

## 4th Annual Literacy Symposium Held for Local Educators

CIU 20 hosted the 4th Annual Literacy Symposium for our region's educators on June 15, 2016 at DeSales University. The event was designed to be a full day of professional development on one of the most fundamental topics in educating a child, literacy. This year's theme was Building Readers and Writers for Lifelong Literacy Experiences. Carl Anderson, author and national writing expert, was the event's keynote speaker and presented practical strategies on how to confer with student writers. Along with listening to the keynote address, participants had an opportunity to engage in three different break-out sessions on various reading and

writing topics. Each participant was also given Carl Anderson's book *How's It Going? A Practical Guide to Confering with Student Writers and Assessing Writers*.

CIU 20 would like to thank DeSales University for their hospitality and A & B Enterprises for helping to sponsor the event. Overall, it was a wonderful, well attended event for our public and nonpublic school educators. Based on feedback generated from this year's participants, CIU 20 is already starting to plan meaningful professional development topics for next year's Literacy Symposium!



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# THE TWENTY

Division of Administrative and Professional Services

August, 2016  
Volume 12  
Issue 1



## CIU 20 & Suntex Host The State 24<sup>®</sup> Challenge Math Tournament

The State 24<sup>®</sup> Challenge Math Tournament was hosted by Colonial Intermediate Unit 20 in partnership with Suntex International, Inc. at The Keystone Building Atrium in Harrisburg, PA on Wednesday, June 16, 2016. A total of 160 students challenged their math skills while competing with the innovative Math 24<sup>®</sup> game. Each round was observed by 45 educator proctors and over 200 family members that were in attendance. All winning students were awarded medals and trophies provided by Suntex International, Inc.

Participating IU's included: Intermediate Unit 1, Allegheny IU 3, Northwest Tri-County IU 5, Riverview IU 6, Appalachia IU 8, Seneca Highlands IU 9, Central IU 10, Tuscarora IU 11, Lancaster-Lebanon IU 13, Capital Area IU 15, Central Susquehanna IU 16, Luzerne IU 18, Colonial IU 20, Carbon-Lehigh IU 21, Bucks County IU 22, Montgomery County IU 23, Chester County IU 24, Delaware County IU 25, Arin IU 28, Schuylkill IU 29.

**The Grand Champions are:** Grade 4-5: Nathan Lee – Hatboro-Horsham SD – Montgomery County IU 23; Grade 6: Grant Cutler – Camp Hill SD – Capital Area IU 15; Grade 7-8: **Alek Krupka – Moravian Academy – Colonial IU 20.**

**The Finalists in Grade 4-5 are:** Aanash Devpura – West Chester SD – Chester County IU 24; Michael Vogt –



2016 Grand Champions

Manheim SD – Lancaster-Lebanon IU 13; Cooper Gray – Pennsbury SD – Bucks County IU 22.

**The Finalists in Grade 6 are:** Cassandra Hung – West Chester SD – Chester County IU 24; Pranav Muthaiyan – Philadelphia Archdiocese – Chester County IU 24; **Gianina Money – Pocono Mountain SD – Colonial IU 20.**

The Finalists in Grade 7-8 are: Dylan Blum – Pittsburgh Public SD – Allegheny IU 3; **Neha Skandan – Moravian Academy – Colonial IU 20;** Sejal M. Yadalla – Keystone Central SD – Central IU 10.





## Students Attend STEM Summer Camp

Local students gave up a week of their summer vacation this July to attend the STEM summer camp that was coordinated by Colonial IU 20, Carbon Lehigh IU 21 and DeSales University, which also served as the host. During this week-long camp, students in grades 4 through 6 strengthened their knowledge and experience with the important initiative of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics).

Students were exposed to basics of computer programming using fun and friendly graphical environments, such as Scratch, Code.org, and Codecademy. The “STEM Summer Campers” also learned how to design their own board games, create simple computer games, and manipulate the behaviors of LEGO MindStorm Robots. Aside from the students



being engaged in STEM activities offering challenging tasks, the camp also served as an opportunity to develop leadership skills, enhance creativity, and promote social skills and communication.

The event reached the maximum capacity of 30

students only a few days after registration opened. We are excited about the opportunity to explore ways to grow this event and get more of our region’s students excited about STEM!

## CIU 20 Helps Get Kids Excited About Coding

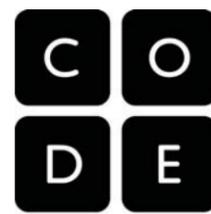
CIU 20 hosted Joann Presbrey, of Code.org® this past May and August to present the “Computer Science in K-5 Classrooms Workshop” to our region’s educators. The main goal of these workshops was to help educators get kids excited about learning about computer science. Code.org has developed an elementary school curriculum that allows even the youngest learner to explore the limitless world of computer science with an easy to follow curriculum guide.

This no-cost, one-day workshop consists of instruction in these courses that blend online, guided self-paced tutorials with “unplugged” classroom activities that require no computer. The attendees were very pleased with the workshop and the materials that were provided. Most intend to return to their Districts and incorporate CODE into their curriculum right away.



Founded in 2013, Code.org® is a non-profit organization dedicated to expanding access to computer science, and increasing participation by women and underrepresented students. Their vision is that every student in every school should have the opportunity to learn computer science, not just a lucky few. They believe computer science should be part of core curriculum, alongside other courses such as biology, chemistry or algebra.

Based on the popularity of the last two workshops, CIU 20 has scheduled another workshop on Monday, November 7, 2016 from 8:30 am – 2:30 pm.



To learn more, visit:  
[www.ciu20.org/codeworkshop](http://www.ciu20.org/codeworkshop)  
**In Partnership with Code.org®**



## New Networking Opportunities for 2016-2017 School Year

The Department of Professional Learning has announced that they are now facilitating two new networking groups for the 2016-2017 school year.

### English Language Learner (ELL) Networking Meetings

Participants will experience the setting for exploring the challenges and opportunities presented by working with English Language Learners (ELLs) in inclusive school settings. Resources and the latest information on best practices for instruction, assessment, and creating culturally responsive learning environments for this growing segment of our community will be shared. The first meeting will include an interactive professional development component and an opportunity for participants to suggest topics for discussion and professional development throughout the series.

### Keystone Networking Meetings: Algebra 1, Biology and Literature

The Keystone Networking Groups of Literature, Biology and Algebra I are designed to bring together teachers and administrative staff who desire to enhance their Keystone Course instruction to better assist students in achieving their Keystone goals. Through collaboration, vertically and horizontally with like-minded colleagues, participants will analyze data, explore best practices in literature, biology and algebra instruction, share successful strategies, activities and resources that they currently implement in their Keystone Courses. Participants will also work on developing additional activities, resources and assessments that raise student achievement on the keystones.

For more information on these new networking opportunities and all of the networking meetings facilitated by our Professional Learning Department, [www.ciu20.org/networkingmeetings](http://www.ciu20.org/networkingmeetings)

## INTENSIVE LITERACY INTERVENTION SERIES KICKS OFF THIS FALL

CIU 20 has developed a new professional development series that will focus on instruction to advance the literacy skills of students who are reading below grade level. Intensive Tier 3 intervention is designed to result in two years of growth in student skills in only one academic instructional year. The effectiveness of the intervention depends on the expertise of the teacher and fidelity to best practices with the intensive instructional delivery.

Participants in this series will select target students to assess and instruct using evidence-based intervention approaches that are individualized and adapted using data from continuous assessment. Two full day sessions will provide participants with background information on effective intensive intervention, assist in preparation to assess target students, learn to analyze the results of assessments, and use data to design lessons to address students’ needs. The following half-day sessions will ask participants to share their data and student work as they develop expertise in making instructional decisions regarding systematically changing the intensity and focus of their structured intervention.

The series is offered on the following dates: October 25 and November 17, 2016; and January 11, February 15, March 14, and April 11, 2017 To register and for more information on the series, [www.ciu20.org/IntensiveLitIntervention](http://www.ciu20.org/IntensiveLitIntervention).

## CIU 20 Partnered with CLIU 21 to Offer Gifted Seminar

In conjunction with Carbon Lehigh IU 21, Colonial IU 20 hosted the first-ever regional seminar for teachers of the gifted. The day featured various sessions on topics related to the unique needs of those who work with gifted students. Session topics included: Goal Writing Tips and Tricks, Screening and Evaluation, Acceleration from Policy to Implementation, Supporting Dual Exceptionalities, Partnering for Success, and Gifted is NOT a Curriculum. The day concluded with a panel discussion about gifted compliance monitoring from local and state leaders in the field of gifted education. This inaugural event was a success, and helped teachers network and learn new strategies for the classroom.

