

MCCPTA Committee Work Plan 2017-2018

Committee: Health and Safety

Chair: Dr. Sunil Dasgupta

Email: sunildasgupta@hotmail.com

Address: 14609 Westbury Rd, Rockville, MD 20853

Phone: 410-913-4272

Background

The Health and Safety Committee has largely operated through mostly-autonomous subcommittees and work groups, some of which are functioning and others are not. The extant formal structure is below:

Health and Safety

Workgroup: Child Abuse

Sub – Drug/Alcohol

Abuse Prevention

Sub – Portable Safety

Sub – Safe Technology

Sub –School Nutrition

Nutrition and Safe Technology are active subcommittees with chairs and members. Child Abuse, Drug/Alcohol Abuse Prevention, and Portable Safety do not have current chairs and to the best of my knowledge no members. School Climate and Safety is an emerging sub/workgroup that has submitted a work plan. There is also renewed interest in mental health, but we are only now beginning work to mobilize interest. With this in mind, the committee proposes:

Vision

How does the work of your committee support the objects and mission of PTA and the focus of MCCPTA?

The Health and Safety Committee supports MCCPTA's mission by promoting awareness and support for advocacy efforts around health and safety issues in schools and homes in ways that reflect the diversity of population, socioeconomic status, perspectives, and abilities across Montgomery County.

Goals

Give a summary statement of your committee's goals for this year. Consider how you will identify attainment.

1. Identify health and safety issues of the greatest concern to parents and students in MCPS.
2. Develop a mechanism for inviting continuing input on health and safety issues from MCCPTA delegates, officers, PTA leaders and members, and more generally parents and students.

3. Restructure as necessary the Health and Safety Committee and its subcommittees based on data derived from #1 above.
4. Stand up workgroups/ subcommittees on Drug/Alcohol Abuse Prevention, School Climate and Safety and Mental Health.
5. Develop relationships with MCPS, county officials, county advocacy and/or research organizations with stakes in health and safety issues.
6. Pilot an online Health and Safety newsletter for parents, students, and local PTAs using volunteer and available MCPS resources.
7. Support MCPS Wellness Regulations issued June 2017.

Action Steps

What does your committee plan to do to achieve these goals? Include plans for meetings, mailings, etc., interaction with other MCCPTA committees, MCPS staff you may work with and in what capacity, other county, state or federal agencies, organizations you may contact as part of your action plan.

1. In-person meetings of full and subcommittee members.
2. Organize expert panels on specific issues such as safe technology, mental health, and the opioid crisis in Montgomery County.
3. Form an ad hoc committee to draft and administer an online survey of parents and students in MCPS to determine identification of health and safety issues of the greatest concern to parents and students in MCPS.
4. The ad hoc committee will also examine options for a mechanism to invite input to the committee on a continuing basis.
5. Mount a concerted effort to discover extant data sources relevant to health and safety issues to Montgomery County families and school students.
6. Identify chairs and members for workgroups/subcommittees on Drug/Alcohol Prevention, School Climate and Safety, and Mental Health.
7. Identify and organize resources necessary for piloting an online Health and Safety newsletter for parents, students, and local PTAs using volunteer and available MCPS resources.

Meeting Schedule

1. Full Committee meetings: 2 annually, including video/audio conferencing
2. Subcommittee/Workgroup meetings: Bimonthly, including video/audio conferencing

Expenses

The Committee expects the following expenses, if they are not available free from MCPS:

1. Translation and publication assistance: \$700
2. Expert panel honoraria: \$ 1,150
3. Online survey/feedback support: \$200

MCCPTA Safe Technology Subcommittee Work Plan 2017-2018

Committee: Safe Technology Subcommittee

Co-Chairs: Dr. Assya Pascal and Florence Kao

Email: apascal2003@hotmail.com, florence.kao@gmail.com

Vision

How does the work of your committee support the objects and mission of PTA and the focus of MCCPTA?

1. Promote awareness and support advocacy efforts around health and safety issues associated with the use of technology.
2. Seek innovative uses of technology to support learning.
3. Empower students and their families to develop a healthy and productive relationship with technology in and outside school.

Goals

Give a summary statement of your committee's goals for this year. Consider how you will identify attainment.

1. Provide information and resources on health and safety topics of interest to the MCCPTA membership.
2. Engage local PTAs to ensure wide and diverse participation.
3. Establish a strong collaborative relationship with the MCPS Office of the Chief Technology Officer (OCTO) and the CTO.

Action Steps

What does your committee plan to do to achieve these goals? Include plans for meetings, mailings, etc., interaction with other MCCPTA committees, MCPS staff you may work with and in what capacity, other county, state or federal agencies, organizations you may contact as part of your action plan.

1. Meet in person and via audio/video conferencing to organize the subcommittee's advocacy efforts.
2. Organize a meeting with the new CTO and identify one or more point persons within OCTO with whom to collaborate.
3. Organize an expert panel on developing a healthy and safe use of technology for students and families.

Meeting Schedule

- Full Committee: Monthly (list dates)

- Subcommittee chairs: bi-monthly or as needed

Expenses

- Funds for bilingual printed resources: \$25
- Sponsoring of an expert panel discussion on healthy relationship with technology: \$100

MCCPTA School Nutrition Subcommittee Work Plan 2017-18

Committee: School Nutrition Subcommittee under Health and Safety

Chair: Lisa Mandell

Email: lmandell22@gmail.com

Vision

The School Nutrition Committee helps families and communities advocate for healthy food and strong health/nutrition education for all students in Montgomery County Schools.

Goals

- Develop a relationship with the incoming Director of Food and Nutrition services and advocate for the requests in the MCCPTA School Food Resolution
- Serve as a resource for families and communities that seek ways to provide healthy food and/or nutrition learning experiences in their schools
- Support schools' efforts to meet the new MCPS Wellness Regulation issued in June 2017, as it pertains to school nutrition:
 - School meals and other foods and beverages available at schools
 - Nutrition education
 - Advertising, marketing or promotion of food and beverages on school property
 - Food and beverages offered at school-sponsored celebrations and during the instructional day
 - Formation of school wellness counsels/wellness teams

Action Steps

- Hold in-person committee meetings in the fall and spring, or as needed
- Share MCCPTA School Food Resolution with incoming Director of DFNS
- Meet with incoming Director of DFNS
- Share DFNS Director's vision and goals with families and communities
- Support DFNS Director and his/her team by offering to share news, provide parent feedback, and lend volunteer support
- Share information and resources pertaining to the new MCPS Wellness Regulations focusing on aspects related to school nutrition

Meeting Schedule

- TBD—plan to hold meetings in fall and spring, or as needed
- Chair or at least one other representative to attend Health and Safety Committee meetings

Expenses

No expenses expected at this time

MCCPTA School Climate and Safety Subcommittee Work Plan 2017-18

Committee: School Climate and Safety Subcommittee
Chair: Gillian Huebner
Email: gillianhuebner@gmail.com
Address: 1925 Luzerne Ave. Silver Spring, MD 20910
Phone: (202) 372-5757

Vision

To empower and equip MCPS students and families, and staff to work together to safely and effectively address social conflict, bullying, violence, and injustice in school settings.

Goals

1. Involve students in identifying concerns and possible solutions through surveys and focus groups.
2. Consolidate existing information about programs and policies related to school climate and safety.
3. Partner with other local organizations interested in school climate and safety issues

Action Steps

The sub-committee will work together with MCPS and MCCPTA to:

1. Collect data regarding school climate and safety concerns in MCPS.
2. Compile and share information regarding policies, programs, curricula, speakers and other resources that can help students, families, and staff safely and effectively prevent and address social conflict, bullying, violence, and injustice in school settings.
3. Organize a series of events addressing critical issues, including but not limited to cyber bullying and safety, healthy dating, sexual and gender-based violence, racial justice, rights and protections for undocumented students and families, and non-violent conflict resolution strategies.
4. Establish a MCPS staff point of contact for these issues to facilitate the flow of information and a collaborative approach to addressing areas of concern.
5. Identify MCPS students and staff who are interested in participating in the work of the committee.

Meeting Schedule

The committee will facilitate six open meetings throughout the school year.

Expenses

The committee is requesting \$900. This includes a \$150 honorarium for each speaker and \$100 to print materials.