

Board of Directors Meeting December 3, 2015

In Attendance: President Frances Frost, Vice President of Administration Kellie Schoolar-Reynolds, Vice President of Advocacy Lynne Harris, Vice President of Programs Paul Geller, Recording Secretary for the Delegates Assembly Melissa McKenna, Recording Secretary for the Board of Directors Julie Grimes, Neal Orringer, Liz King, Joe Piff, Kim Testa, Joy White, Heather Powers-Sauter, Michele Moller, Kevin David, Jeanne Taylor, Carol Shivers, Cori Vanchieri, Karen Collishaw, Nicole DiResta, Sally McCarthy, Mary O'Driscoll, Jennifer Young, Oscar Alvarenga, Tammy Clark, Vicky Miller, Sarah Kessler

Kellie Schoolar-Reynolds called to order at 7:40, had not achieved quorum, so moved on to reports

Vice President of Education (Presented by Melissa McKenna)

There is now an approved Health and Safety Committee

At the meeting with Larry Bowers he updated the Executive Committee on the State Commission to Review Testing. There is a lot of information to sift through, and the commission is trying to see where there are commonalities in testing throughout the counties.

Karen Collishaw asked when we are going to get the PARCC results. Melissa answered that she believed it would be sometime later in the month.

Vice President of Administration

The Nominating Committee will have a meeting on the 8th to vote on the chair of the committee.

Kellie will be proposing a change to the by-laws under the nominating committee for the Treasurer and Secretaries to read "or" instead of "and" in the requirement to have served on a local and the county boards before being elected an officer of MCCPTA. She will present this to the Delegates Assembly in January.

She commended everyone on CIP testimony. When making their decisions, the Board of Education referred back to many different parts of testimony.

She asked cluster coordinators to please let her know who will be testifying before the Board of Education for the Operating Budget. There will be an Operating Budget Workshop December 14th in the Carver Cafeteria.

Vice President of Programs

MCCPTA Presents Special Edition December 4th with Carla Dickerson who gave a presentation on scholarships. Paul will let everyone know the air-date.

He attended the Delegation to the General Assembly meeting and presented MCCPTA's Advocacy Priorities and emphasized that the operating budget is key.

He attended the MCEA retreat and gave a presentation to the teachers on what MCCPTA does. Many of the teachers did not realize the level of activity of MCCPTA.

Quorum Attained

Heather Sauter motioned to approve the agenda.

Carol Shivers corrected the minutes for the Nominating Committee from Chrystal Baker to Crystal Clay and the spelling from Cherise to Charisse Scott.

Michelle Moller moved to approve the minutes.

Motions passed

Vice President of Advocacy

Other organizations are reaching out to us asking for advocacy partnerships which shows that our efforts to build relationships has paid off.

Tom Manion, the Acting Director of the Family Justice Center contacted us regarding domestic violence cases happening outside of school that may affect the students. He has asked us to help get the word out about FJC's efforts to provide assistance to those exposed to domestic violence. Lynne encouraged everyone to take FJC brochures to distribute in schools.

We are hearing from legislators seeking our assistance in advocating for or against the DLC bills. As an organization, we are not taking a position on this, but Lynne will post a link discussing the bills for any who may be personally interested.

There are local bills that will directly affect education: how Board of Education vacancies are filled and how the Student Member of the Board votes.

Lynne will attend MSEA forum in Annapolis and report back on the bills they will be watching.

President's Report

Frances corrects her Officer's report to "organization's 990's submitted to *IRS*" not "*IRA*."

Frances asked committees to keep the advocacy priorities in mind when working, which is why it is incumbent on committees to report back. Julie asked that chairs submit reports in Word and not PDF. Frances requested members to be careful how government or other organizations attempt to convince them to advocate.

She encouraged Cluster Coordinators and Area Vice Presidents to keep in contact with the local PTAs because face to face time is important.

We are attempting Saturday School PTA meetings. The first will be at Blair, Paint Branch, and Springbrook.

Frances discussed radon testing with MCPS COO Andy Zuckerman on December 1. He admitted that there were some failures in the process. There were some schools where the abatement had not been recorded and other schools where the testing had not occurred on schedule. MCPS will be retesting 26 schools in the next few weeks. Carol Shivers asked whether MCPS has a plan for a public forum because telling parents to go to a website will not make them feel better. Frances said she did not believe they did.

Financial Report

The Blue Books came out to \$61.28 over budget. Liz King moved to reallocate that amount from General Administration to Blue Books. Kevin David seconded. Motion passed.

Frances needs to look into bank service charges because the bank is suddenly charging us \$100 a month. Kevin David asked what our membership has reached. Frances answered about 25,000 members.

Health and Safety Work Plan

Discussion on whether Portable Safety should be moved to the CIP committee workplan. Resolved that "in concert with the CIP chair and the Vice President of Advocacy" would be inserted.

"Vice President of Legislation" needs to be changed to "Vice President of Advocacy."

Jeanne Taylor asked about the emails regarding the dangers of Wi-Fi that the board has been sent lately from a group of outside individuals. Paul explained that the video they are showing, as well as the scientist and study they are quoting, are equivocal at best.

Jeanne would like the work plan to also include continuing work with MCPS regarding sex abuse allegations in schools.

Joy White motioned to approve the work plan as amended.

Advocacy Priority Updates

Concrete Steps to Mitigate Enrollment Growth

Next Steps Subcommittee is working on the Subdivision Staging Policy. There will be a meeting on school test issues in January. We need to decide which of our agreed upon topics are most feasible for the County Council. Jennifer Young asked Subcommittee Chair Liz King to send everyone the date of the meeting. Frances asked Liz to think about how broad an invitation should be to ensure that those who attend the meeting are familiar with the issue and the agreed upon topics. Heather Powers-Sauter asked whether Liz could provide and link or guide to understand all the terminology involved.

Support County and State Funded Operating and Capital Budgets

Operating Budget Chair Neal Orringer informed everyone that there has been a 12% enrollment growth in the last six years, 44% increase in FARMS, and 32% increase in ESOL students. The Superintendent's Operating Budget recommendations will be released on 12/8/15 and the Operating Budget Forum will be on 12/14/15. COO Zuckerman will attend as well.

School Construction and Capital Improvements

FACT reassessment committee has not been reconvened. The bus depot remains of concern. Portables and turf have been referred to BOE financial committee.

Specific Learning Groups

February 3, 2016 the GT Committee will hold a Highly Abled High School Program

The January 2016 meeting will be held Wednesday January 6 instead of Thursday to accommodate Operating Budget testimony on January 7.

Meeting adjourned 9:27

