

NOTES AND MINUTES of the MCCPTA Board of Directors
Wednesday, November 1, 2017 – 7pm
Carver Educational Services Center (CESC) Auditorium

The meeting was called to order at 7:10pm by VP of Educational Issues Cynthia Simonson and immediately recessed due to lack of quorum. The following announcements were made:

- **Wellness:** MCPS Wellness Director Marla Caplon explained efforts to establish wellness committees in all schools.
- **Nominating Committee:** VP of Administration Matt Swibel needs members from DCC, NEC/Sherwood and Damascus/Gaithersburg/Magruder/Watkins Mill.
- **Finances** – Treasurer Cheryl Peirce’s report is unavailable since the month ended yesterday. Will provide at November Delegates Assembly. Knight Insurance is discussing whether a \$2,200/unit forensic audit of MCCPTA, Banneker and Greencastle is needed since all three conducted thorough financial reviews following discovery of theft. \$39,252.65 on hand. Membership = 20,752. Office manager is on hold due to lack of time for search.
- **Theft hearing:** Nov. 17. It’s public and will include a plan for restitution.
- **Blue Book:** Communications Chair Sook Seo confirmed it’s ready to print. BOD Secretary Tracie Potts noted that last year we spent \$3,000 on 1,000 copies with three per school, 188 to government & community offices, and a box left over. \$2,000 is budgeted this year. It was suggested that we print 500 since it’s online, with 2 per school and a reprint if necessary. An idea was suggested to charge for hardcopies. Sook will print 100 paper copies for DA.
- **Advocacy:** VP of Advocacy Neal Orringer needs to identify a point-person/committee for each category by mid-November to draft expanded priorities for December BOD. This group will also draft candidate survey questions. MCCPTA leaders are leaning against taking buses to Annapolis in favor of a legislative reception before the General Assembly convenes. The Kirwan Commission report will be delayed.
- **Boardsmanship Training:** BOD Secretary Tracie Potts noted that President Harris will contact members who didn’t complete training. It can be completed online at pta.org (Board Basics, A Quick Guide to Budget Basics and Preventing Theft in Your PTA.)
- **BOE Cluster Meetings:** BOD Secretary Tracie Potts listed clusters scheduled for this year, starting February. Dates were displayed overhead and are on the calendar page at MCCPTA.org. Cluster leaders should plan the agenda with BOE staff.

A quorum of 23 voting members was obtained at 8:10pm. The meeting was reconvened by President Lynne Harris. The agenda and October minutes were unanimously approved without changes.

NEW BUSINESS

Seneca Valley Cluster Coordinator: Melissa Regan was unanimously confirmed on a motion by Magruder Cluster Coordinator Annie Ahmed, seconded by AVP Victoria Robles.

Bylaws: Chair Kellie Schoolar-Reynolds reviewed changes proposed by the Bylaws Committee, including boardsmanship training and advocacy for school funding. On a motion from the committee (no second needed), following discussion, the changes were unanimously approved. They will be presented at the Nov. 28 Delegates Assembly for locals to consider and vote at the Jan. 23 DA.

Financial Investigation update: President Harris noted that former treasurer Lisa Betts has been charged and a plea hearing is scheduled Nov. 17. Several MCCPTA officers plan to attend. Ms. Harris met for two hours with the assigned state's attorney. She is working with Banneker MS and Greencastle ES on a Victim Impact Statement to be presented in writing and in person at a January sentencing hearing. She is also requesting additional charges related to these locals, and notes that the amount stolen from MCCPTA does not equal amounts missing from the two PTAs, as Ms. Betts claimed. So far media interest has been limited to the Bethesda Beat and Washington Post.

Boardsmanship training: Ms. Harris re-emphasized that she will be contacting members who have not completed the requirement.

Committee Restructure: President Lynne Harris made a motion to accept her proposal. Cluster Coordinator Corey Estol seconded. Following discussion, BOD Secretary Tracie Potts made an amendment that the Multicultural Awareness committee be renamed Multicultural Engagement, but that it remain a standing committee, and its role be defined at a later date. Operating Budget chair Laura Mitchell seconded. The amendment and full motion were unanimously approved.

Calendar committee: President Harris noted there's still time for public comment.

Political activity in an election year: President Harris reminded members to be engaged and support candidates but NOT as a PTA representative. PTA is non-partisan.

Family Justice partnership: President Harris noted that this organization will be a focus of our November Delegates Assembly. They focus on respect, safe dating and health relationships. They work with schools and athletic teams. If you know of a community partner doing great work please notify the Executive Committee so they can be highlighted at DAs.

OFFICER REPORT UPDATES

VP of Educational Issues

- On-level classes: Ms. Simonson noted that there's been misunderstanding about MCCPTA's information request to MCPS regarding on-level classes. The idea is not to restrict honors enrolment, but to open pathways for students who need on-level classes. In a meeting today with President Harris and MCPS officials, MCPS noted it will take 100+ hours to fill our request. It is being adjusted to simplify.
- "College Readiness: Mapping Your Future": MCCPTA's Gifted Child Committee is working with MCPS to co-host an event on January 11 (snow date the following week) at Gaithersburg HS. It will include breakout sessions for 6-7th, 8-9th and 10-12th grades. Suggestions were made to include 4-5th (since paths are determined early) and information about Naviance

BOD Secretary – See Tracie Potts if you have not received an athletic pass. All remaining meetings this year are scheduled for Thursdays.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & ADJOURNMENT

CIP Chair Laura Stewart has CIP binders for all AVPS. The meeting adjourned at 8:54pm.

Prepared by BOD Secretary Tracie Potts and DA Secretary Oriole Saah