

## Dr. John George leaving Berks County Intermediate Unit

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Dr. John J. George

The leader of the Berks County Intermediate Unit is heading to Montgomery County.

Dr. John J. George, BCIU executive director, said Tuesday in a written statement he will take over the same role for the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit on Oct. 20.

His last day at the BCIU will be Oct. 17.

The move still needs to be officially approved by the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit board of directors at its Sept. 17 meeting.

George has served as BCIU executive director since 2008. Without providing specifics, he said there are a number of reasons why he has decided to take the new post.

"I am honored and humbled that the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit board of directors has selected me to serve as their new executive director," he said. "There are many reasons, both professional and personal, why accepting this new challenge is the right thing to do at this point in my life."



Reading Eagle: Tim Leedy | Dr. Jill Hackman

George said the BCIU board is expected to name Dr. Jill Hackman, currently assistant executive director, as his replacement at its Sept. 18 board meeting, a move he supports.

"I am blessed to have worked for an outstanding organization and have worked with so many individuals whom I will always have the utmost respect and esteem," George said. "Leaving BCIU will be very difficult for me; it will only be made easier because of knowing that Dr. Jill Hackman, who will be appointed as the next executive director of BCIU, will be an exemplary leader who will only strengthen and enhance the Berks County community."

Hackman previously served as acting director of the BCIU after George was contracted to serve as acting superintendent of the Reading School District in January.

George and other BCIU staff helped right the ship in the district - crafting a 2014-15 budget, taking on the search for a new superintendent and fixing the district's broken business department.

The reins were returned in July to the city school district with the hiring of Dr. Khalid Mumin as the new superintendent.

George, prior to his time at the BCIU, served as superintendent of the Warwick School District in Lancaster County.