

MINUTES

CARBON LEHIGH INTERMEDIATE UNIT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**CARBON LEHIGH INTERMEDIATE UNIT #21
4210 INDEPENDENCE DRIVE
SCHNECKSVILLE, PA**

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30, 2014

7:00 P.M.--CLIU BOARD MEETING --CLIU BOARD ROOM

Meeting No. 531

CALL TO ORDER

President Robert Bold called the five hundredth and thirty-first meeting of the Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit Board of Directors to order at 7:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance followed the call to order.

ATTENDANCE

Board Members in Attendance: Debra Lamb, Penny Hahn, Wayne Wentz, Raymond Follweiler, Jr., Clarence Myers, Anthony DeMarco, Robert E. Bold, Mary Ziegler, Kathleen Parsons, and Owen Eberhart, Jr. Board Members Absent: Francee Fuller, Walter Schulz, Darryl Schafer, and Gerard Grega. Staff: Diane L. Carfara, Tee Decker, Dr. Elaine E. Eib, Philip Fiore, Molly Flood, Dr. Charlotte Golden, Eric Lech, Andrew Lechman, Deborah Popson, Kim Talipan, and Uldis Vilcins. Also in attendance were: Ellis Katz, Esq., Solicitor; and Tech Wizard presentation participants from Whitehall-Coplay School District: Erik Kloiber, Advisor; and Students Emily Kloiber, Jack Yanders, Grace Helfrich, and Elizabeth Gill.

APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 17, 2014 CLIU BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

- MOTION: The Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit Board of Directors approves the minutes of the March 17, 2014 meeting as presented, amending the following Personnel Matter as follows:

Resignation - Elizabeth Kate Gosselin, Reading Specialist, effective the close of business May 2, 2014 or upon release from employer (not *March 18, 2014* as previously approved).

Moved: Wayne Wentz; Seconded: Penny Hahn; Vote: Yes – 10; No – 0; Abstentions – 0; Absent – 4.

BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Bold thanked:

- The students for their attendance and presentation to the Board; and
- The Board members for their attendance at this Board meeting as it was held on the fifth Wednesday of April; and different than the usual third Monday of the month CLIU-Board meeting schedule.

TECH WIZARDS PRESENTATION

Dr. Charlotte Golden, Coordinator of Curriculum and Instruction/Educational Technologies, and Eric Lech, Staff Development Facilitator, provided a brief overview of the CLIU Tech Wizards and Tech Wizards, Jrs. Program.

TECH WIZARDS PRESENTATION (continued)

Tech Wizards is a program in which student teams from our local elementary and middle schools learn about innovative technology tools to use in schools; and discuss ways to share these new tools with classmates and teachers. The Tech Wizards include students from grades 6-8; while the Tech Wizards, Jrs. program consists of students in grades 4-5, and meet four to five times throughout the school year.

Currently, a total of 55 students from seven of our school districts participate in these programs. Highlights this year included our ability to provide our districts with a 65% reduction in costs for sending their teams to this program; team collaboration, and the creation of digital citizenship presentations by Tech Wizards. The Tech Wizards, Jrs. spent time designing news logos and learned some elementary coding skills. Brief video presentations of what the groups created throughout the year were shared with the Board.

Representing the Whitehall-Coplay School District at the Board meeting was Advisor, Erik Kloiber; and Students Jack Yanders, Grace Helfrich, and Elizabeth Gill, from Tech Wizards; and Emily Kloiber, Tech Wizards, Jr. Both the advisor and students spoke briefly and expressed their appreciation for having been involved in this program.

Both Dr. Eib and President Bold thanked everyone for their attendance and sharing their experiences with the Board.

CORRESPONDENCE TO THE BOARD/CLIU UPDATE

Board Correspondence

Dr. Eib summarized the following Board Correspondence:

- CLIU #21 was recognized as an “achievement” by Cedarbrook Nursing Home in the 2014 Lehigh Valley Business Health Care Heroes Awards supplement. Cedarbrook Nursing Home works in partnership w/CLIU as a Project SEARCH site;
- Next, a letter was sent from Madelyn Rayne Allen, East Penn student, to Jonathan Border, CLIU Teacher in the Alternative Education program at Palmerton, thanking him and the staff members for the positive influence they all had on her life;
- Representative Ryan MacKenzie sent a thank you letter to Tee Decker, Assistant Director of Special Programs and Services, for her participation in the Special Needs Awareness Day on March 29, 2014. The Special Needs Awareness Day is a yearly event held in conjunction with St. Luke’s University Health Network and Good Shepherd Rehabilitation, that allows exhibitors the opportunity to share information about the resources that are available to Pennsylvanians with special needs;
- Each Board member received the following: (a) their district’s Child Count information for the month of April 2014; (b) a letter sharing the value of our PSBA membership to board members; and (c) a registration form for the June 17th Carbon Lehigh Special Needs Children’s Foundation golf tournament; and lastly,
- The Work Based Learning Program students have provided us with homemade goodies throughout the year. On behalf of the entire Board, we thank you!

CLIU Update

The following Update was provided:

- Dr. Eib made classroom visitations over the past several weeks to the Youth Forestry Camp #2 on April 8th; Project SEARCH on April 14th; Emily Kleintop’s Emotional Support Class at Truman Elementary School in Salisbury Township School District on Earth Day, April 23rd; and experienced the STEM challenge on April 11th. She experienced many magnificent things as they happened!;
- A letter was received from the Deputy Secretary of the Department of Public Welfare regarding the audit of our Early Intervention program and its compliance under IDEA. CLIU received “meets requirement”; which is the highest designation we could have received. Congratulations were given to the Special Programs and Services Department and to the members of the Early Intervention programs at CLIU.

MEDICAL ACCESS OVERVIEW

At this time, Andrew Lechman, Director of Business Services, provided the rationale for the request for the Board's consideration to pass the Medical ACCESS resolution later on in the meeting.

The School Based ACCESS Program (SBAP) is federal reimbursement for the cost of health related services provided to Medicaid-eligible students with disabilities through the IU and school districts. The services that are provided to these students must be medically necessary and are provided to Medicaid recipients by LEAs in accordance with an IEP under IDEA (i.e., occupational therapy, physical therapy, speech, and vision, etc.). The funds that are received are to be used to expand or enhance special education programs.

Through the 2011-2012 fiscal year, the Pennsylvania Department of Education utilized Leader Services as the SBAP program administrator. Leader Services was diligent in processing claims, thus reimbursing LEA's. However, in that same year, PDE released an RFP to procure a more cost-effective program administrator for SBAP. The recipient of this bid award was Public Consulting Group (PCG). At this same time, PDE was going through a federal audit from the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to review the entire program at the state level; a final report for this audit has still not been issued to date. But, recommendations from the audit were implemented with the transition to PCG. One of the largest changes made by PCG included the elimination of certain billable services, i.e., annual IEP meetings and collateral time.

New guidelines were also issued by the Department of Public Welfare (DPW) regarding Third Party Liability. In order for DPW to process claims they require evidence that private insurers will not cover the services in the form of a denial letter. Pennsylvania is the only state that requires this denial letter. PCG has confirmed that they have received denial letters from the top ten insurers; but there are still approximately 100 denial letters that have not been received.

The impact of the changes made by PCG currently amount to approximately \$28 million of denied claims across the state for 2012-2013. If denials are not resolved by May 10, 2014, these claims will be permanently left unfunded.

CLIU is asking the Board of Directors to approve the Resolution Opposing Restricting Federal Medical Assistance Reimbursement. LEA's throughout the State are asking their boards to do the same in order to provide a united front across Pennsylvania.

Lastly, Mr. Lechman did report that an email had been received today from the State noting some movement with this issue; however, we do not know when this issue will be resolved.

SCHOOL POLICE OFFICER/SAFETY RESOURCE OFFICER OVERVIEW

Dr. Eib reported that the organization has assessed the need to have a School Police Officer or a School Resource Officer at our alternative program locations: Lehigh Learning Achievement School (LLAS), Carbon Learning Achievement School (CLAS), and the Allentown Learning Achievement School (ACLAS); with the primary focus at this time to be the LLAS location. Based on the growing needs of our students, ensuring appropriate interventions, reducing in police reports/responses, and increasing the safety within these buildings, the CLIU Special Programs and Services finds that the recommendation for the SRO or the SPO is important. The Board will assess the information shared and will bring a motion to the floor regarding the approval to employ an SRO or SPO for the Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit later in the meeting.

AUDIENCE INPUT ON AGENDA

There was no Audience Input on the Agenda.

FISCAL MATTERS—TREASURER'S REPORT, RATIFYING PAYMENT OF BILLS, AND PAYMENT OF BILLS

- **MOTION:** The Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit Board of Directors approves the following fiscal matters as presented:

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer's Report for the month ended March 31, 2014 as presented.

FISCAL MATTERS—TREASURER’S REPORT, RATIFYING PAYMENT OF BILLS, AND PAYMENT OF BILLS (continued)

Ratifying Payment of Bills—March 10, 2014 to April 21, 2014

Ratifying payment of bills from 3/10/14 to 4/21/14 in the amount of \$6,860,306.45.

Payment of Bills

Payment of bills for April 30, 2014 as listed: Bills for Approval – 4/30/14 - \$1,318,526.23.

Moved: Anthony DeMarco; Seconded: Mary Ziegler; Vote: Yes- 10; No – 0; Abstentions – 0; Absent – 4.

FISCAL MATTERS—CONTRACTED OPERATIONAL SERVICES

- MOTION: The Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit Board of Directors approves the contract with Ellis Katz, Esquire, representing the firm of Sweet, Stevens, Katz, & Williams, LLP, Solicitor to the Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit Board of Directors, as presented, for the 2014-2015 fiscal year. Moved: Penny Hahn; Seconded: Mary Ziegler; Vote: Yes – 10; No – 0; Abstentions – 0; Absent – 4.

FISCAL MATTERS—AWARDING OF BUS BIDS

- MOTION: The Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit Board of Directors approves the awarding of the bid for two (2) 27-Passenger Gas-Powered School Buses, with wheelchair lift, per bids opened on April 24, 2014 to:

Wolffington Body Company, Inc. \$64,600.00/each
30 Pottstown Pike
Uwchland, PA 19480

No other bids were received.

Moved: Penny Hahn; Seconded: Raymond Follweiler, Jr.; Vote: Yes – 10; No – 0; Abstentions – 0; Absent – 4.

APPROVAL TO EMPLOY SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER OR SCHOOL POLICE OFFICER

- MOTION: The Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit Board of Directors approves the employment of a School Resource Officer or School Police Officer at appropriate locations. Moved: Clarence Myers; Seconded: Debra Lamb; Vote: Yes – 10; No – 0; Abstentions – 0; Absent – 4.

PERSONNEL MATTERS

- MOTION: The Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit Board of Directors approves the following personnel matters as presented:

Resignations

Resignation of the following person(s):

Corey McHugh, Mechanic, effective the close of business April 2, 2014.

Emily Christman, Vehicle Assistant, Substitute Utility Staff, and Transportation Summer Employment, effective the close of business January 17, 2014.

Deborah Ciappa, Vehicle Driver/Vehicle Assistant, effective the close of business March 31, 2014.

Christine Sutter, Full-Time Instructional Assistant, effective the close of business March 31, 2014.

Susan Steigerwalt, Vehicle Assistant, effective the close of business March 26, 2014.

Tami Hunsicker, Instructional Assistant, effective the close of business April 30, 2014.

Nancy Kern, Substitute Secretary, effective the close of business April 11, 2014.

PERSONNEL MATTERS (continued)

Resignations (continued)

Robert Taylor, Therapeutic Staff Support Worker (BA), effective the close of business April 11, 2014.

Rachel Carson, Therapeutic Staff Support Worker (BA), effective the close of business April 11, 2014.

Cristy Bartczak, Instructional Assistant, effective the close of business April 15, 2014.

Carolyn White, Substitute Instructional Assistant, effective the close of business April 17, 2014.

Michelle McWhinney, Contracted Program Case Manager, effective the close of business April 8, 2014.

Retirement

Resignation, due to retirement, of the following person(s):

Linda Gower, Instructional Assistant, effective the close of business May 19, 2014 (9.5 Years of Service).

Ruth Yesik, Instructional Assistant, effective the close of business August 31, 2014 (11 Years of Service).

Patricia Weber, Payroll Specialist, effective the close of business July 11, 2014 (10.5 Years of Service).

Susan Case, Instructional Assistant, effective the close of business August 31, 2014 (29 Years of Service).

Rita Mary Kurtz, Instructional Assistant, effective the close of business June 30, 2014 (11.5 Years of Service).

Shelley Melber, Instructional Assistant, effective the close of business June 30, 2014 (27 Years of Service).

Eileen Beblavy, Instructional Assistant, effective the close of business May 19, 2014 (7 Years of Service).

Lynne Haldeman, Instructional Assistant and Summer Employment Pool Support Staff, effective the close of business June 17, 2014 (16.5 Years of Service).

Thomas O'Donnell, Mental Health Specialist and Behavioral Specialist/Mobile Therapist/Outpatient Therapist (Master's), effective the close of business June 13, 2014 (16 Years of Service).

Karen Klotz, Instructional Assistant, effective the close of business August 4, 2014 (27.5 Years of Service).

Garth Dunphy, Transportation Supervisor, effective the close of business May 6, 2014 (2.5 Years of Service).

Employment Termination

Employment termination of the following person(s):

John Clyde, Mental Health Specialist, effective the close of business March 10, 2014.

Full-Time Employment

Full-Time Employment of the following person(s):

Carolyn White, Payroll Specialist, Central Office, at an annual salary of \$24,000, prorated for the 240-day work year, effective April 21, 2014 (Replacement for Donna Dickey, Retired; Human Resources Budget).

Michelle McWhinney, Emotional Support Interventionist, Allentown Learning Achievement School, at an annual salary of \$37,500, prorated for the 194-day work year, effective April 9, 2014 (Replacement for Michael Dorward, Resigned; Special Education Budget).

PERSONNEL MATTERS (continued)

Full-Time Employment (continued)

Nancy Kern, Payroll Specialist, Central Office, at an annual salary of \$24,000, prorated for the 240-day work year, effective April 14, 2014 (Replacement for Patricia Weber, Retired; Human Resources Budget).

Rosela Gable, Speech Therapist, Itinerant, at an annual salary of \$58,164, Step 9, Column M30, prorated for the 194-day work year, effective June 23, 2014 or upon release from current employer (Replacement for Courtney Scholl, Resigned; Early Intervention Budget; Tenured).

Part-Time Employment

Part-Time Employment of the following person(s), up to 29 hours per week:

Ralph Fisher, Vehicle Assistant, at the hourly rate of \$9.35, effective March 17, 2014 (Transportation Pool; Transportation Budget).

Leonard Berger, Vehicle Driver/Vehicle Assistant, at the hourly rates of \$9.35/Vehicle Assistant and \$12.82/Vehicle Driver, effective March 24, 2014 (Transportation Pool; Transportation Budget).

Terry Miller, Vehicle Driver/Vehicle Assistant, at the hourly rates of \$9.35/Vehicle Assistant and \$12.82/Vehicle Driver, \$13.61/Mini Bus, and \$14.04/Bus Driver, effective March 25, 2014 (Transportation Pool; Transportation Budget).

Christine Sutter, Instructional Assistant, Troxell Building, at the hourly rate of \$11.18, effective April 1, 2014 (IA Pool; Early Intervention Budget).

Susie Pastor, Vehicle Driver, (CDL), at the hourly rates of \$13.61/Mini Bus and \$14.04/Bus Driver, effective March 28, 2014 (Transportation Budget).

Melissa Miller, Vehicle Driver/Vehicle Assistant, at the hourly rate of \$9.35/Vehicle Assistant and \$12.82/Vehicle Driver, effective April 8, 2014 (Transportation Pool; Transportation Budget).

Unpaid Leave

Grant an Unpaid Leave to the following person(s):

Edward Patterson, Vehicle Assistant, Medical Leave, without precedent, not provided for under the federal Family Medical Leave Act, beginning April 4, 2014 and ending on May 1, 2014 with a return to work date of May 2, 2014.

Change of Date—Unpaid Leave

Change of Date for an Unpaid Leave for the following person(s):

Earl Reabold, Vehicle Assistant, Medical Leave, without precedent, not provided for under the federal Family Medical Leave Act, beginning March 4, 2014 with a change of end date from May 1, 2014 to May 23, 2014 with a return to work date of May 27, 2014.

Karen Gursky, Vehicle Driver/Vehicle Assistant, Medical Leave, without precedent, not provided for under the federal Family Medical Leave Act, beginning March 18, 2013 with a change of end date from March 24, 2014 to April 30, 2014 with a return to work date of May 1, 2014.

Emergency Employment

Emergency employment of the following person(s) for the 2013-2014 and 2014-2015 fiscal years, up to 29 hours per week:

Willard Fairchild, Substitute Vehicle Driver/Vehicle Assistant, at the hourly rates of \$9.35/Vehicle Assistant, \$12.82/Van Driver, \$13.61/Mini Bus, and \$14.04/Big Bus, effective March 28, 2014.

Thomas O'Donnell, Behavioral Specialist/Mobile Therapist/ Outpatient Therapist (Master's), at the board approved rates, effective June 14, 2014.

PERSONNEL MATTERS

Emergency Employment (continued)

Lynne Haldeman, Substitute Instructional Assistant, at the board approved rate, effective June 18, 2014.

Rosina Liggitt, Contracted Teacher, at the hourly rate of \$50, effective April 1, 2014.

Emergency employment of the following person(s) for the 2014-2015 fiscal year, up to 29 hours per week:

Shelley Melber, Substitute Instructional Assistant, at the board approved rate, effective July 1, 2014.

Substitutes

Approve the following substitute for the 2013-2014 fiscal year, up to 29 hours per week:

Substitute Teacher

Elizabeth Koch

Approve the following substitutes for the 2013-2014 and 2014-2015 fiscal years, up to 29 hours per week:

Substitute Teachers and Substitute Instructional Assistants

Amanda Kender
Frank Berleth

Substitute Instructional Assistants

Donna Silkowski
Charlotte Kriley
Demi Ogozalek

Provider 50 Personnel Pool

Provider 50 Personnel Pool, casual employment, on an as-needed basis, for the 2013-2014 and 2014-2015 fiscal years, at the board approved rates for the position(s) listed, up to 29 hours per week:

Christine Armstrong/Therapeutic Staff Support Worker (BA)
Laura Undercuffler/Therapeutic Staff Support Worker (BA)
Racquel Rivero/Mobile Therapist/Behavioral Specialist (Licensed)/ Outpatient Therapist (Licensed)
Donna Mehl/Therapeutic Staff Support Worker (BA)
Kristyn Yuknek/Therapeutic Staff Support Worker (BA)/Mobile Therapist/Behavioral Specialist (Licensed)
Kebra Schaller/Mobile Therapist/Behavioral Specialist/Behavioral Specialist (Licensed)
Dana Schubert/Therapeutic Staff Support Worker (BA)/Mobile Therapist/Behavioral Specialist (Licensed)
Jeanine Paradis-Olenick/Therapeutic Staff Support Worker (BA)/Mobile Therapist/Behavioral Specialist (Licensed)
Maurine Marcellus/Mobile Therapist/ Behavioral Specialist/Behavioral Specialist (Licensed)
Julie Cavanaugh/Therapeutic Staff Support Worker (BA)/Behavioral Specialist/Mobile Therapist/Outpatient Therapist (Master's)
Juliet Francoeur/Therapeutic Staff Support Worker (BA)/ Behavioral Specialist/Mobile Therapist/Outpatient Therapist (Master's)
MaryAnne Manula Kosciolk/Therapeutic Staff Support Worker (BA)/Behavioral Specialist/Mobile Therapist/Outpatient Therapist (Master's)
Andre Young/Therapeutic Staff Support Worker (BA)/Behavioral Specialist/Mobile Therapist/Outpatient Therapist (Master's)
Kara Scott/Therapeutic Staff Support Worker (BA)/Behavioral Specialist/ Mobile Therapist/Outpatient Therapist (Master's)
Tracey Picht/Therapeutic Staff Support Worker (BA)/Behavioral Specialist/Mobile Therapist/Outpatient Therapist (Master's)

PERSONNEL MATTERS

Provide 50 Personnel Pool (continued)

Nicholas Weschler/Therapeutic Staff Support Worker (BA)/Mobile
Therapist/Outpatient Therapist (Master's)
David Marouchoc/Mobile Therapist/Case Manager/Behavioral Specialist
(Licensed)/Outpatient Therapist (Master's)
Thomas O'Donnell/Behavioral Specialist/ Mobile Therapist/Outpatient Therapist
(Master's)
Matthew Girton/Therapeutic Staff Support Worker (BA)/Mobile
Therapist/Behavioral Specialist (PhD)/Outpatient Therapist (Master's)
Laura Gross/Behavioral Specialist/Mobile Therapist/Outpatient Therapist
(Master's)
Susan Barradale/Mobile Therapist/Outpatient Therapist (Master's)
Patricia Hugo/Mobile Therapist/Behavioral Specialist (Licensed)/ Outpatient
Therapist (Master's)
Barbara Greenzweig/Therapeutic Staff Support Worker (BA)/Mobile
Therapist/Behavioral Specialist/Behavioral Specialist (BCBA)/Outpatient
Therapist (Master's)
Eric Christman/Therapeutic Staff Support Worker (BA)/Mobile
Therapist/Behavioral Specialist (Licensed)/Outpatient Therapist (Master's)
Leah Beil/Mobile Therapist/Outpatient Therapist (Master's)

Summer Employment Pool Professional Staff

Summer Employment Professional Personnel Pool, on an as-needed basis,
September 1, 2013 to August 31, 2014 at the appropriate hourly/daily rate or
board approved rate, up to 29 hours per week:

Ryan Phillips
LeeAnn Phillips
Milton Figueroa
Lauren Reiss
Erin McBride
Leslie Schoeniger

Summer Employment Pool Support Staff

Summer Employment Support Personnel Pool, on an as-needed basis,
September 1, 2013 to August 31, 2014 at the appropriate hourly/daily rate or
board approved rate, up to 29 hours per week:

Sherri Mosser
Mary Zarkoski
Giorka Tavarez
Heather Rosado
Adam Remaley
Cinda Heydt
Jennifer Flannery

Moved: Kathleen Parsons; Seconded: Owen Eberhart; Vote: Yes – 10; No – 0;
Abstentions – 0; Absent – 4.

Penny Hahn, CLIU Board member representing the Catasauqua Area School District, thanked the CLIU retirees for the many years of service to the Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit #21.

APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION OPPOSING RESTRICTING FEDERAL MEDICAL ASSISTANCE REIMBURSEMENT

WHEREAS, the Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit #21 is committed to providing all students with a free and appropriate public education that allows all children to become successful and productive citizens; and

WHEREAS, the Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit #21 is committed to providing all students regardless of disability with the essential services to be successful in school and in life; and

APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION OPPOSING RESTRICTING FEDERAL MEDICAL ASSISTANCE REIMBURSEMENT (continued)

WHEREAS, Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit #21 like many other school districts and intermediate units across the Commonwealth rely on federal Medical Assistance reimbursement through the Medical Assistance School Based Access (Access) program to help fund essential services to children with disabilities;

WHEREAS, without the timely and consistent disbursement of these funds from the Department of Public Welfare to the Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit #21 for services that our students are entitled to by law and which will then have to fund these services through local revenue; and

WHEREAS, changes to eligible services for Medical Assistance has also resulted in the loss of million dollars to school districts across the commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, more than \$28 million in school district and intermediate unit reimbursement claims have been rejected by the Department of Public Welfare due to its insistence on evidence that a private insurer will not cover the services where there is no experience or precedent in Pennsylvania or in any other state in the union that private insurers cover these services; and

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania is the ONLY state in the country that requires a blanket letter of denial as a condition for a school district to receive Medical Assistance reimbursement through the Medical Assistance School Based Access program; and

WHEREAS, more than 100 insurers representing millions of dollars in unpaid reimbursements have yet to sign a blanket letter of denial; and

WHEREAS, this has resulted in millions of dollars in unpaid claims for essential services that school districts and intermediate units are required to provide to their students; and

WHEREAS, school districts and intermediate units still have not received full payment for claims from the only ten insurers that have signed a blanket letter of denial; and

WHEREAS, there is still no resolution to regarding unpaid claims and the Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit #21 has been informed that any and all unpaid claims as of May 10, 2014 will be permanently dismissed and left unfunded; and

WHEREAS, this unnecessary and unprecedented requirement of obtaining a blanket letter of denial risks leaving millions of dollars in federal funding unclaimed for services provided to children with disabilities.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of School Directors of the Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit #21 urges the Pennsylvania General Assembly, Pennsylvania State Senate, The Corbett Administration and the Pennsylvania Department of Education to demand that the Department of Public Welfare and the Public Consulting Group remove the unprecedented barriers and requirements recently imposed to restrict the federal Medical Assistance reimbursement through the Medical Assistance School Based Access program for essential services to Pennsylvania's most vulnerable children.

The Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit #21 seeks support from other school boards, its local legislators and members of the Senate and House Education Committees in petitioning the Corbett Administration, the Department of Public Welfare and the Public Consulting Group to allow the funding to flow to school districts and intermediate units to support essential services to students with disabilities.

This resolution will be shared with the Pennsylvania Association of Intermediate Units for dissemination to Commonwealth School Districts, Intermediate Unit's, Pennsylvania School Board Association, local legislators and members of the Senate and House Education Committees, the Governor's Office, the Department of Public Welfare and the Public Consulting Group.

Moved: Raymond Follweiler, Jr.; Seconded: Clarence Myers; Vote: Yes – 10; No – 0; Abstentions – 0; Absent – 4.

APPROVAL TO ENTER INTO AN INDEPENDENT CONTRACT FOR THE 2013-2014 FISCAL YEAR

- MOTION: The Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit Board of Directors grants permission to enter into an Independent Contract with Ronald Slivka, Consulting Certified Registered Nurse Practitioner (CRNP), at the rate of \$60 per hour, for the 2013-2014 fiscal year, effective upon execution of Independent Contractor Agreement: Moved: Penny Hahn; Seconded: Anthony DeMarco; Vote: Yes – 10; No – 0; Abstentions – 0; Absent – 4.

APPROVAL OF 2014-2015 CLIU CALENDARS/SCHEDULES

- MOTION: The Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit Board of Directors adopts the following CLIU Calendars/Schedules for the 2014-2015 fiscal/school year as presented:

- (a) Office Calendar
- (b) Board Meeting Calendar
- (c) Payroll Schedule

Moved: Debra Lamb; Seconded: Clarence Myers; Vote: Yes – 10; No – 0; Abstentions – 0; Absent – 4.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no Unfinished Business discussed.

NEW BUSINESS

Appointment of CLIU Board Nominating Committee

President Bold reported that both France Fuller and Anthony DeMarco have accepted to be this year's CLIU Board Nominating Committee, seeking nominations for the 2014-2015 CLIU Board Officers. This Committee will report in May; with the slate of candidates being brought before the Board at the June 16, 2014 Board meeting. New officers will begin their term on July 1, 2014.

BOARD SHARING

Proportionate Vote/2014-2015 CLIU General Operating Budget

The proportionate vote has been received from the Pennsylvania Department of Education. The proportionate vote was calculated for each district vote returned for the 2014-2015 CLIU General Operating Budget and passed as noted in the overall total of proportionate votes below, as of March 18, 2014:

608 votes in favor; 4 votes against; 2 abstentions

Mary Ziegler also reported that the Salisbury Township School District Board of Directors is planning to have the Project SEARCH group provide a presentation at an upcoming Curriculum Committee meeting.

Owen Eberhart, Jr., Board representative from the Whitehall-Coplay School District, thanked the Board and Administration for their concern and prayers for his wife; she continues to improve each day.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

President Bold provided a brief Legislative update on:

- Harrisburg is back in session
- PSBA officer deadline;
- PSBA bylaw changes;
- PlanCon;
- Pension reform;
- State budget;
- Property tax reform;
- Funding formula;
- Special Education funding; and
- Charter reform.

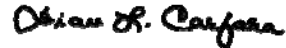
LEGISLATIVE UPDATE (continued)

He also noted that the Daily Blaugh is back in business; but with a new name—the “Daily Dispatch.” Please continue to keep up-to-date on current education and legislative issues by reading these emails.

ADJOURNMENT

- MOTION: The Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit Board of Directors meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m. Moved: Raymond Follweiler, Jr.; Seconded: Penny Hahn; Vote: Yes – 10; No – 0; Abstentions – 0; Absent – 4.

Respectfully submitted,



(Mrs.) Diane L. Carfara
Board Secretary

NEXT MEETING

MONDAY, MAY 19, 2014

**Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit
4210 Independence Drive
Schnecksville, PA 18078**

7:00 P.M. – Regular Board Meeting – CLIU Board Room
