

MCCPTA Health and Wellness Committee

November 2020 Report

Health and Wellness Committee Meeting: November 23

Nutrition Subcommittee update

- Lynn Amano's updates:
 - Health and School MD, Dept. of Food Services, and Cynthia Simon
 - Permission slips: Pick up meals for others
 - Access and getting food to people:
 - Food for Thanksgiving break (all four days)
 - Bus distribution sites that are now food distribution sites
 - There are a few community center or apartment drop offs
 - Time window issues
 - Howard County has served 2 million more meals than MCPS
 - Thinking about testifying in front of the BOE and working with City Council to address needs

Substance Use Committee

- Laura Mitchel's update
 - PAVE Webinar
 - Parents Against Vaping and e-cigarettes
 - <https://www.parentsagainstvaping.org/>
 - Capacity 500
 - Parent shares story
 - Data/science
 - Education on vape appearance, advertising, damage/risks to lungs and brain
 - Action steps (recruitment), advocacy
 - December 16th Webinar
 - December 17th Town Hall with Legislators^[P]_[SEP] - Register for the DC Metro Town Hall - https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_y0BpqwvRfip_Aw08mWS1g

Mental Health Subcommittee

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Environmental Health Subcommittee

- Advocacy efforts and outreach to MCPS families, MCPS clusters, MCPS officials, Councilmembers, State legislature
 - Meeting on November 19 with Seth Adams, MCPS Director of the Dept. of Facilities Management, Lynne Zarate, Essie McGuire, Bonnie Supinski, Doug Hollis, Veronica Hill, Gary Mosesman and MCCPS Environmental Health Subcommittee members: Hannah Donart, Laura Stewart, Jeremy Goodman, Deborah Schrab, and Jill Ortman-Fouse, Councilmember Hucker's office
 - The big takeaways from the meeting are below:
 - MCPS staff agreed to respond to our unanswered questions, which I sent to them after our meeting (listed below).
 - MCPS staff agreed to hold a follow up meeting with us in December. We have a meeting set for December 17.
 - We requested an environmental health working group, but they suggested that we join the Recovery Plan Development Team meetings. We requested to be included in these meetings, but have not heard a response on this yet.
 - They said they would send us the updated SPO approved products for use within MCPS school facilities and they would update the website.
 - After meeting we followed up with the list of questions below and sent additional questions based on water quality concerns after scheduling our follow up meeting for December 17:

Ventilation:

What is the range of feasible ACH for classrooms?

What is the target ACH for classrooms?

Filtration:

What MERV rating will be used for HVAC filters?

What criteria will be used for placement of portable air cleaners?

What guidelines/criteria for use of windows for additional ventilation will be in place in schools?

IAQ Assessment Results:

Where on the DFM website will the IAQ assessment results and metrics/content for all school reporting be posted?

When will the IAQ assessment results and metrics/content be posted?

Cleaning, sanitizing, and disinfecting:

When will you be able to send us an updated list of SPO approved products for use within the MCPS school facilities and when will this be updated on the website?

Water quality:

May we have an inventory list of schools with hydration stations in place that includes the following information?

- How many hydration stations are in each school?
- Where they are located?
- What is the make and model?
- Do they have NSF/ANSI 53 and 42 filters for lead installed?
- Are they capable of having NSF/ANSI 53 and 42 filters for lead installed?
- Who is responsible for replacing and maintaining these filters in the school?

Do you plan to test for legionella and/or lead in school buildings before reopening them?

- Councilmember Hucker's office: We've been in communication with Jill Ortman-Fouse to discuss concerns over water quality
 - Some hydration stations installed in MCPS facilities do not have filtration capability for lead and other contaminants
 - Concern after long shut down is increased risk of lead exposure
 - We discussed meeting with state legislators
- Survey for delegates e-list is ready to be sent, but will go out at a later date when timing is right
- Possibility of a PTA Resolution?
 - Prioritize schools that are currently learning or equity hubs first since there are already students and staff in them. Those that will reopen first should be prioritized next and have air quality mitigation measures and testing in place **BEFORE** schools open. Details of air and water quality measures must be disclosed and based on current, science-based standards and protocols. Our committee has shared resources from top scientists and government agencies working on these issues.