

MCCPTA Delegates Assembly
Tuesday, February 27, 2018
CESC Auditorium

Attending: President Lynne Harris, VP of Educational Issues Cynthia Simonson, VP of Programs Erin Clegg, VP of Advocacy Neal Orringer, VP of Administration Matthew Swibel, Treasurer Cheryl Harris, Board of Directors Recording Secretary Tracie Potts, Parliamentarian Wanda Sims, board members and delegates.

Following "MCCPTA Presents: The Good News About Bad Behavior," the MCCPTA Delegates Assembly convened at 7:35pm with quorum. President Lynne Harris welcomed delegates and introduced the following speakers:

- Community Minute: Karen Ralston, Let Me Run
- MCPS Minute: Susan Loftus, Burning Tree ES P.E. teacher (re intramurals)
- Student Minute: Nimah Nayel and Ananya Tadikonda, SMOB (Student Member of the Board) Candidates (election April 25)

The minutes were approved. Regarding the agenda: VP of Administration Matt Swibel made a motion to move new business after the special program. That change, and the agenda, were approved.

OFFICER REPORTS

Treasurer Cheryl Peirce made a motion on behalf of the Finance Committee to allocate an additional \$2,500 (for a total of \$4,550) to the Health and Safety Committee, to be moved from the following categories:

- \$600 from Payroll to Committees
- \$950 from Organizational Advocacy to Committees

And from within the Committees category:

- \$400 from Areas and Clusters
- \$150 each from CIP and ESOL
- \$250 from Membership and Engagement

The motion was approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Nominating: Chair Paul Morrison reminded delegates that all candidates interested in officer positions for 2018-19 must submit nominating and eligibility forms by March 6. Nominations for Area VPs and Cluster Coordinators are due April 17. The election is April 24.

Special Education: Vice chair Julie Reiley noted that the Board of Education will provide written testimony at a March 1 hearing in Annapolis in support of HB1489, which places the burden of proof on school districts in special education due process cases.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Legislative Updates: VP of Advocacy Neal Orringer urged delegates to attend a 3/19 “Fix the Fund” rally to redirect casino revenue to schools. He also noted that MCCPTA will lobby in support of legislation to restore school calendar decisions to local districts.

OSSI Reorganization: VP of Educational Issues Cynthia Simonson noted that all three new Associate Superintendents, approved by the BOE on February 13, are present. A brief PowerPoint presentation reviewed the new organizational structure of the Office of School Support and Improvement (OSSI), listing the Associate Superintendents and 9 new directors, approved by the BOE on February 26. Details of director reporting, cluster assignments, and instructional specialists’ positions are still being determined.

Choice Process/Middle School Magnet Pilot: Ms. Simonson noted that MCCPTA, in partnership with GTAMC, is following the concerns raised through the public hearings about the Acceleration and Enriched Instruction (AEI) staff reduction and the recent concerns raised with the middle school magnet placement that included language regarding students having “cohorts” in the middle schools that feed into the Eastern and Takoma Park magnets. The Deputy Superintendent of OSSI and the Chief Academic Officer have been very accessible to us as we outline the concerns and we have every confidence they are working diligently to outline a plan for these students and schools that will be rolled out in the 2018-19 school year.

SPECIAL PROGRAM

At 8:10pm, President Harris introduced a panel of MCPS officials, led by Chief Operating Officer Andrew Zuckerman, to address school safety and security. A PowerPoint presentation (now posted on MCCPTA.org) reviewed existing personnel and procedures. The panel then answered delegates’ questions.

Following the special program, the meeting resumed.

NEW BUSINESS

3/14 “Enough” Youth Empower Walkout: President Harris noted MCCPTA support for student participation in the national “Enough” walkout against gun violence in schools. This will take place at 10am on March 14 for 17 minutes, in honor of each victim in the Feb. 14 Parkland, FL school shooting.

3/24 “March for Our Lives”: President Harris handed the chair to VP of Educational Issues Simonson to preside over Ms. Harris’ motion for MCCPTA to coordinate Montgomery County participation with Rep. Jamie Raskin in the March 24 “March for Our Lives.” Discussion focused on whether our non-partisan organization should partner with an elected official who is also a political candidate. A motion to amend the motion to substitute “Rep. Jamie Raskin” with “Moms Demand Action” failed. The main motion passed.

The meeting adjourned just after 9pm.

Respectfully submitted, Tracie Potts, Secretary, MCCPTA Board of Directors