If a child can't learn the way we teach, maybe we should teach the way they learn.
- Ignacio Estrada
A WORD FROM THE
PRESIDENT

Gratefully Yours,
A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

The mission of the Delaware County Intermediate Unit is “to provide leadership in the development and delivery of quality, cost-effective programs and services to school communities.” This mission serves as a guiding tenet for decisions made by the Board of Directors and is the basis for the daily work carried out by the administration and staff. It is also based on several core beliefs that help to reinforce the IU’s commitment to providing educational excellence and quality service to students, families and the school community. The mission and core beliefs help guide the organization toward its vision of creating partnerships that inspire excellence in education.

The Board of Directors proudly supports DCIU’s mission, beliefs, and vision and is committed to working together to accomplish the organization’s strategic goals of financial stewardship, student-centered learning, and operating using a market-based business model. The Board has championed the IU’s goal to operate using a system of continuous improvement, and as president, I have been on the frontline of this transformation. Over the years, I have witnessed significant changes in how we operate, improved communication of information on important issues, and increased collaboration amongst the board, administration, staff and other stakeholders. The innovation demonstrated by administrators and staff in developing new and expanded programs and services and finding more and better ways to lead and serve students and the education community has been remarkable.

However, what I am most proud of in the 2018-19 academic year, is the opening of the brand new Aston Campus. To see this project from start to finish and to witness the thousands of hours of hard work and dedication poured into this building project has been a major highlight of my time on the Board. Kudos to all involved in this initiative!

I thank the board, administration, staff and students for all of their hard work and dedication and I truly appreciate the ongoing support of our many stakeholders. Congratulations on the completion of another excellent year and best wishes for continued success.
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S STATEMENT

With each passing day, I am thankful to the administration, staff and students of the Delaware County Intermediate Unit for all of the fabulous work and accomplishments seen throughout the year. Even after being a part of this organization for nearly 30 years, the breadth and depth of this IU and the wide variety of programs and services offered, the creativity and diversity of that programming, and the amazing work ethic, dedication, professionalism and knowledge of the staff, is remarkable.

I want to thank our employees for making 2018-19 another fabulous year for DCIU, as well as our Board for their ongoing support! It was a year full of change and progress; a year which saw our organization growing, sharing and leading throughout the county. We welcomed new staff and administrators, renovated parts of buildings, built new buildings, expanded and strengthened our programs and services, and established new partners. It is my hope that what we accomplished this year will have a lasting and positive impact for our organization and all of our stakeholders. Most especially, the opening of our new Aston Campus is a highlight and major accomplishment of which I am extremely proud and grateful to have seen come to fruition. This project was a labor of love, and took a great deal of fortitude and endurance to complete. We now have a beautiful, state-of-the-art building for our students and families to enjoy for decades to come.

During my tenure as Executive Director, I have gained an even deeper appreciation of DCIU’s quality of programs and services and the commitment, creativity and optimism of our staff. DCIU’s employees have abundant talents, and they successfully serve Delaware County’s children and families day after day. The value they add to the future of our students is significant; I know that through their hard work, DCIU truly makes a difference in the lives of all those we serve.

Within the pages of this report, you will see many examples of how DCIU is growing, sharing and leading in our region, and having an impact in our community. We are lucky to be working with a wide range of dedicated, caring individuals and organizations.

My sincere appreciation goes to everyone who make DCIU work! Thanks for a banner year; I’m looking forward to even more in 2019-20!
2018-19 DCIU BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mr. Anthony Johnson, Chester Upland
Mr. Edward J. Cardow, Chichester
Mrs. Tracy Karwoski, Garnet Valley
Mrs. Susan Mingey, Haverford
Mr. Edward Harris, Interboro
Mrs. Barbara Harvey, Marple Newtown
Mrs. M. Colleen Powell, Penn-Delco
Mrs. Patricia Booker, Radnor
Mr. Harry McElwee, Ridley
Mrs. Jaclyn Clancy, Rose Tree Media
Ms. Sheree Monroe, Southeast Delco
Mr. Christopher DeSantis, Springfield
Dr. Monica Taylor, Upper Darby
Mrs. Kelly Wachtman, Wallingford-Swarthmore
Mrs. Marion Fitti, William Penn

Mission
The mission of the Delaware County Intermediate Unit, a regional educational service agency, is to provide leadership in the development and delivery of quality, cost-effective programs and services to school communities.

Vision
DCIU empowers partnerships that drive, create, inspire and understand excellence in education:
- **Drives** strategic forward movement
- **Creates** dynamic innovative solutions
- **Inspires** limitless possibilities
- **Understands** challenges and aspirations

Strategic Goals
- Financial Stewardship
- Student-Centered Learning
- Market-Based Business Model
- Excellence in Service

Head Start Program
In our ongoing efforts to not only provide cutting-edge programs to prepare students for a 21st century job market, but also to provide the best services possible in the best environment possible, DCIU embarked upon a major construction project at our Aston location. The new Aston Campus was designed to enhance and expand the original building to include improved security systems, improvement and expansion of meeting facilities, technology upgrades, and building upgrades.

The project included adding two additional wings, a new gymnasium, playgrounds, and upgraded, state-of-the-art career and technical education classrooms and labs. We now have a comprehensive, combined facility that houses Student Services Programs, Career and Technical Education (CTE), and Early Childhood Programs (ECE). This exciting project broke ground in the summer of 2017 and is expected to be complete by September 2019. Although some programs were up and running for the 2018-19 school year, the official ribbon cutting will be held on September 4, 2019.

This was a herculean task but through years of planning, teamwork, and thousands of hours of hard work, the New Aston Campus is nearly complete. DCIU would like to thank everyone who played a role in bringing this beautiful building to fruition.
STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS

Reading Olympics (10th year of Reading Olympics)
• 2,300 students participated in the 2019 Delaware County Reading Olympics
• 194 teams from 95 participating elementary, middle and high school schools

24 Challenge (5th year of 24 Challenge)
• 137 students, grades 4-8, from 9 districts competed

Spelling Bee (3rd year of DCIU Spelling Bee)
• 32 schools enrolled DCIU Spelling Bee; 64 eligible students competed
• Northley Middle School student Phoebe Smith won the Spelling Bee for the third consecutive year in a row. Anirudh Bhat of Garnet Valley was the runner-up.

Science Fair (60th year of Delaware County Science Fair)
• 80 Delaware County winners in grades 6-12 advanced to the regional Delaware Valley Science Fair (DVSF) where they won over $275,000 in special awards and scholarships
• Matthew Sparling, a 9th grade student at Penncrest High School won a bronze medal at the DVSF and moved on to compete at the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF) in Phoenix, AZ.

Governor’s STEM Competition
• Students in grades 9-12 from 6 school districts participated in the regional Governor’s STEM competitions to qualify for the state finals.

Media and Design Competition
• The PA Media and Design Competition highlights Pennsylvania students’ application skills, creativity, and knowledge.
• Delaware County students participated in the following categories: 3D Design, Animation, Digital Movie, Logo and Graphic Design, Programming, and Web Page Design. First place winners were invited to compete in the statewide competition held at Dickinson College in Carlisle, PA.

Transitions
• 545 children participated in the Head Start Bridge Crossing (for children transitioning to Kindergarten) ceremony at Neumann University.
• 583 children transitioned from Early Intervention to Kindergarten.

"In such a short time with your help she made leaps and bounds and was transformed into a whole new little girl. I have no doubt that without you we wouldn’t be where we are today. Anyone can be a teacher but you really put more into it and I could see how much you genuinely cared for her and she trusted you. I’m just glad we ended up with you as her guide. You made a difference and I want to be sure you know it. I can’t express our appreciation enough and we do honestly miss you!"
- A Thankful Parent

"My students felt prepared and were excited for competition night and the event did not disappoint! The presentation at the beginning was well done, the helpers throughout made it very easy to find the rooms and the jokes in between were such a cute touch! The parents who came with us were very pleased with the night as well. Thank you for all of your hard work preparing for this night."
- Reading Olympics Participant
Student Program Highlights

- Graduates from the Deaf/Hard of Hearing program are moving on to post secondary schools including: Rochester Institute of Technology, Williamson Trade School, Penn State University Park, Penn State Brandywine and Johnson and Wales.
- Four students attended the Summer Academy at Penn State, Main Campus, on scholarships through Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR).
- Two students with hearing impairments were members of the Boys’ Soccer Team at their high school that was the runner up in the PA State Championship.
- Eleven students graduated from The County Alternative High School (TCA). 5 will attend college and/or trade school; 3 will continue with DCIU’s OPTIONS Job Transition Program; 2 are entering the working world and 1 is moving to another state to enroll in a work program.
- A student in the Vision program will be attending NYU and majoring in Nursing. Another student, along with his Vision teacher, presented to a group of 5th grade students at Glenwood Elementary about what it’s like to learn braille.
- Two students in the Delaware County Technical Schools (DCTS) Automotive Technology program received scholarships to Universal Technical Institute and Automotive Training Center and were featured in a Philadelphia Inquirer article. 3 Cosmetology students passed their licensing exam months prior to the end of school and received their licenses. 50 DCTS students received Chamber of Commerce Awards; 18 DCTS received Career and Technical Student Organization (CTSO) Awards; 13 received Perfect Attendance Awards; 31 seniors were named to the Senior Registry of Excellence.
- SAILS, Meaningful Day and Community Living and Learning Apartment programs went weekly to the Media Food Bank to volunteer to prep, bag, store and separate donated items. This was also an opportunity for them to socialize, share and be actively engaged supporters of the community.
- Students in the Community School, Delaware County Academy (DCA) and New Pathways programs collected $558 for Delaware County Literacy Council. The students also made seasonal decorations to be delivered to Delaware County Meals on Wheels clients.
- Students in the Low Incidence programs created artwork and performed songs and dances at the Marple Education Center (MEC) Coffee House and Art Show. Students also worked on transition, money and social skills during the event by selling baked goods and coffee to parents, visitors and staff.
- One hundred percent (100%) of DCTS students completed an OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Administration) certification.
• Bridging the School and Community Through Literacy
DCIU reading specialist Tina Fox, assigned to the Fredrick Douglass Christian School in Chester, invited Congresswoman Mary Gay Scanlon, Chester Mayor Thaddeus Kirkland, State Representative Brian Kirkland and representatives from the fire, police and postal services in Chester to be guest readers. These guests did a wonderful job promoting the importance of reading on a daily basis to the students.

• DCIU Leading the Way with Listening and Spoken Language Specialist (LSLS) Certified Staff
DCIU currently has 5 staff members who hold the LSLS certification. LSLS certified professionals are licensed audiologists, speech-language pathologists or educators of the deaf who have voluntarily attained a high-level of specialty education and experience in listening and spoken language theory and practice.

• DCIU’s Speech Language Pathologists Provide Specialized Support
DCIU has 7 PROMPT-trained (Prompts for Restructuring Oral Muscular Phonetic Targets) Speech Language Pathologists. This highly-specialized technique means DCIU is better able to support students with complex articulation needs.

• DCIU — on the Forefront of Supporting Students with Complex Communication Needs
The DCIU created and implemented 11S Assistive Technology (AT) Communication Plans for Early Intervention and school-age students with complex communication needs. An AT Communication Plan provides detailed information for the IEP team regarding the student’s communication modalities, supports, prompting methods, devices, systems and services. It also entails how the AT system will be incorporated in school and at home.

• A New Curricular Path to Discovery
Throughout the 2018-19 school-year, DCIU Early Intervention and Head Start staff, collaborated in the training and implementation of the Creative Curriculum. Creative Curriculum is a researched based curriculum that focuses on exploration and discovery as a way of learning in early child care and preschool programs.

• Training Leads to Socio-emotional Growth and Promotes Positive Behavior
Early Head Start/Head Start and all Partnership Directors and teachers were trained in the area of challenging behaviors, and the difference between a challenging behavior and a developmentally appropriate behavior. This training included techniques for redirecting behaviors with children, and methods for deterring children from the behaviors. Learning these new approaches has resulted in decreased behaviors.

• G Suite for Education
Google’s G Suite for Education has over 70 million users worldwide, including Delco districts! In the last year, DCIU has run 85 professional development sessions on G Suite for Education, Google CS First, and Google Applied Digital Skills reaching over 900 educators.
STAFF RECOGNITION AND ACHIEVEMENTS

- OPTIONS staff Debbie L. Miller, was a winner of the Delaware County Making a Difference Award, for her work in continuing social activities for students and Mary Keeley was Teacher of the Month for May sponsored by ACME in Newtown Square.

- Allison Sevillano, Physical Therapist, received certification in utilizing Kinesiotaping in the Pediatric Population. She then presented to the Early Childhood staff and demonstrated the techniques to staff.

- Mike Davis, TCA teacher, was the winner of the Delaware County Excellence in Teaching from DCIU.

- At DCIU’s annual Employee Recognition Dinner, six DCIU staff received special awards; 21 retirees were honored, and 21 employees were also recognized for having 20, 25, 30, 35, 40 or 45 years of service. In addition, 6 STARS (Sharing Talent and Recognizing Service) and 6 Delaware County Excellence in Teaching nominees were also recognized.

- SLPs Rebecca Carden, Jennifer Carr, and Barb Grazianoder SLP’s earned their American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) Certificate of Clinical Competence in Speech-Language Pathology (CCC-SLP). Earning one’s CCC’s is considered the gold-standard credential for speech-language pathologists in all practice settings.

- Twenty three OPTIONS staff (85%) completed 40 hours of training to obtain their Association of Community Rehabilitation Education (ACRE) certification. This mandated initiative is a lifetime certification, enabling staff to provide long term supports and services for working age adults with disabilities.

GROWING: STUDENTS EXPLORE FORENSIC SCIENCE IN NEW DCTS BIOMEDICAL PROGRAM

The Biomedical Technology and Laboratory Science program at DCTS provides students with the knowledge and hands on experience necessary to be successful in Biomedical Technology and Laboratory Sciences careers. Students used state of the art equipment to learn the principles of scientific investigation and how it is applied to biological science, forensic science, genetic engineering and medicine. In this first year, students followed Project Lead the Way’s Principles of Biomedical Science curriculum. Students engaged in activities like dissecting a sheep heart, explored concepts of biology and medicine to determine factors that led to the death of a fictional person, and studied criminal forensics.

Students visited Globus Medical where they had an opportunity to operate a surgical robot and see how cadavers are used to test medical devices. Students also benefited from the numerous industry professionals who spent time with them to explain their careers and demonstrate some essential skills. Students were fortunate being able to interact and learn from Michael Galantino – Delaware County Deputy District Attorney and Joseph Vogelgesang - Delaware County Medical Investigator. Next year, students will follow Project Lead the Way’s Human Body Systems curriculum.
SHARING: DCIU ASSISTS SCHOOLS IN STEM AND COMPUTER SCIENCE EDUCATION

The Department of Teaching, Learning and Innovation (TLI) provided teacher professional development workshops and consultations, some as a part of grants programs, to local schools on a variety of STEM and computer science related topics.

STEAL - Year 2
The $1,200,000 Science Teacher Education, Application and Leadership (STEAL) Math and Science Partnership grant formally concluded in September of 2018. STEAL was aimed at improving science education and outcomes among elementary school teachers. Year 2 of STEAL included 56 teachers from 26 elementary schools. The STEAL cohort of teachers in Year 2 participated in a Summer Institute focusing on Earth Science, three full-day Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) focusing on science pedagogy and individual instructional coaching.

EGIL Grant Closed September 2018
The $500,000 Early Grades Instructional Leadership (EGIL) Grant concluded in September 2018. The grant allowed DCIU to bring in several nationally recognized speakers and the grant also supported the full funding of substitutes to allow aspiring principals from the William Penn and Southeast Delco districts to complete principal internships within their districts.

Skin in the Game
In the fall of 2018, the Southeast Delco School District and the DCIU were selected to take part in a 4-year Assistance for Arts Education Development and Dissemination (AAEDD) Grant worth $2,290,880. The grant, entitled Skin in the Game (SIG), is designed to increase students’ motivation and love for learning through the integration of literacy, mathematics, and art with video game design. Students experience learning through a team-based approach that incorporates 21st Century Skills to align core content with art instruction. SIG will impact at least 775 students from Southeast Delco schools in grades 3-8. In year one, DCIU facilitated professional development based on the SIG model and developed integrated STEM and Computer Science instructional tools to provide cross-curricular opportunities for Southeast Delco teachers and students. In year two, DCIU TLI specialists will be providing professional development for Wonder Workshop’s Dash & Dot and Cue, as well as Engineering is Elementary (EiE) for Southeast Delco teachers to implement into classroom instruction. Over the course of the four-year grant, DCIU will build capacity for replicating the SIG model to new schools and districts in Delaware County.

Integrated Model Pathway
DCIU Teaching and Learning staff designed and delivered K-8 PDE Integrated Model Pathway to over 800 educators across the Commonwealth; supported 7-12 Certification Bootcamp Pathway A and 7-12 Pathway B.

PA Smart
DCIU has partnered with AIU3 and PaTTAN to support the PA Smart initiative programs across the Commonwealth. Since beginning this exciting work, DCIU TLI Specialists have facilitated workshops for K-12 teachers across 17 Intermediate Units in the Eastern portion of the state, reaching over 900 teachers and administrators with programs like Code.org, Google CS First, and the Beauty and Joy of Computing.

SCRIPT
DCIU has partnered with CSforALL to implement SCRIPT in districts across the Commonwealth. “The SCRIPT”— the Strategic CSforALL Resource & Implementation Planning Tool — is a framework to guide teams of district administrators, school leaders, and educators through a series of collaborative visioning, self-assessment and goal-setting exercises to create or expand upon a computer science education implementation plan for their students” (CSforALL). This one-day workshop facilitates a local SCRIPT team’s work in creating a CS Vision for their district, evaluating current CS programs, and goal setting for future work.

STEM Playground
In March, DCIU hosted a Troxell STEM Playground, where attendees from the Delco region explored a wide range of Computer Science and STEM products for the classroom. The Playground featured vendors and services such as Tyto Online, Google Jamboard, Soundtrap, and Pi-Top.

STEM Lending Library
A grant from Boeing enabled DCIU to provide a STEM Lending Library. With a collection of 75 items, DCIU’s Lending Library has served over 60 educators across 12 school districts, at no cost.
The “House of Early Childhood” at the Aston Campus
In August 2018, the DCIU’s Aston Campus Early Childhood Education Center opened. This “House of Early Childhood” is a beautiful environment that provides an opportunity for the Early Intervention and Head Start programs to collaborate in curriculum planning and delivering services to preschool aged children.

Early Intervention Invests in Knowledge
Over the course of the 2018-19 school year, a pilot team of Early Intervention staff have received training on Practice-Based Coaching (PBC). Each member of this pilot team partnered with a teacher from a preschool in the community for a year-long coaching project. PBC is a cyclical process that begins with fostering a collaborative relationship, setting personal goals, and modeling effective teaching practices. Students who are supported in the community spend most of their time with the preschool teacher, so when special education teachers strategically devote time to facilitating a preschool teacher’s understanding of best practice, they are supporting the students they currently work with and those in the future.

Early Head Start Partnerships Thrive
The Early Head Start Child Care Partnership program has made great strides and improvements throughout the 2018-19 program year. All of the program’s partners have remained fully enrolled throughout the program year, and the Partnerships have active waitlists of over 100 students and families. One partner, the Children’s Garden reached a STAR 4 level. The STARS program is a quality assurance program which rates early childhood learning centers based on the highest quality of care, including, staff qualifications, classroom organization, teacher and student interactions, and professional development, and health and safety practices. STAR 4 is the highest level of quality a Center can obtain.

Partners Present Joint Conference
In November, DCIU partnered with Neumann University, Public Health Management Corporation, Childcare Care Professional Network, and The Foundation for Delaware County to sponsor a conference titled Social and Emotional Development and Children with Special Needs; Supporting Children with Special Needs in a Typical Early Childhood Environment. Attendees received five hours of Pennsylvania Quality Assurance System (PQAS) approved professional development, the opportunity to collaborate with dozens of local community resource agencies, and seemingly countless networking opportunities. Patricia Bell (Early Intervention Supervisor) and Amy Burns (Service Coordinator) presented on social and emotional development. In February, Patricia and Amy once again showcased their presentation at the Delaware County Early Childhood Educators Association (DCECEA) conference. Marie Carbo and Melaina Pearson (Occupational Therapists) also presented at the DCECEA conference on “Creating a Sensory Toolbox.”

"I wanted to say we have noticed a lot more words and songs also. She likes to sing and we can understand what she is saying. SO HAPPY WITH HER IMPROVEMENT!"
- A Happy Parent
AM/PM half days to allow school districts more flexibility
To meet scheduling needs of districts who may experience difficulty in finding substitute teachers, CIPL began offering half-day workshops with both morning and afternoon participation options.

Revamped Curriculum Director’s Retreat
CIPL held its Curriculum Directors’ Retreat once again in 2019. The theme was “Daring to Lead in Complex Times” and incorporated a book study of Brené Brown’s Dare to Lead. Dr. Joyce Mundy and Jamie Pitcavage facilitated a full-day workshop with activities pertaining to each of the four major sections of Dare to Lead.

School Climate
DCIU’s school climate and equity initiative is a comprehensive program for district and building level teams to tackle complex issues in a cohesive fashion. As districts plan for meeting the Act 44 safe schools’ requirements, we provide training, support, and consultation in the critical areas related to safe learning environments, including strategically planning for whole school change, the role of school leaders in achieving connected communities, and restorative school communities.

Picture Perfect STEM
In September 2018, DCIU invited educators to participate in a two-day Picture Perfect STEM Author Workshop provided at no cost through funds from the STEAL grant. This workshop allowed elementary educators to learn more about integrating STEM and literacy in their classroom. Participants learned straight from award-winning authors Karen Ansberry and Emily Morgan and built a solid understanding of STEM and literacy integration and the 5E model through participation in model lessons and engaging, hands-on learning tasks. Participants also received all five Picture Perfect books to take back to their classroom. The Picture-Perfect Teacher books, the entire set of children’s books, and select class packs are available through DCIU’s STEM Lending Library.

"Where do I begin? Thank you so much for all of the wonderful things you did for Evan. You made sure that he received what he needed. Evan learned so much from you. The patience and consistency you had with him was amazing. I hope you know how much you are appreciated. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts!"
- Grateful Parents
A COMMUNITY OF SHARED EXPERTISE: DCIU TEACHING AND LEARNING

Staff once again proved that DCIU is a leader in educational services by sharing their knowledge with others in a variety of ways. Throughout the year, notable national speakers came to DCIU to discuss important educational topics. Staff also attended and presented at numerous conferences, conducted hundreds of workshops throughout the county, and hosted a number of work-alike and coaching meetings.

Staff Presented at State and National Conferences:
- Carolyn Reilly presented at the PAIU Annual Conference at Penn State in November. Carolyn’s presentation was “DCIU Non-Public Services: Building Capacity in the District’s We Serve.” The information shared focused upon the services DCIU’s Psychologists, Counselors, Teachers, and Speech/Language Therapists provide to our schools.
- Rebecca Smith presented at the annual Standard-Aligned Systems (SAS) Conference in Hershey, PA. Her presentation focused on how educators can recognize and reframe micromessages that can affect students’ self-concept from unconsciously negative to actively affirmative.
- At the March 2019 PDE Data Summit, Rebecca Smith and Sara Frey provided updates regarding DCIU’s role in the growth of computer science in eastern Pennsylvania during the 2018-19 year and discussed goals for 2019-20. Participants learned how to draw comparisons between computer science program participation in the region and the importance of and how to update state self-reported computer science program data.
- Andrew Weatherhead presented at a SAS session that introduced participants to Engineering is Elementary (EiE) from the Museum of Science in Boston. Participants explored how the program fosters student-centered, inquiry-based learning. He explored the pedagogical approach behind the EiE program and implemented an open-ended engineering design challenge from one of the EiE units.
- Alison Heffran and Christy Hiergeist presented at the national American Cochlear Implant Alliance in Washington, D.C. Christy Hiergeist and Renee Gilliam were selected to present at the Clarke Mainstream Conference in Windsor, Connecticut on Transition for High Schools Students Who Use Hearing Technology.

Staff also presented regionally and locally:
- Nora Connell provided a 3-part AAC training series for school age and early intervention SLP’s. Grounded in a clinical framework and best practices, the trainings’ purpose is to guide SLP’s working with students with AAC, educate other team members and help parents understand communication.

"This information will help me plan my lessons to best meet the needs of my students."
- Math Council Participant
A COMMUNITY OF SHARED EXPERTISE: DCIU TEACHING AND LEARNING (cont.)

- At the regional Training and Consultation (TAC) conference, Sydney Tassone and Laurie Newsome highlighted lessons and strategies on cultivating brave leadership from Brene Brown’s book Dare to Lead. The presentation included an overview of myths of vulnerability, values clarification, and behaviors that help cultivate more trust in our relationships.

- Pupil Services staff Dr. Terri Erbacher and Michelle McTague trained all DCIU counselors and psychologists in Dewey Cornell’s Comprehensive School Threat Assessment. This “train the trainer” instruction from Dr. Cornell included the Comprehensive School Threat Assessment Guidelines: Intervention and Support to Prevent Violence. Dr. Erbacher and Mrs. McTague are the only two educators trained in this model in Delaware County.

- In November, DCIU School-Age SLP, Alison Gerber presented on Pragmatic Organization Dynamic Display (PODD) and DCIU EI-Age SLP’s Samantha Thren and Isabella Lavelle presented on Using Picture Exchange Communication System (PECS) with Fidelity.

“I am taking this opportunity to thank you for all that you and your team are doing to help our students and teachers. The support we receive from the DCIU is invaluable to our schools. The services and programs help us to continue in offering the best Catholic Education to our students, while trying to meet all the different and ever changing needs of our students. Please know that we greatly appreciated not only the support and facilitation of services but also, the working relationship. I feel that our needs are finally understood.”
- Mrs. Bernadette Dougherty
Office of Catholic Education

Professional Development Highlights

- Throughout 2018-19, DCIU invited educators to engage with the Professional Learning and Literacy Series, where educators could choose from three paths. The League of Learners, a group comprised of curriculum leaders, coaches, principles, and teacher leaders, spent the year learning the leadership skills necessary to strengthen literacy at the school and district level. The Literacy in Action sessions allowed teachers (primarily ELA; grades 4-8), administrators, and curriculum directors to advance literacy at the classroom and student level. The Disciplinary Literacy Series allowed for a group of primarily secondary teachers to improve disciplinary literacy in particular content areas, such as math, science, and social studies.

- DCIU conducted five curriculum and program audits for three school districts in the areas of language arts, world language, science, and co-teaching. A curriculum audit provides a “snapshot” of the school and district programs. Upon completion of the audit, the district receives an evidence-based report with consensus data and recommendations.

- In Spring 2019, DCIU formed the Math Study Council. This professional learning community meets regularly to explore issues around mathematics instruction, assessment, curriculum, and mindset. The program convenes representative groups from each district to participate in research study, workshops, and collaborative problem solving. The Math Study Council began with a full-day session with nationally renowned speaker, Juli Dixon.
SUPPORTING THE COMMUNITY THROUGH GRANTS

DCIU receives a number of grants each year for innovative educational programming to enhance student learning. This is just a few.

**Office of Workforce Development Grant**
Grant to OPTIONS for $80,000 to support 25 students in a variety of work sites, to help them earn job skills, social integration with the community, and responsibility for current and future employment strategies. The employed students are supported by job coaches.

**Delaware County Education Foundation Grant**
Grant to Community School and New Pathways for $6000 for Sensorimotor Approaches: How to Boost Emotional Regulation Among Students with Behavioral Disorders. The primary goal was to create a sensory room that students can utilize when they are upset in order to regulate their behavior and then return to class in a calm state.

**We Thinkers Curriculum Pilot**
Early intervention staff was awarded a $1500 Education Foundation grant to purchase the We Thinkers Curriculum and corresponding materials. Itinerant special education teachers, used this curriculum with a selection of their students for the 2018-2019 school year. The participants reported that this social skills curriculum helped EI students attain their goals within the least restrictive environment.

**STOP Grant Progress**
DCIU was awarded a $500,000 STOP! competitive grant from the US Department of Justice for a school violence prevention program. In this first full year of implementation, we worked with 8 schools and DCIU’s TCA Program. Needs assessments were completed for each and we are working on professional development options for each. A major part of the grant is providing Trauma Informed Care training, which several trainings were held this year.

**Perkins Grants for CTE**
Delaware County Technical Schools (DCTS) successfully used its Perkins funds in the amount of $1,057,065 and received a successful assurances visit. Perkins grants are awarded to career and technical schools for the improvement of career and technical education programs.

"Where do I begin? Thank you so much for all of the wonderful things you did for Evan. You made sure that he received what he needed. Evan learned so much from you. The patience and consistency you had with him was amazing. I hope you know how much you are appreciated. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts! I just wanted to say thank you for all the time and energy you are devoting to Molly. You show up every day for her with a smile and excitement. Her world is opening up and I have you to thank for that."

- A Satisfied Parent
## BY THE NUMBERS

Who we served...

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<td>Career and Technical Education</td>
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Students: 8,570
Adults: 13,440
Total: 22,010

**Biomedical Program**
Those that know, do. Those that understand, teach.

-Aristotle