

THE TWENTY

Division of Administrative & Professional Services

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Regional 24 Challenge® Math Tournament



The Regional 24 Challenge® Math Tournament was hosted by Colonial Intermediate Unit 20 at the Central Office on Thursday, May 11, 2017 (Grades 4-5) and Friday, May 12, 2017 (Grades 6-8). A total of 200 students challenged their math skills while competing with the innovative 24® game through two initial rounds, a semi-final round, and the grand championship round. Facilitating the tournament were students from our regional high schools.

The two-day event continues to be a favorite of our districts, and the following participated this year: Bangor, Delaware Valley, Diocese of Allentown, Diocese of Scranton, East Stroudsburg, Easton, Northampton, Pleasant Valley, Pocono Mountain, Stroudsburg, Wilson Area, LV Academy Regional Charter School, Moravian Academy.



Finalists – Grade 6

*Kayvianna Keys – Pocono Mountain School District
Peter Moore – Pocono Mountain School District
Hana Leong – Pocono Mountain School District*



Grand Champions

*Grade 4-5: Sophia Bandi - Wilson Area School District
Grade 6: Hana Leong – Pocono Mountain School District
Grade 7-8: Alek Krupka – Moravian Academy*



Finalists - Grade 7-8

*Kassandra Van Houten - East Stroudsburg School District
Andrew Ritchie – Pocono Mountain School District
Alek Krupka – Moravian Academy*



Finalists - Grade 4-5

*Angel Garcia - East Stroudsburg School District
Sophia Bandi - Wilson Area School District
Krish Gupta - Moravian Academy*

During a break in the competition, snacks were provided by local manufacturer, Keystone Foods, and Weis Markets. CIU 20 and all tournament participants would like to thank Keystone and Weis for their generous donations.

Finalists were awarded medals provided by CIU 20 and were invited to compete in the 24 Challenge® State Math Tournament in Harrisburg on June 14, 2017. CIU 20 is working closely with Suntex, a locally based company, to host the state tournament.

CIU 20's Special Education 2017 Graduation Ceremony



Taylor Quesada

It's hard to believe that another school year has come to an end. On Thursday May 25, 2017, a class of nineteen students from special education classrooms throughout Northampton and Monroe counties graduated from high school and celebrated their accomplishments in CIU 20 classrooms. The ceremony was held at Colonial Academy in Wind Gap, PA. Mr. Christopher Wolfel, Assistant to the Executive Director for Student Services for CIU 20, presided over this year's ceremony. CIU 20's Executive Director, Dr. Charlene Brennan, offered the opening remarks.

The Class of 2017 is comprised of students representing nine school districts served by Colonial Intermediate Unit 20. Representatives from each school district were on hand at the ceremony to present graduates with their district diplomas. In addition, each graduate received a certificate of participation from CIU 20. Graduates also had the opportunity to participate in their home school district's graduation ceremony as well.

For the past twenty-four years, CIU 20 has held a graduation ceremony that celebrates the achievements of its very special graduates. Each year, a student speaker is selected to present a speech on behalf of the graduating class. This year the speaker was Taylor Quesada from the CIU 20 High School Life Skills Support Program. Jacob Boyle, from the CIU 20 High School Life Skills Support Program, ended the graduation ceremony by presenting the Class of 2017.



Jacob Boyle

Students' families, in addition to CIU 20 staff, board members, and school district representatives from the student's home school districts attended this year's ceremony. Graduates, families, and invited guests enjoyed a slide show of memorable moments and a reception after the graduation ceremony. Everyone involved in the ceremony wishes the Class of 2017 all the best as they embark on their post-school lives.



CIU 20 Introduces



What is Breakout EDU?

- Breakout EDU is a learning game platform that can be used to facilitate rigorous, content-aligned, classroom challenges.
- In a Breakout EDU game, the learners have a set amount of time to gather clues, solve the puzzles, and unlock the mystery box, all before time runs out!
- Games are available for learners of all ages, including adults.

FREE Introductory Workshop:

August 8, 2017

9:00- 11:30 am

CIU 20 Central Office

Participants will learn how to facilitate a Breakout EDU game in their own classroom.

Register on CPE Tracker at www.cpetracker.org.
If you don't have CPE Tracker at www.ciu20.org/noncpetracker.

After the workshop, two Breakout EDU Kits will be available to borrow from our Instructional Media Services (IMS) Library.



To borrow, visit:

www.ciu20.org/borrowtechnology

CIU 20 Project MAX Program Piques Interest of PaTTAN!

During the 2013-2014 school year, four classroom teachers and three speech-language pathologists participated in the first cohort for Project MAX: Presuming Competence, Raising Expectations. Project MAX is a statewide grant that focuses on providing students with complex instructional needs with maximum access to and learning of grade level, general education curriculum, and the Pennsylvania standards through regular professional development and classroom coaching.

Professional development has grown from the initial cohort at IU20 to include two more cohorts at IU20, reaching additional classroom teachers and speech-language pathologists, occupational therapists, program specialists, and school psychologists, ranging from Early Intervention to high school. Additionally, teams of educators from Bangor Area School District and Pocono Mountain School District have also become involved in Project MAX.

Jennie McQueen, an IU20 Life Skills Support teacher at Avona Elementary in Wilson Area School District, participated in Project MAX the first year and has continued to embed her learnings into her regular practice.



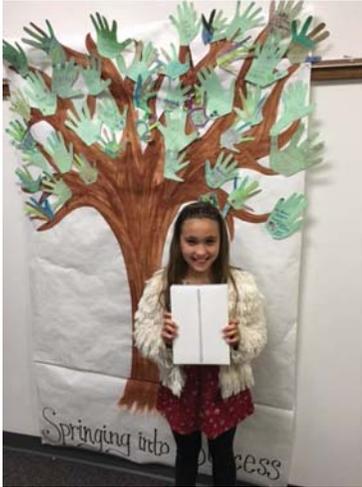
This spring, she welcomed a team from Pennsylvania Training and Technical Assistance

Network (PaTTAN) into her classroom to capture the work she is doing with her students. The video taken will highlight the modification of a unit on rocks from the first grade FOSS Kit and includes instructional practices such as utilizing read alouds and graphic organizers including a Venn Diagram and T-Chart as well as the use of modified text, vocabulary, formative assessment, and supporting student writing to

teach students with complex needs the general education curriculum. We look forward to seeing the published video in the fall!



Family Engagement Night A Success!



On May 4th, CIU 20's Nonpublic School Services hosted a Spring Parent and Family Engagement Night for students and families who attend the nonpublic schools within the IU region. This year's theme was "Spring into Success".

Those in attendance had the opportunity to enjoy dinner together, as well as engage in a variety of learning activities, led by

the IU's Nonpublic School Services staff. Holly Bennett, Director of the Memorial Library of Nazareth and Vicinity, was also on hand and gave an excellent presentation on the opportunities students and families can take advantage of by going to their local library.

Students and their siblings were given a knapsack filled with a children's book and other educational resources. One student even won an iPad Air in the event's raffle! It was a great night for all who attended and participated.



Transitioning Towards Success

Over the past two years, the Professional Learning Department has partnered with the Stroudsburg Area School District to facilitate trainings centered around secondary transition. The middle school, junior high school, and high school special education educators participated in a professional development series that focused on how to prepare students for their post-school outcomes.

Educators reviewed the process of transition planning and predictors that lead to effective outcomes. Additionally, educators were taught how to score and interpret multiple assessments and glean information about students in the areas of postsecondary education, employment, and independent living.

Throughout the training series, teachers reflected on their current practices and applied their new understanding of assessments to identify appropriate activities and skills for the transition planning.

Key highlights of the trainings included learning about the importance of self-determination and self-advocacy and the importance of student and parent involvement throughout the process. Additionally, teachers benefitted from learning the updates on competitive employment and postsecondary education opportunities.



COLONIAL INTERMEDIATE UNIT 20
6 Danforth Drive
Easton, PA 18045-7899
www.ciu20.org



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