

From: Sunil Dasgupta, Chair, Health and Safety Committee
To: MCCPTA Board of Directors
Sub: Health and Safety Committee Monthly Report
Date: 2018-05-08

This report is divided into parts. The first addresses H&S Committee as a whole. This is followed by subcommittee reports.

H&S Committee

Our first-ever Mental Health and Wellness Forum was held April 22. We had almost 200 attendees, 30 resource tables and over 20 speakers. Mental health and wellness is not a challenge for select families. We need to come together as a community to tackle it—remove the stigma, support our friends and family, and improve learning for everyone. We will do it again next year, most probably in January 2019. If you have thoughts on speakers, panels, you can send them to me. If you are on Facebook please search for and ask to join the MoCo Mental Health and Wellness group. See attached program.

We continue to have our monthly meetings with MCPS office of student and family support and engagement. Agenda for our April 27, 2018 meeting:

12:05-12:25 pm: Final school safety and security report and how this relates/intersects with the new school safety law passed by MD General Assembly.

12:25-12:45 pm: Sexting and inappropriate material distribution—understanding discovery, referral, and reporting process.

12:45 -1:05 pm: Child sexual abuse follow up.

1:05-1:25 pm: Review and information on inventory of school climate-related programs across the system that OSFSE has collated.

1:25-1:30 pm: Lessons learned from Mental Health and Wellness Forum. Proposing Jan 12, 2019, and snow date of Jan 26, 2019. Please check your calendars.

Next H&S_OSFSE will be shortly after the end of school. We plan to continue these meetings in 2018-19.

In other news, the final safety and security report is out. We are looking into it as well as into how the strategic plan (in the final report) fits in with the Safe to Learn Act. Look out for our report on this.

We are also looking into the processes for reporting and dealing with sexting and child abuse. As we learn more, we will report back.

School Climate and Safety subcommittee chair, Gillian Huebner, was picked for the Champion of Children award that MCPS gave out.

School Nutrition

School nutrition plans to meet with Susan McCarron before school year end to discuss how to improve a la carte menu distribution to elementary school parents as well as hear any updates from DFNS..

Safe Technology

1. Brought Vince Devivo to the Mental Health and Wellness Forum.
2. Preparing sexting fact sheet for parents
3. Safe Tech helped pass a MD law requires the State Board of Ed to look into standards for appropriate use of technology in the classroom. Safe Tech also helped create the MCPS Tech Blast with best practices for technology use in classrooms. Safe Tech has its own periodic meetings with MCPS CTO.

School Climate

Sub-Committee on School Climate and Safety - April 2018

1. Follow up on reports of sexting and pornography at two middle schools
2. Follow up on reports of abuse at a high school
3. Tracking 4/25 County Council meeting on child sexual abuse and MCPS (briefing documents: http://montgomerycountymd.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view_id=169&event_id=7718&meta_id=154472)
4. Meeting with Derek Turner on improving MCPS-parent communications related to school climate and safety
5. Circulation and review of final report on school safety and security, 45-day action plan and strategic plan: compilation of feedback and questions for MCPS in preparation for MCCPTA-MCPS forum on school safety and security, part 2: 5/10
6. Currently working on fact sheet for parents about identifying/reporting child abuse and neglect

Partnership meetings between the MCCPTA Health and Safety Committee and the MCPS Office of Student and Family Support and Engagement take place once per month. For information on these meetings and the work of the Committee and Sub-Committees, please join the Health and Safety listserv by emailing MCCPTA-health-and-safety-new-subscribe@yahoogroups.com