

October 12, 2017

MCCPTA Delegates and Presidents

Earlier this week, as your MCCPTA VP of Educational Issues, I provided testimony at the Board of Education (BOE) Meeting during the Public Comment period. On behalf of the MCCPTA Board of Directors, we've asked the Superintendent and BOE to help MCCPTA leadership understand the growing practice of eliminating on-level options in our middle and high schools. We want to ensure all students have appropriate pathways and trajectories to follow into their post-secondary destination.

While these school-specific decisions to eliminate course offerings are, no doubt, being made with the best of intentions, we are concerned about the unintended consequences of narrowing student options and we've asked the Superintendent and Board of Education to help MCCPTA in creating more transparency surrounding the methodology and data that are driving these decisions.

You can watch the video feed here by selecting the 10:10 am <http://www.boarddocs.com/mabe/mcpsmd/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=AMGNCG55AEE5> and you can click the following link for the written testimony outlining the concerns and the data we have requested to help foster this conversation within each of our clusters. [http://www.boarddocs.com/mabe/mcpsmd/Board.nsf/files/ARYQCV68B664/\\$file/Cynthia%20Simonson.pdf](http://www.boarddocs.com/mabe/mcpsmd/Board.nsf/files/ARYQCV68B664/$file/Cynthia%20Simonson.pdf)

We are hoping by raising this conversation now – well in advance of selecting next year's schedules – we can elevate the awareness among parents so everyone is better informed and parents can better assist students in mapping out their plans for next year (and beyond).

As always, we will keep the Delegates and Presidents informed.

Cynthia Simonson

MCCPTA VP of Educational Issues