

April 25, 2017

Dear MCCPTA members,

An unfortunate incident has occurred within the Montgomery County Council of Parent-Teacher Associations (MCCPTA). MCCPTA has discovered that since July 1, 2016, significant financial irregularities have occurred, including the apparent theft of a substantial sum, most likely by someone inside MCCPTA. Inconsistencies in financial records were noted by the Board of Directors in March. The BOD asked for an internal audit, and an audit team was formed on March 28. The audit team discovered the loss of funds during its subsequent review of MCCPTA's financial records.

The MCCPTA audit team turned over financial records and findings to the Montgomery County Police Department Financial Crimes Unit, which has opened an ongoing investigation.

We are cooperating fully with this investigation and will diligently follow-up steps which have already been taken to protect our organization:

- MCCPTA reported the financial irregularities to the MCCPTA bank, which promptly took action to safeguard MCCPTA funds.
- MCCPTA conducted an immediate membership audit with PTAs at our local schools to ensure that local membership funds were not directly misappropriated; it appears that this did not happen.
- MCCPTA sought, and continues to seek, the guidance of Maryland PTA as we handle this issue, and prepare to move forward.
- MCCPTA is working with our insurance carrier to recover lost funds.

MCCPTA is committed to safeguarding the resources entrusted to us by our members. We are reviewing financial procedures to ensure that proper oversight is strictly maintained and procedures are stringently followed going forward. The MCCPTA executive committee will report regularly to our members concerning the disposition of this case.

Finally, as a volunteer organization, MCCPTA relies on the support of its membership to accomplish its goals. With that in mind, we ask that all members be mindful and discreet when publicly discussing this issue. If you are contacted by the press, please refer them to MCCPTA President, Lynne Harris.

Lynne Harris - MCCPTA President
Cynthia Simonson - MCCPTA Vice President Educational Issues
Matt Swibel - MCCPTA Vice President Administration
Erin Clegg - MCCPTA Vice President Programs
Neal Orringer - MCCPTA Vice President Advocacy
Cheryl Peirce - MCCPTA Treasurer
Tracie Potts - MCCPTA Secretary - Board of Directors
Oriole Saah - MCCPTA Secretary - Delegates' Assembly