MCPS Independent Activity Fund Workgroup

A. Recommendation Plan: Cell Tower Revenue

CHARGE STATEMENT: To identify a proposal for distribution for cell phone tower funds. Proposal should include necessary adjustments to policy and take into account work of the central fund committee as a possible option.

B. Recommendation Plan: Central Fund

CHARGE STATEMENT: To develop a recommendation for the creation of a central fund. Plan should include, but not be limited to, how/which funds will be identified for the fund (requirements versus voluntarily) and how funds will be distributed (applications and approvals versus formulas). The sub-committee should take into account the role of donations to schools, PTA fund raisers, other fundraisers, cell phone funds (see cell tower sub group), and others sources of funds. The group should think creatively about funding and consider how to leverage the size of the county.

C. Recommendation Plan: Field Trips

CHARGE STATEMENT: To develop a set of possible solutions to ensure student experience related to field trips is equitable. The plan should consider how field trips align with curriculum and how to ensure opportunities for students are not based on school poverty.

D. Recommendation Plan: Fund Source and Use-Communication Plan

CHARGE STATEMENT: To identify a plan that will establish a process for letting schools know about the variety of funds available to them including through communication and online. The plan should also include communication around use of funds and a way for organizations/individuals to communicate funding opportunities to schools.

ANALYSIS QUESTIONS:

1) How does the current state of the topic create inequities across schools? How are schools and students impacted by the identified inequities?

2) What are the challenges/successes of the item in its current state?

3) What changes to the current state of the topic are you recommending? What are you recommending remain the same?

4) Who are the winners/losers based on the recommendation(s)?

5) What are the legal implications from the recommendation(s)? Would specific BOE policies/regulations/MCPS guidelines require revision?

6) Who will we need support/buy-in from in order to put the recommendation(s) into action?

7) What is the recommended timeline for the recommendation?

8) How can we use existing resources?

9) How will the work overlap with the work of the central fund committee (can a school apply for central funds for certain field trips)?

10) How can we generate/raise funds (leveraging our large numbers)?

Field Trips Additional Questions

8) Should there be suggested field trips by grade level to ensure consistency between schools?

9) How will the work overlap with the work of the central fund committee (can a school apply for central funds for certain field trips)?

10) How do we balance flexibility (and tradition) with consistency?

Communication Plan Additional Questions

- 8) Who will schools call with questions?
- 9) Where will information be maintained?
- 10) Will there be criteria for being included in the list of possible funds?
- 11) How often will list be updated? Who will manage information?
- 12) Will we seek out information or will it include known information?