



# Making “School Choice” *Your* Option

Marianne LeDonne and Marsha Hughes  
Beaver Valley Intermediate Unit 27

Jill Manczka  
Intermediate Unit 4

**PSBA Conference**  
**October 2012**



# Declining Student Population

## Beaver County, PA

**26,081** students lost over the last  
 42 years

- 1971 – 1972                      48,536 students
- 2012 – 2013                      22,455 students





# The **BIG** Picture

- Student population is declining countywide.
- Funding and enrollment in cyber schools and charter schools is steadily increasing.
- Our school districts are losing student revenue at an alarming rate.
- Parents want to make academic choices for their children.



# **What is the solution?**

**Provide parents and students with a varied menu of greater academic options.**



# SHARE YOUR RESOURCES

- Open Seats in Classrooms

For example:

- 10 Unoccupied Seats in German
- 5 Unoccupied Seats in Physics (STEM)
- 10 Unoccupied Seats in Tech Ed (STEM)

- District/School Specialty

- Architecture/Engineering Emphasis
- Agri-Science Emphasis
- WEB Design Emphasis





# **Create a collaborative partnership of school districts through your existing networks.**

Monthly Superintendents' Advisory Council

Monthly High School Principals Meeting

Monthly Curriculum Council Meetings

Monthly Pupil Services Personnel Meetings



# **How To's to Choice**

- Student Comes First
- Visionary Staff
- Protocol for Eligibility, Registration, Attendance, and Grades
- Interactive Videoconferencing
- Shared Bussing
- Share High School Course Guides Online



# The Goal of the Regional Choice Initiative

We believe that all students – without exception – deserve access to high-quality educational experiences. We believe that a true spirit of collaboration among member districts provides students and families more choices and more opportunities, and strengthens the vitality of our communities and our Region.

The Regional Choice Initiative (RCI) offers cost-effective, high-quality programs and services that meet the individual needs of all students, through collaboration among member districts.

***“The strength of many, the focus of one.”***

(Oct 29, 2007 Draft by Superintendents)

We invite you to visit our Web page at: [www.bviu.org/RCI](http://www.bviu.org/RCI)



# BV Beaver Valley Intermediate Unit REGIONAL CHOICE INITIATIVE



**“The strength of many,  
the focus of one.”**

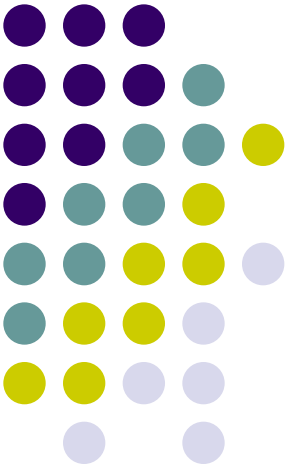
# Midwestern Intermediate

## Unit IV (MIU IV)

### Cyber Service

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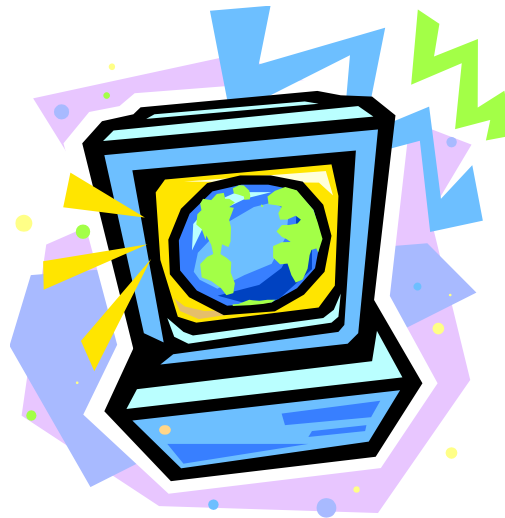
Jill Manczka, Director, Distance Education & Educational Planning



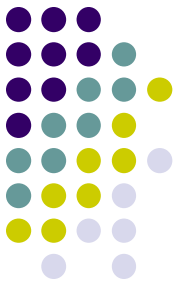
# What is MIU IV Cyber Service?



- Since 2001, MIU IV Cyber Service has provided an opportunity for school districts to enroll students in a quality on-line learning program at a fair price.

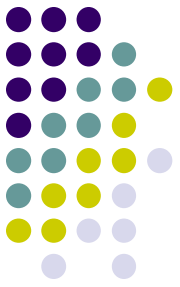


# MIU IV Cyber Service History



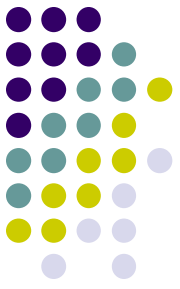
- In 2001, MIU IV Superintendents established their own Cyber Charter School at a lower tuition rate than that of other cyber charters in PA.
- At the same time, MIU IV provided all services to cyber charter school a concurrent cyber service was operated.
- In 2006, legislation passed that disallowed cyber charter schools to charge a discounted tuition rate. Districts must pay per pupil formula amount
- Superintendents elected not to continue with cyber charter school and to focus on cyber service which allowed the same quality service at a discounted tuition rate.

# MIU IV Cyber Service Goals



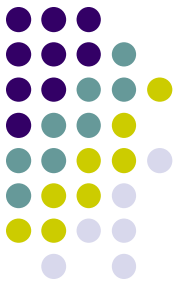
- Provide a high-quality, robust, cost-effective alternative to cyber charter schools
- Provide flexibility and customization to the school district in cyber academy design and implementation for your school district.
- Provide any and all services to the school district cyber academy

# What Makes MIU IV Cyber Service Different than Cyber Charter Schools?



- District makes decision to enroll/withdraw students
- Cost! MIU IV Cyber programs are available for a fraction of the cost of cyber charter schools
- District has input on students' academic programs
- District can decide location of cyber services.
- District has ability to work with students to improve achievement.
- District maintains all students on their roles and receives state subsidy for those students
- Students receive a diploma from the home school district
- District receives cyber education package for students at a fraction of the cost of a cyber charter school.

# What Makes MIU IV Cyber Service Different than Cyber Charter Schools?

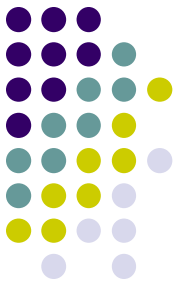


Location of services is flexible...

- In a building in the home school district
- In the student's home
- Blending of home & school district
- MIU IV can customize a cyber academy for your school district. MIU IV can provide many value added services for the program (i.e. courseware, teachers, computer equipment, marketing, progress reporting, student support, teacher supervision)

**The school district decides!**

# Cyber Academy Opportunities

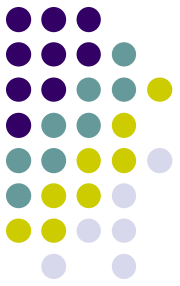


- Bring back cyber charter school students
- Homebound instruction
- Credit Recovery
- Instruction for suspended/expelled students
- Alternative Education
- Summer School
- Supplement to regular curriculum
- Foreign Language Courses
- Resolution to scheduling conflicts



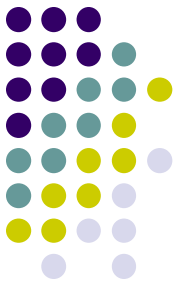


# Cyber Service Courses



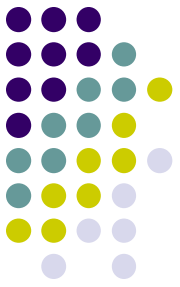
- Aligned to standards
- On-line, PA certified, highly qualified teachers attached to every course.
- Curriculum providers are Penn Foster, Education 2020, PowerSpeak
- Serving students in grades K-12 in core subject areas & electives

# What will MIU IV Provide for Students and the District?



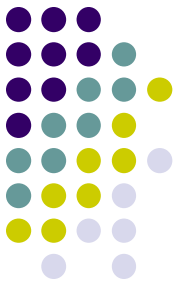
- Computer equipment and Internet access (if needed)
- On-line, asynchronous curriculum
- On-line, synchronous orientation program for students and their parents
- Daily or weekly progress reports
- On-line teachers for all curriculum packages
- MIU IV liaison to assist with any questions or issues
- Personalized e-mail account
- All necessary course materials

# What Services/Support will MIU IV Provide to Districts?



- Access to MIU IV cyber technician and help-desk service
- Access to on-line meeting rooms for teacher-led meetings or sessions
- Marketing assistance
- Scheduling assistance
- Professional Development for staff when necessary

# Course Offerings



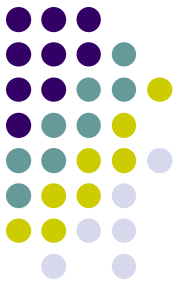
- Elementary, Middle, and High School core curriculum (math, language arts, science, social studies)
- High School level electives
- Foreign Languages grades 3-12
- AP Foreign Language Courses  
(College Board Approved)
- Introductory Career & Technical Classes



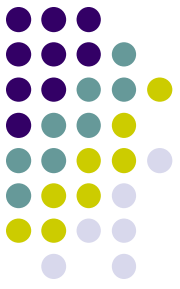
# On-line Curriculum Options



# MIU IV On-line Curriculum



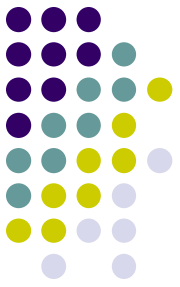
- Aligned to standards
- Rigorous, innovative, and engaging with video, graphics, and interactive lessons.
- Asynchronous (courses can be accessed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week). Allows flexibility.
- Various types of students assessment
- Easily monitors student progress and time on task
- Lab simulations and hands-activities
- Updated on-line content
- Successful implementations throughout Western Pennsylvania



# MIU IV On-line Instruction

- MIU IV employed teacher/facilitator supports every course and student during office hours
- Teacher use asynchronous tools like chat and Webex to support students
- Provide regular feedback and communication with students and parents.
- Encourage inquiry-based learning and open ended discussions

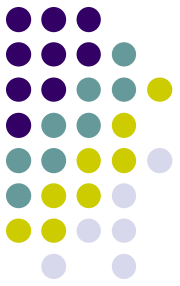
# Power Speak Foreign Language Courses



- Vendor specializes in foreign language instruction
- Offers comprehensive, robust foreign language instructions from elementary level through Advanced Placement courses (College Board approved).



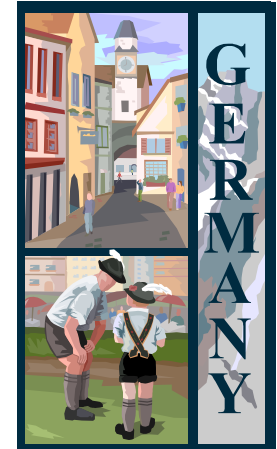
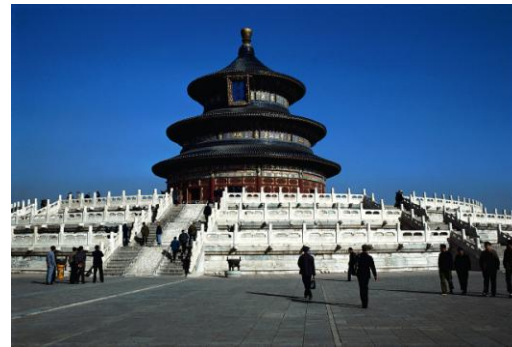
# High School & Middle School Level Foreign Language Courses



- Spanish – 1, 2, 3, AP

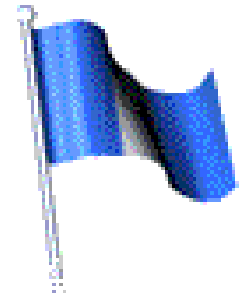
- Latin – 1, 2

- German – 1, 2



- Mandarin Chinese – 1, 2

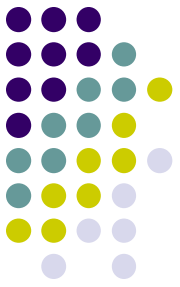
- French – 1, 2, 3, AP



# How Much Money Can Districts Save with MIU IV Cyber Service?



# What are the actual cost savings for a full time MIU IV cyber education student completing work from home?

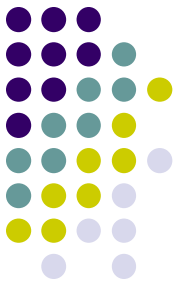


- Basic Cyber Service for full time regular education, secondary level student participating FROM HOME for 180 ADM:
- \$8,944.13 per year tuition Rate to Cyber CS
- -\$2,858.40 per year MIU IV Cyber Service

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\$6,085.73 savings per year, per student

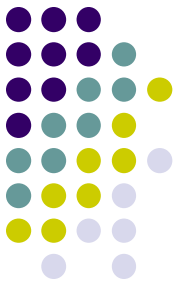
# What are the actual cost for an MIU IV cyber student completing cyber classes from a school building?



- Basic Cyber Service for full time regular education, secondary level student participating from SCHOOL BUILDING for 180 ADM:
- \$8,944.13 per year tuition Rate to Cyber CS
- -\$1,598.40 per year MIU IV Cyber Service

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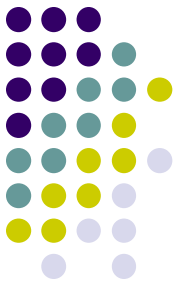
\$7,345.73 savings per year, per student



# For More Information...

- MIU IV Website [www.miu4.k12.pa.us](http://www.miu4.k12.pa.us)
- Call MIU IV Distance Education and Educational Planning to request one at 724-458-6700 ext. 1255

# Questions



Jill Manczka, Director  
Distance Education/Educational Planning  
MIU IV

724-458-6700 ext. 255

[jill\\_manczka@miu4.k12.pa.us](mailto:jill_manczka@miu4.k12.pa.us)

**THANK YOU**