee, contractual issues, and employment data.

To assist our Constituent Districts, the HR Department continued to facilitate the HR Get Together, LTD/Life Consortium, Lehigh County Consortium on Health Care, and the Lehigh County Coalition. We coordinated the Guest Program resulting in teacher substitutes for participating districts. Finally, we offered daily assistance to districts with questions or those in need of resources. Our goal is to provide the highest level of service.

Curriculum and Instruction

development of teachers, who attended Reading Institutes from previous years, took place in Rockville, MD in March, 2006. Many of our districts had teams attending various sessions to gain additional experience and to share ideas to help districts plan for deeper implementation of RA.

PVAAS

The Curriculum and Instruction Department continues to work with PDE, PaTTAN and IU 13 in exploring ways to help inform districts about the PVAAS state initiative. On Friday March 10, 2006 the C&I Department hosted two sessions to support the PA Value - Added Assessment System (PVAAS). Jim Bohan and Teresa Stoudt from PaTTAN/IU 13 were the presenters. The first session audience was the C&I Council. This session dealt with the wide-scale implementation of PVAAS, a review of the history, and what PVAAS actually measures. The second session was held after C&I and was open to other district administrators. This session focused on the concept, purpose, uses, and basics of methodology of PVAAS. It also included a discussion of how PSSA and PVAAS as well as, locally obtained data can be integrated in a comprehensive data-informed culture. Specific roles and applications for school personnel were also discussed. This school year 2005-2006, all five-hundred one school districts are part of PVAAS. The first reports will be sent to the schools in September for grades four and six. Additional workshops and webinars will be offered throughout the next school year to help districts interpret and incorporate the results of these new reports.

School Improvement Plans

Supporting fourteen schools in school improvement for the 2005 – 2006 school year, the IU School Improvement Team met several times in the fall to map out a plan to help our districts in School Improvement (SI). We looked at a process to help districts which both are in SI and are not in SI. The goal was to be proactive rather than reactive by building a true capacity model in the region. As a PDE requirement we needed to plan and hold a School Improvement Partnership Conference, which occurred on October 12, 2005. Educators, Higher Education representatives, and business were the intended participants. The team developed a Power Point and handouts which explained AYP and the ramifications and major timelines. The participants broke into four groups and addressed different aspects of SI with essential questions . They brainstormed ways in which to share resources and create a more defined School Improvement Process.

Tides of Change

The Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit (CLIU) 21 and the fourteen school districts in Carbon and Lehigh counties were proud to plan and sponsor the Tides of Change, a statewide conference for educational secretaries and administrative assistants. The conference was designed and facilitated by a planning committee of secretaries and administrative assistants including: Linda Andreas, Barbara Churetta, Diane Carfara, Joan Denney, Maureen Foster, Valerie Rex, Marilyn Seyfried from CLIU 21; Debbie Demyanovich, Northwestern Lehigh School District; Deborah Diefenderfer; Maria McNabb,
East Penn School District; Sherri Mollitoris, Northern Lehigh School District; and Kim Ottinger, Palmerton Area School District. The conference was hosted by the Lehigh Carbon Community College on March 7 and 8, 2006.

The Tides of Change theme was chosen to define the evolving, dynamic role of today’s secretary/administrative assistant. Currently, it is more common for secretaries to take on the challenge of a leadership role including committee participation and facilitation; supervision of staff members, either directly or indirectly; and decision making. Tides of Change offered beneficial professional development and provided a valuable networking opportunity as well. The goal of the conference was to offer practical information that could be applied in daily work routines and increase productivity.

One-hundred fifteen secretaries/administrative assistants participated in the conference. Participants enjoyed an opening session entitled Be There presented by Debra A. Miller, Parkland School District’s Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Professional Development. Mr. Robert J. Spengler, Superintendent of Catasauqua School District, provided the closing remarks, Our Evolving Role in Today’s School Setting. He spoke about the shift in the role of secretary/administrative assistant to that of a true professional.

Session topics were chosen as a result of survey responses from both secretaries and administrators in the CLIU 21 service area. Participants attending both days chose four sessions from a variety of professional development. Presenters were carefully selected to match the sessions being offered. Many of the presenters are CLIU 21 and local school district administrators, who not only shared their expertise, but donated their services.

Emergency Preparedness


The FLIGHT Team was called out seven times to assist districts in crisis response. In response to the potential Avian Bird Flu, a Pandemic Planning Committee was formed.

To further enhance the work of the FLIGHT Team, Cheri Lovre was at CLIU 21 on March 1st, 2006 to do a full-day presentation on Trauma for FLIGHT Team members, counselors, psychologists, educators, and/or administrators who are interested in trauma response. Also two Incident Command trainings were provided by Lehigh County Emergency Management personnel for school district staff interested in understanding the role of Incident Command. Two sessions were offered on March 20th and April 7th. Session one addressed the common language and terminology associated with Incident Command. The second session, held on April 7th, focused on the purpose, principals, key components, and benefits of the National Incident Management System.

CLIU Governor’s Schools of Excellence Banquet

The CLIU Governor’s Schools of Excellence Banquet, coordinated by TJ McKeon and Barbara Churetta, was held on Monday, October 17, 2005 at Parkland High School.

The event successfully highlighted the accomplishments of those students within the CLIU 21 region that completed the Pennsylvania Governor’s Schools program during the summer of 2005. Those high schools represented in this past year’s activities include: Carbon Career and Technical Institute, Dieruff, Emmaus, Jim Thorpe, Lehigh Valley Charter, Lehighton, Moravian Academy, Northern Lehigh, Northwestern Lehigh, Parkland, Palmerton, Southern Lehigh, Salisbury Township, and William Allen. At the banquet, students shared their Governor’s School experiences with peers, parents, and administrators. CLIU 21 extends special thanks to the Parkland School District, High School, and Food Services staff for hosting another wonderful event.

Each year, thousands of students across the state compete for admission to one of the eight Pennsylvania Governor’s Schools of Excellence. If accepted, students are awarded full tuition to a five-week residential program meeting the educational needs of artistically or academically talented high school students on college campuses in one of the following areas: Agricultural Sciences, the Arts, Global Entrepreneurship, Health Care, Information Society & Technology, International Studies, the Sciences, and Teaching.

Educational Technologies staff also created a brochure that was sent to all public and nonpublic high schools in Carbon and Lehigh Counties highlighting the Governor’s School of Excellence process. The brochures were distributed to the department heads of each subject area within each building, with the hopes that they will be shared among colleagues to promote the program and its benefits to Carbon and Lehigh County students.

Regional Events

Over one-hundred seventy-five students from a wide range of districts from both Carbon and Lehigh counties participated in three of this year’s regional events held at the CLIU: The High School Computer Fair, the Middle School Computer Fair, and the Academic Competition. With your support, we plan for continued growth and expansion of these wonderful, student-center opportunities.
2006 CLIU Regional Middle School Computer Fair

The Educational Technologies Department is excited to share the great success of this year’s Second Annual Middle School Computer Fair. Close to thirty students from five districts submitted nineteen projects in this year’s competition, held on March 10, 2006. Students demonstrated their technological skills in six categories this year, with the following students earning first place:

- Desktop Publishing: Kyle White & Casey Cooperman, William Allen High School
- Digital Movie: Victoria Brahms, Parkland School District
- Graphic Design: Kelly Trussell, Parkland School District
- Computer Fair Logo Design: Rohit Rajendran, Parkland School District
- Multimedia Presentation: Marlena Schnyder, Northern Lehigh High School
- Web Page Design: William Kenington, Salisbury Township School District

The first place winners from the regional competition advanced to the state competition held at the Department of Education and the State Museum in Harrisburg, PA on April 26, 2006 where Marlena Schnyder, of Northern Lehigh Middle School, received second place in the multimedia category.

CLIU Regional Academic Competition

This year’s 2006 CLIU Regional Academic Competition was held on March 24, 2006. Over ninety students representing thirteen high schools from twelve local districts were in attendance for this wonderful showcase of student knowledge and teamwork. In a close competition, Parkland High School finished first, with Allentown Central Catholic and Salisbury High School finishing second and third respectively. Parkland High School, along with three-time defending state champion Emmaus High School, represented the CLIU region at this year’s state competition held on April 21st, 2006 at the House of Representatives in Harrisburg. Congratulations to all participating students, teams, and schools on another successful competition.

Participating School District

- Allentown Central Catholic H.S.
- Catasauqua High School
- Dieruff High School
- Emmaus High School
- Jim Thorpe Area High School
- Northwestern Lehigh High School
- Palmerton Area High School
- Parkland High School
- Salisbury Township High School
- Southern Lehigh High School
- Weatherly Area High School
- Whitehall Cosplay High School
- William Allen High School

Coordinator

- Fran McGouldrick, Dieruff High School
- Charlie Post, Parkland High School
- Lucia LeVan, Salisbury Township School District
- Renee Roberts, Allentown Central Catholic
- Jim Hauze, Southern Lehigh High School
- Steven Weiss, Weatherly Area High School
- Jeanne Kroppe, Whitehall Cosplay High School
- Scott LeVan, Jim Thorpe Area High School
- Michael Vecellio, Emmaus High School
- Pat Combs, Corry Borough Senior High School
- Katie Leach, Southern Lehigh High School
- Tim Calahan, William Allen High School
- Steve Patterson, Parkland School District

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of the 05-06 year, we look forward to a new year with a new goal to make this wealth of resources available through the IMC and the Educational Technologies department, an integral part of the overall function of CLIU 21.

The Evaluation of Student and Parent Access through Recycled Computers (eSPARC)

eSPARC, the evaluation of student and parent access through recycled computers, is a nationally-recognized, three-year PDE study coordinated by CLIU measuring the impact that home access to a computer and the Internet has on a variety of factors, including student achievement.

Through eSPARC, three-hundred fifty-five students across twenty-two schools in the Allentown, Bethlehem, Harrisburg, and York school districts received a Dell Pentium computer, AOL Internet access, printer, and productivity software. In addition, through initial orientation trainings, students and parents were trained in Internet Safety and basic computer operations. eSPARC is seeking to bridge the digital divide through the development of a replicable model that brings technology into the homes of students with an emphasis on studying whether gaining home access to computers and the Internet improved student achievement and increased parental involvement.

The study is now in the last phase of its third and final year and as such, Westat, the study’s evaluator, continues to process the data collected during the study and plans to release findings later this year.

Educational Technologies Site Visits

The Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit’s mission is to provide Excellence through Service to each of our partner school districts and educational agencies. In this regard, Educational Technologies staff members visited Carbon and Lehigh County districts and Career and Technical Institutes for informative site visits. Through these meetings, the department has been able to gather the data necessary to paint an accurate picture of educational technologies-related goals and priorities within CLIU’s districts, in an effort to continue providing a high level of service. The results of the data collected will be shared with the CLIU stakeholders and partners at the start of the new school year.

Dotti Bollinger Presentation

Dotti Bollinger, regarded as a leading expert in the field of educational technology law, spoke to a large gathering of CLIU district superintendents, technology directors, curriculum directors, building administrators, and teachers on April 20, 2006 at the IU’s Transportation Facility. Ms. Bollinger, having nearly thirty years of public school experience and over a decade of practice in law, spent over an hour and a half leading an informative discussion on the essential questions a district must address when developing policies on timely technology-related items like blogs, social networking sites such as MySpace.com and data security.

2006 CLIU Regional High School Computer Fair

On Friday, March 31, 2006, sixty-three students and twelve advisors from eight school districts in Carbon and Lehigh counties showed off their computer savvy at the Sixth Annual Carbon-Lehigh IU 21 Regional High School Computer Fair. The event, held at Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit 21 was open to all students in grades nine through twelve in the two-county area. Students were selected by their high schools to compete in one of eight categories. The students’ projects were judged by a panel of industry experts and educators.

Below are the first place winners in each of the eight categories.

Animation ........................................ Michael Taptich & Jim Evans
Jim Thorpe Area High School

Computer Fair Logo ................................ Cynthia Williams
Jim Thorpe Area High School

Curriculum-Based ............................. Andrew Watson
Whitehall High School

Digital Movie .................................... Christopher Lai & Chris Lambrinos
Parkland High School

Graphic Design .................................. Paul Petrogeorge
Parkland High School

Information-Based Web Page Design ....... Leslie Gerhat
Jim Thorpe Area High School

Multimedia Presentation .................... Robert Caccese
Weatherly Area High School

Text-Based Desktop Publishing ............ Michael Sikorsky & Allyssa Miller
Northwestern Lehigh High School

The finalists competed at the state High School Computer Fair, sponsored by the Pennsylvania Association of Intermediate Units and the Pennsylvania Department of Education, on Tuesday, May 23, 2006 at Dickinson College in Carlisle, PA. Students from CLIU districts excelled at the state competition, earning two first place, one second place, and two honorable mention awards.
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The Educational Technologies Department is excited to share the great success of this year’s Second Annual Middle School Computer Fair. Close to thirty students from five districts submitted nineteen projects in this year’s competition, held on March 10, 2006. Students demonstrated their technology skills in six categories this year, with the following students earning first place:

- **Desktop Publishing** ................................ Kyle White & Casey Cooperman
  - College Weekly - Parkland School District

- **Digital Movie** ........................................ Victoria Brahm - Too Late
  - Parkland School District

- **Graphic Design** ....................................... Kelly Trussell – Steelers
  - Parkland School District

- **Computer Fair Logo Design** ............... Rohit Rajendran - Parkland School District

- **Multimedia Presentation** ..................... Marlena Schnyder - Kentucky Fried Cruelty
  - Northern Lehigh School District

- **Web Page Design** ................................. William Kenington - SMS Live
  - Salisbury Township School District

The first place winners from the regional competition advanced to the state competition held at the Department of Education and the State Museum in Harrisburg, PA on April 26, 2006 where Marlena Schnyder, of Northern Lehigh Middle School, received second place in the multimedia category.

The CLIU Regional Academic Competition

This year’s 2006 CLIU Regional Academic Competition was held on March 24, 2006. Over ninety students representing thirteen high schools from twelve local districts were in attendance for this wonderful showcase of student knowledge and teamwork. In a close competition, Parkland High School finished first, with Allentown Central Catholic and Salisbury High School finished second and third respectively. Parkland High School, along with three-time defending state champion Emmaus High School, represented the CLIU region at this year’s state competition held on April 21st, 2006 at the House of Representatives in Harrisburg. Congratulations to all participating students, teams, and schools on another successful competition.

CLIU Instructional Media Center (IMC)

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- Catasauqua High School
- Dieruff High School
- Emmaus High School
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- Northwestern Lehigh High School
- Palmerton Area High School
- Parkland High School
- Salisbury Township High School
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- Whitehall Coplay High School
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East Penn School District; Sherri Mollitoris, Northern Lehigh School District; and Kim Ottinger, Palmerton Area School District. The conference was hosted by the Lehigh Carbon Community College on March 7 and 8, 2006.

The Tides of Change theme was chosen to define the evolving, dynamic role of today’s secretary/administrative assistant. Currently, it is more common for secretaries to take on the challenge of a leadership role including committee participation and facilitation; supervision of staff members, either directly or indirectly; and decision making. Tides of Change offered beneficial professional development and provided a valuable networking opportunity as well. The goal of the conference was to offer practical information that could be applied in daily work routines and increase productivity.

One-hundred fifteen secretaries/administrative assistants participated in the conference. Participants enjoyed an opening session entitled Be There presented by Debra A. Miller, Parkland School District’s Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Professional Development. Mr. Robert J. Spengler, Superintendent of Catasauqua School District, provided the closing remarks, Our Evolving Role in Today’s School Setting. He spoke about the shift in the role of secretary/administrative assistant to that of a true professional.

Session topics were chosen as a result of survey responses from both secretaries and administrators in the CLIU 21 service area. Participants attending both days chose four sessions from a variety of professional development. Presenters were carefully selected to match the sessions being offered. Many of the presenters are CLIU 21 and local school district administrators, who not only shared their expertise, but donated their services.

**Emergency Preparedness**

Emergency Preparedness work continued throughout the 2005-2006 school year. The Emergency Management Council met four times. The FLIGHT Team was called out seven times to assist districts in crisis response. In response to the potential Avian Bird Flu, a Pandemic Planning Committee was formed.

To further enhance the work of the FLIGHT Team, Cheri Lovre was at CLIU 21 on March 1st, 2006 to do a full-day presentation on Trauma for FLIGHT Team members, counselors, psychologists, educators, and/or administrators who are interested in trauma response. Also two Incident Command trainings were provided by Lehigh County Emergency Management personnel for school district staff interested in understanding the role of Incident Command. Two sessions were offered on March 20th and April 7th. Session one addressed the common language and terminology associated with Incident Command. The second session, held on April 7th, focused on the purpose, principals, key components, and benefits of the National Incident Management System.

**CLIU Governor’s Schools of Excellence Banquet**

The CLIU Governor’s Schools of Excellence Banquet, coordinated by TJ McKeon and Barbara Churetta, was held on Monday, October 17, 2005 at Parkland High School.

The event successfully highlighted the accomplishments of those students within the CLIU 21 region that completed the Pennsylvania Governor’s Schools program during the summer of 2005. Those high schools represented in this past year’s activities include: Carbon Career and Technical Institute, Dieruff, Emmaus, Jim Thorpe, Lehigh Valley Charter, Lehighton, Moravian Academy, Northern Lehigh, Northwestern Lehigh, Parkland, Palmerton, Southern Lehigh, Salisbury Township, and William Allen. At the banquet, students shared their Governor’s School experiences with peers, parents, and administrators. CLIU 21 extends special thanks to the Parkland School District, High School, and Food Services staff for hosting another wonderful event.

Each year, thousands of students across the state compete for admission to one of the eight Pennsylvania Governor’s Schools of Excellence. If accepted, students are awarded full tuition to a five-week residential program meeting the educational needs of artistically or academically talented high school students on college campuses in one of the following areas: Agricultural Sciences, the Arts, Global Entrepreneurship, Health Care, Information Society & Technology, International Studies, the Sciences, and Teaching.

Educational Technologies staff also created a brochure that was sent to all public and nonpublic high schools in Carbon and Lehigh Counties highlighting the Governor’s School of Excellence process. The brochures were distributed to the department heads of each subject area within each building, with the hopes that they will be shared among colleagues to promote the program and its benefits to Carbon and Lehigh County students.

**Regional Events**

Over one-hundred seventy-five students from a wide range of districts from both Carbon and Lehigh counties participated in three of this year’s regional events held at the CLIU: The High School Computer Fair, the Middle School Computer Fair, and the Academic Competition. With your support, we plan for continued growth and expansion of these wonderful, student-center opportunities.
Human Resources

The HR Department’s focus for the 2005-2006 was to review internal processes to assist the organization with accountability. One of the main focuses of the HR Department was to assist all departments with the budget process. The HR Department played an instrumental role in developing budget forms specifically dealing with benefit and salary expenditures. The HR Database was utilized to its greatest extent to provide accurate data within efficient timelines.

Health and Wellness

A Health and Wellness Committee was developed which will be providing opportunities to staff to improve their health in the 2006-2007 fiscal year. To support this initiative, a Benefits Headliner has been distributed monthly alerting staff to benefit opportunities and/or opportunities that they may not be taking advantage of routinely. In addition, the new employee orientation includes an interactive segment in which staff members are introduced to benefit web pages and pertinent benefit information on the CLIU Web Page.

Certification

Implementation of ever-changing certification requirements for Professional Staff has been an ongoing challenge this past year. We have diligently kept up with the many changes the Department of Education has made regarding the requirements to become highly qualified and properly certified. As the 2005-2006 year came to a close, the CLIU was in line with Bridge requirements and was awaiting finalization of the HOUSSE. In addition, we reviewed our Level I to Level II procedure and created on-going reports to ensure that staff do not lapse their certification while employed at the CLIU.

Human Resources Services

In an on-going effort to assist departments, the HR Department developed a Selection and Management manual for our Transportation Department. In conjunction with the use of this manual, the HR Department began to facilitate the transportation selection process. Our goal was to streamline the process as well as communicate effectively with all potential applicants.

In addition to the above highlights, the HR Department provides day-to-day services including the coordination of the following: workers compensation, evaluations, staff disciplinary measures, grievances, unemployment claims, health benefits, long term disability, life insurance, Flex 125 program, tuition reimbursement, absence records, Board Agenda development, leaves, certification, Act 48, selection process, Safety Committee, contractual issues, and employment data.

To assist our Constituent Districts, the HR Department continued to facilitate the HR Get Together, LTD/Life Consortium, Lehigh County Consortium on Health Care, and the Lehigh County Coalition. We coordinated the Guest Teacher program resulting in teacher substitutes for participating districts. Finally, we offered daily assistance to districts with questions or those in need of resources. Our goal is to provide the highest level of service.

Curriculum and Instruction

development of teachers, who attended Reading Institutes from previous years, took place in Rockville, MD in March, 2006. Many of our districts had teams attending various sessions to gain additional experience and to share ideas to help districts plan for deeper implementation of RA.

PVAAS

The Curriculum and Instruction Department continues to work with PDE, PaTTAN and IU 13 in exploring ways to help inform districts about the PVAAS state initiative. On Friday March 10, 2006 the C&I Department hosted two sessions to support the PA Value - Added Assessment System (PVAAS). Jim Bohan and Teresa Stoudt from PaTTAN/IU 13 were the presenters. The first session audience was the C&I Council. This session dealt with the statewide implementation of PVAAS, a review of the history, and what PVAAS actually measures. The second session was held after C&I and was open to other district administrators. This session focused on the concept, purposes, uses, and basics of methodology of PVAAS. It also included a discussion of how PSSA and PVAAS as well as, locally obtained data can be integrated in a comprehensive data-informed culture. Specific roles and applications for school personnel were also discussed. This school year 2005-2006, all five-hundred one school districts are part of PVAAS. The first reports will be sent to the schools in September for grades four and six. Additional workshops and webinars will be offered throughout the next school year to help districts interpret and incorporate the results of these new reports.

School Improvement Plans

Supporting fourteen schools in school improvement for the 2005 – 2006 school year, the IU School Improvement Team met several times in the fall to map out a plan to help our districts in School Improvement (SI). We looked at a process to help districts which both are in SI and are not in SI. The goal was to be proactive rather than reactive by building a true capacity model in the region. As a PDE requirement we needed to plan and hold a School Improvement Partnership Conference, which occurred on October 12, 2005. Educators, Higher Education representatives, and business were the intended participants. The team developed a Power Point and handouts which explained AYP and the ramifications and major timelines. The participants broke into four groups and addressed different aspects of SI with essential questions. They brainstormed ways in which to share resources and create a more defined School Improvement Process.

Tides of Change

The Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit (CLIU) 21 and the fourteen school districts in Carbon and Lehigh counties were proud to plan and sponsor the Tides of Change, a statewide conference for educational secretaries and administrative assistants. The conference was designed and facilitated by a planning committee of secretaries and administrative assistants including: Linda Andreas, Barbara Churetta, Diane Carfara, Joan Denney, Maureen Foster, Valerie Rex, Marilyn Seyfried from CLIU 21; Debbie Demyanovich, Northwestern Lehigh School District; Deborah Diefenderfer; Maria McNabb,
Another popular science offering is our StarLab workshop which was held for our districts on October 14, 2005. Parkland provided space for us at the Troxell Building. Bill Handy and Denise Oswald from Parkland were our instructors. Seven of our districts attended this workshop. StarLab provides participants with a unique way to teach content areas related to the stars utilizing this portable planetarium. All teachers that use the StarLab must attend a training workshop. Participants also receive a comprehensive resource guide which contains tips on troubleshooting and countless lessons to integrate the planetarium into the classroom. These labs continue to be utilized very heavily in our schools.

Student Forum

In November the CLIU Board had a brief presentation by the CLIU Advisor, Whitehall’s advisor, and two of their student representatives, Tim Burke and Allison Dobrowolski, with information about Student Forum. Student Forum membership consists of four high school students from each school district including two juniors and two seniors. The students shared their experiences and the value of the program to them as student participants.

Cynthia Bartynski serves as the CLIU's Advisor to Student Forum. This is an organization made up of juniors and seniors from twelve of our districts’ high schools and one vocational school. The students meet monthly from October to May at different area high schools. The purpose of Forum is to provide students with the opportunity to discuss current issues of concern to high school students, to share these ideas and relay the information to the students’ peers, to promote higher thinking of the community level, and to gain an understanding of the issues at hand while representing the image of one's school.

The students elect a President, Vice President, and Secretary as officers to represent them for the year. With approximately one-hundred twenty students in attendance, the culminating May 2006 meeting was held at the Parkland School District and the Trexler Zoo.

Reading Apprenticeship

The work in Adolescent Literacy continues to evolve and expand. Two full-day workshops were held, one in December and one in April, as follow up sessions to the 2005 Summer Reading Institute. Colonial IU 20 and CLIU co-sponsored a Train the Trainers Institute from July 25-29, 2005 to encourage the continued growth of Adolescent Literacy pedagogy. An additional Winter Conference sponsored by West Ed to support the professional development of these trainers.

The 2005-2006 school year included some changes, enhancements, and additions to CLIU-operated Special Programs and Services.

Two new Emotional Support programs opened at the Lehigh Learning and Adjustment School (LLAS). One classroom is a Partial Hospitalization program. The CLIU obtained approval and licensing through the Department of Public Welfare to add this program. The half-day Hearing Impaired Support classroom at Parkland High School is now a full-day program. The CLIU opened a new Life Skills Support program at Parkland High School and closed a Multidisabilities Support program at Parkland High School.

Three Early Intervention classrooms that were located in churches moved to the Troxell Building in the Parkland School District. The Troxell Building is more centrally located in Lehigh County allowing for shorter bus runs for the preschool students.

The CLIU reported a total of 8843 school age students with disabilities on the December 1, 2005 Child Count. This is an increase of three hundred forty-three students from December 1, 2004. Significant increases are noted in the areas of autism and learning disabilities. IU Wide the number of students with mental retardation has decreased.

The following is a summary by division of special services in the areas of behavioral health, corrections, early intervention, nonpublic school services, related services, transportation, and work experience.

Behavioral Health

The Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit 21 Behavioral Health Services Programs continue to expand in order to meet the behavioral health needs of mentally ill and emotionally disturbed children and their families. Behavioral Health Rehabilitative Services (formerly P-50) served two-hundred six clients this fiscal year, an increase of 8.8% from last fiscal year. The Psychiatric Outpatient Clinics (formerly P-29) served two-hundred ten clients this fiscal year, an increase of 9.4% from last fiscal year.

The CLIU Partial Hospitalization Program served two-hundred sixty-five students during the 2005-2006 school year. This program afforded identified students the opportunity to access mental health services in conjunction with their educational programs. Students within these programs received individual and group counseling as well as weekly psychiatric services.
The CLIU continued to operate programs for juvenile offenders at the Lehigh County Detention Center, Youth Forestry Camp (YFC) #2, and the Adventure Challenge Therapy (ACT) Camps in Jim Thorpe and Wind Gap. The programs at YFC #2, and the ACT Camps served two-hundred fifty students during the past year.

Lehigh County Detention Center completed construction of a new facility that includes four classrooms, an office, faculty room and a gymnasium with locker facilities. The CLIU staff/students occupied the new building beginning on November 30, 2005. During this past year over four-hundred eight students were served at this facility.

**Early Intervention**

The Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit, Project CONNECT, is providing direct services to approximately 1,380 eligible preschool children and their families. Project CONNECT directly employs a staff of seventy-four members, of which forty-three are professionals (psychologist, teachers, and speech therapists) and twenty-nine are para professionals, and one supervisor and one support staff. Occupational therapy, vision, hearing, and orientation and mobility screenings and direct services to students increased. The number of speech and language therapists provided during the 2005-2006 school year through direct and/or indirect consultation and/or instruction, not including speech services. In addition to these direct services, the CLIU Project CONNECT contracts with the following providers: Carbon County Head Start, Head Start of the Lehigh Valley, Easter Seals of the Lehigh Valley, Vitalistic Therapeutic Center, Abington Speech Pathology, and Carol Walck and Associates. A total of two-hundred eighty children (an increase of thirty children from 2004-2005) transitioned from the Early Intervention County Programs (Birth to three) to the CLIU (three to five years old) preschool programs during the 2005-2006 school year. A total of four-hundred fifty-eight children transitioned from the Early Intervention County Programs to school age programs in constituent districts as compared to four-hundred twelve children in the 2004-2005 school year.

**Nonpublic School Services**

Under Act 89, Nonpublic School Services served over one thousand students during the 2005-2006 school year through direct and/or indirect consultation and instruction, not including speech services. The number of speech screenings and direct services to students increased.

Nonpublic School Services provided an administrative strand related to human resources topics including hiring, interviewing, benefits, evaluations, and other documents necessary for legal and comprehensive employment practices. Nonpublic School Services provided professional development strands for nonpublic school teachers in the areas of autism, technology, and Safe and Drug Free Schools.

**Corrections Education Programs**

Pennsylvania Literacy Framework

The Curriculum and Instruction Department continues to support the Pennsylvania Department of Education’s initiative, Pennsylvania Literacy Framework (PLF) by offering focused staff development opportunities. This year we collaborated with the Lehigh Valley Writing Project to meet the goals outlined in our state proposal. We offered a workshop geared for the secondary level for developing informational and functional writing pieces providing teachers with instructional practices to aid them in their classroom instruction. For the elementary level, a series of Writing Across the Curriculum Workshops were held for K-3, 4-6, 7-12. Cynthia Bartynski collaborated with the Writing Project to organize these events and to offer two different study groups which met several times from March to June for participants to continue sharing the multiple strategies learned and discussion of Best Practices as they implemented them in their classrooms.

In September, Cynthia Bartynski worked with IU curriculum coordinators from around the state and representatives from the Pennsylvania Department of Education to develop tools and a roll-out plan to help districts with the PA Science Assessment Anchors. This work continued throughout the fall of the year as new materials were released from PDE.

To support this work the CLIU offered two workshops entitled Using the PA Science Anchors; one was held in October and the other in April. Participants totaled well over one-hundred for the workshops and all of our districts and vocational schools were represented.

The sessions provided information on how to read and interpret the anchors as well as, hands-on activities and planning time to examine actual classroom lessons to determine the alignment with PA Standards and the Science Anchors. These workshops were held for all classroom teachers and administrators.

A new professional development workshop for teachers of grades K-3 was held on April 11, 2006. The workshop entitled Reading to Learn the Content: Focus on K-3 Environment & Ecology was presented by the Pennsylvania Department of Education’s Office of Environment and Ecology. The participants represented ten of our districts and IU. The workshop utilized nonfiction reading books and hands-on inquiry based activities to address the environment and ecology standards. Teachers received the reading materials, activity guides for Project Learning Tree and Project Wild and newly developed standards-based lesson plans with activities to use with their students. The goals of the day were for participants to examine children’s nonfiction literature to learn how to develop the major ideas of environment and science, and expand their repertoire of instructional strategies that will support students’ learning that probe student’s understanding of environment and science. The standards and assessment anchors for these grade levels were integrated throughout the day. The participants not only valued the extensive materials but the expertise in delivery and knowledge from Dr. Patricia Vathis, PDE.
Nonpublic School Services and Special Education held meetings and consulted with nonpublic administrators and parents to continue to develop a written agreement as required in IDEA ’04 of equitable participation, child find, and service delivery. An agreed upon plan was developed and submitted to PDE for approval.

Related Services

The Speech Language Support Staff served 1,506 students in CLIU public school and nonpublic school settings during the 2005-2006 school year. This was an increase of one-hundred ninety-three students from last school year. Participation in ACCESS reimbursement for Medical Assistance continued during the 2005-2006 school year due to an increase in the number of students receiving speech/language, occupational and physical therapies.

Deaf/hard of hearing classes, itinerant hearing impaired support, itinerant vision impaired support, orientation and mobility, sign language interpreting, occupation therapy, physical therapy, and audiology, and adaptive physical education served twenty-nine more students during the 2004-2006 school year. The aforementioned services were provided to children in the fourteen school districts, early intervention, Mercy Special Learning Center, as well as students who have service agreements under Chapter 15 of the Pennsylvania School Code.

Work Experience Program

The 2005-2006 Work Experience Program began with approximately 90% of the students referred starting by the first week of school. The Work Experience Program concluded the year utilizing twenty-eight full-time job coaches involving one-hundred forty-five different business sites. A total of two-hundred ninety students were referred to this program during the course of the 2005-2006 school year. This represents an increase of 16% over the previous year. A total of two-hundred thirty-six students participated at some point from September until June. The total number of community hours this year was approximately 79,000 hours, which was an increase of 3% more than the previous year.

The Work Experience Program was able to receive additional funding through grants and donations from the following community resources: Hockendaqua Athletic Association, Wal Mart, Dalla's Machine, Inc., and Whitehall Township County Commissioners (Department of Community and Economic Development). The funds were used for direct benefit for the students in purchasing equipment, transportation for social activities, community relations promotions and reinforcers.
The MIS department, in conjunction with our Educational Technologies department and IU 29, were successful in being awarded an EFUND grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Education. This grant is for a total of $1.4 million. The monies from this grant will be used to upgrade equipment in our school districts, upgrade connections to the network, and increase educational opportunities for our districts over the next three years.

Only twelve EFUND grants were awarded across the state, so we were fortunate to be selected for the first round. By pooling the resources of three counties, we will be able to leverage our buying power to decrease costs and increase services to the schools.

We also expanded our network into the northern tier of the state by completing a connection to the University of Scranton. This connection expands our Internet 2 footprint to include IU’s 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, and 29. A number of media days were held at the University of Scranton to introduce Internet2 to the area. Members of the media and local education agencies are all very excited about the possibilities that this connection creates.

As we continue to grow and lead the state in the area of networking, our accomplishments are being recognized across the state. We are currently one of five IU’s sitting on a Statewide Technology Infrastructure Board that is working on plans to develop a statewide network that will tie all IU’s and their member school districts together on one network.

Our IT staff has been preparing for the move to the new building. Part of this process was to install our new IP network based phone system in all of the office areas and remote buildings. This installation resulted in significant savings over our old PBX phone system. This process is now complete.

The move to the new building also requires us to redesign parts of our network to ensure that we can move our datacenter and operate efficiently from our new location. We have been working on the necessary changes in fiber optic and communication line routing for phones, data, video and satellite transmissions.

Finally, the design of the new building itself has been a tedious process as we design the building to meet our current and future needs. The new building will incorporate some high tech features such as our IP telephone system, a network based heating and cooling control system, network based security system to control the monitoring for alarms and access to doors and elevators throughout the building.
The Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit experienced many changes in the 2005-06 school year. The Intermediate Unit implemented a major restructuring of its Business Department and internal business practices culminating in the development of an extensive budget document for the Board of Directors, School Districts, and Community.

With the help of our Board, School District Superintendents, Business Managers, and Special Education Administrators, CLIU Administration was able to implement cost containment measures to save our school districts over $2 million dollars in educational costs during the 2005-06 school year.

CLIU received and monitored over $66,493,951 in funds during the past school year. Some of the grants include the following:

- Getting-to-One Technology Integration
- Mentor Grant $1,525,000.00
- Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities Act Grant $36,435.00
eSPARC (Evaluation of Student and Parent Access through Recycled Computers) $682,014.00
- Act 183 $495,000.00
- Pennsylvania Literacy Framework $6,137.50
- Governor’s Institute for Environment & Ecology $180,356.00
- College and Career Transition Initiative $24,000.00
- School Improvement $31,014.25
- PAGE 1 $7,832.00
- Inclusive Practices Mini-Grant Program $5,000.00
- Special Education Performance Grant #4 Paraeducator Training $0.00
- Department of Community and Economic Development Grant $5,000.00
- Alternative Education Grant - Jim Thorpe $15,000.00
- Alternative Education Grant - Palmerton $30,000.00
- Total $3,052,788.75

**Governor’s Schools of Excellence**

This past year, within Carbon and Lehigh Counties, over thirty students from Lehigh Valley High Schools and Technical Schools participated in the Governor’s Schools of Excellence. Students participated in programs that included: Agricultural Sciences, Arts, Global Entrepreneurship, Health Care Professions, Information Technology, International Studies, Science, and Teaching. The Governor’s Schools were held at colleges and universities across Pennsylvania.

**Strategic Plan/Middle States**

CLIU participated in a Middle States Mid-Point Review of the Strategic Plan. It was found that 96.3% of the IU’s Strategic Plan had been successfully completed before the due date in 2008. CLIU was the first Intermediate Unit in Pennsylvania to receive Middle States Accreditation in 2003. In February, 2006, CLIU received high marks in its mid-year review evaluation from Middle States.

**Applications - PowerSchool**

Our PowerSchool consortium continued to gain strength as our districts excel in using the product to meet their needs. Two of our districts have rolled out PowerSchool Parent Modules which allow parents to view attendance, grades and assignments over the web. This feature allows the parents to get involved in the daily happenings of their children.

PowerSchool also came out with a new product called PowerSchool Premier. This version is based on a stronger database which allows easier manipulation of the data. It also has a web based grade book which is a great enhancement for the product. The web based grade book will allow easier updates to the software and easy access for teachers.

Our consortium trainings continued this year. Our customers find the group trainings that are offered for free as part of the ongoing contract very helpful and informative. As the group is becoming more advanced, we are also offering more advanced trainings for those users interested in getting the most out of the software.

**Programmers and In-house Packages**

Our programmers have been working diligently on five programs for our districts. In a joint venture between MIS and CLIU’s Human Resource’s Department, The Human Resources package was designed to ease human resource functions and is becoming very popular. We now support two IU’s and two school districts using the package. The facilities tracker program is designed to track the use of facilities throughout the district as well as track work orders for maintenance and technology. We are currently beta testing this in one of our districts. Our data warehouse package is moving along with our original member districts. The package is designed to help districts analyze and interpret their data as they make decisions based on the data.

Finally, our Child Accounting Tracking System (CATS), has taken on another function that is becoming very popular. This summer we rolled out CATIEP, which is an IEP software program that is tied into CATS to track students IEP’s throughout the year. The program pulls from existing data in the CATS program to help facilitate the IEP process. We currently have one district using the package, two scheduled for training, and one preparing to implement.

**Desktop Publishing**

Desktop Publishing continued to do an excellent job creating publications to support and promote our IU. The quality of our publications are known throughout the state, even the Department of Education uses our service to promote their goals.
Business Services

The Business Office oversees the fiscal operations of the various programs operated by the Intermediate Unit. These operations include all financial management including invoicing, purchasing, and biweekly payroll for approximately 1200 employees.

The Intermediate Unit currently offers eight educational and service programs including Special Education, Transportation, Business Office, Curriculum, Corrections, MIS, Preschool, Provider, to the Carbon and Lehigh county school districts. Each program is supported by local, state, and federal dollars. We are currently using forty-two budgets to account for the revenue and expenditures within each program.

The Business Office coordinates the bidding of co-operative purchasing of supplies for the school districts. The Intermediate Unit is also partnering with LCTI to warehouse and distribute various supplies.

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2005-06 Total Expenditures-By Program

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2005-06 Total Revenue-By Revenue Source

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CLIU Board of Directors 2005 - 2006

President: Terry Richwine, East Penn School District
Vice-President: Dennis Vavra, Panther Valley School District
Secretary: Diane L. Carfara, Non-member CLIU
Treasurer: Darlene Yeakel, Palmerton Area School District
Members:

- Allentown School District
  - Sandra Stecker
    (July 1, 2005 – November 30, 2005)
  - Charles J. Versaggi, Jr.
    (December 1, 2005 – Present)

- Catasauqua Area School District
  - Penny Hahn
  - Jim Thorpe Area School District
  - Peter McGuire

- Lehighton Area School District
  - Duane R. Eidem
    (July 1, 2005 – November 30, 2005)
  - Evelyn Semanoff
    (January 19, 2006 – Present)

- Northern Lehigh School District
  - Bryan Dorshimer

- Northwestern Lehigh School District
  - Kenneth Kistler
    (July 1, 2005 – November 30, 2005)
  - Kenneth Zellner
    (December 1, 2005 – Present)

- Parkland School District
  - Jayne Bartlett
    (July 1, 2005 – December 20, 2005)
  - Herman Corradetti
    (January 19, 2006 – Present)

- Salisbury Township School District
  - Cynthia McDonnell Feinberg
    (July 1, 2005 – January 16, 2006)
  - Mary Ziegler
    (March 20, 2006 – Present)

- Southern Lehigh School District
  - Lisa Aueri
    (July 1, 2005 – December 19, 2005)
  - Jennifer Bromwell
    (January 19, 2006 – Present)

- Weatherly Area School District
  - Bonita Barbush

- Whitehall-Coplay School District
  - Wayne A. Grim
    (July 1, 2005 – January 13, 2006)
  - Eileen Abruzzi
    (March 20, 2006 – Present)

Solicitor: Jeffrey Tucker, Esquire

Sweet, Stevens, Tucker & Katz

CLIU Cabinet 2005 - 2006

Executive Director: Dr. Frank J. Ferrari
  (July 1, 2005 - March 31, 2006)

Executive Director: Robert J. Keegan, Jr.
  (April 1, 2006 - Present)

Business Services: Ivy L. Bauman, Director
  Cathy Groller, Director

Curriculum and Instruction:/ Educational Technologies:
  Kimberly Talipan, Director
  Stephen Unis, Director
  Philip Fiore, Assistant Director

Management Information Systems:
  John Houser, Director
  Tee Decker, Assistant Director
  Deb Dendas, Assistant Director

Special Programs and Services:

Business Services

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Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit 21
Education Park
4750 Orchard Road
Schnecksville, PA 18078-2597
610-769-4111  800-223-4821

Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit
is a student-centered education agency committed to
Excellence through Service.

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Educational Technologies ................. 10

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Business Services ....................... 21

2005-06 Local Revenue
$25,170,214

2005-06 State Revenue
$29,259,481

2005-06 Federal Revenue
$12,064,256

The Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, age, marital status, sex, or handicap in activities, programs, or employment practices. For information regarding civil rights or grievance procedures contact Mr. John B. Houser, Section 504 Coordinator, or Mrs. Kim Talipan, Title IX and ADA Coordinator, at the Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit, Education Park, 4750 Orchard Road, Schnecksville, PA 18078-2597, 800-223-4821.