



P R E S S R E L E A S E

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
November 20, 2019

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Pennsylvania Association of Intermediate Units Selects Executive Director

Harrisburg, PA—The Pennsylvania Association of Intermediate Units (PAIU) Board of Directors is pleased to announce that Dr. John J. George has been elected as the next executive director. Dr. George is slated to assume the position on October 1, 2020.

“Having served as both an intermediate unit executive director for 12 years and a school district superintendent, Dr. George brings a unique combination of leadership and demonstrated ability to provide strategic vision for an organization, engage state and national educational political stakeholders, and lead and mentor intermediate unit leaders,” said Dr. Jill Hackman, PAIU Board President. “We are convinced and confident that Dr. George is the right person to successfully lead the Pennsylvania Association of Intermediate Units.”

Dr. George has served as the executive director of the Berks County Intermediate Unit and Montgomery County Intermediate Unit. Under his leadership, both intermediate units experienced significant revenue and personnel growth, launched new entrepreneurial activities, and enhanced relationships with school districts, governmental leaders, and community agencies.

In January 2014, while maintaining his role as executive director, he assumed the position of acting superintendent of the Reading School District, a role he undertook to turn around the school district and ensure that the district remain under local control rather than state control. Because of his success, in 2019 he was asked to assume leadership of the Harrisburg School District to set it on a path of financial and academic recovery.

Prior, Dr. George served as superintendent and assistant superintendent of the Warwick School District, and as special education director at the Lancaster–Lebanon Intermediate Unit. His experience also includes service with the Capital Area Intermediate Unit as an administrator in the Instructional Support System of PA (the forerunner of the PaTTAN system), and with the Washington, D.C. based National Association of State Directors of Special Education as assistant director for Governmental Relations. Dr. George began his career as a special education teacher in Morgantown, WV; Fairfax County, VA; and in the Pittsburgh area.

Dr. George earned his doctorate and master’s degree from the University of Pittsburgh and a bachelor’s degree from the George Washington University. He completed post-doctoral studies at Temple University. He has authored several articles and publications, presented testimony to the U.S. Congress, the PA General Assembly, and the PA State Board of Education, and has presented nationally on many issues related to public education. Dr. George is a former president for the Pennsylvania Association of Intermediate Units, currently serves on the national board of the Association of Educational Service Agencies (AESA) and has served on many community-based boards throughout Lancaster, Berks, and Montgomery counties.

The PAIU Board of Directors began the process to identify the next executive director soon after Tom Gluck, current executive director of PAIU, announced his intent to retire.