**MCCPTA Board of Directors Meeting**

**February 13, 2020**

**Carver Educational Services Center – Auditorium**

Cynthia Simonson, Acting MCCPTA President, called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm. A quorum was not present at the beginning of the meeting.

**MCPS Information**

1. Cynthia Simonson provided an update of the MCPS reorganization for next year. The draft org chart is available in the meeting materials folder.

There are currently 3 chiefs: Statham (Chief of School Support and Improvement), Navarro (Chief Academic Officer), and Zuckerman (Chief Operating Officer). Their three organizations will be changed to two, led by Wilson and Turner. All functions currently under Statham (OSSI) and Navarro (CAO) will be consolidated under Wilson, along with Office of Shared Accountability (Wilson’s current assignment). Navarro and Zuckerman had already announced their resignations, which take effect before the end of the year.

Statham will be moving to a position in HR focused on recruiting workforce.

(We achieved quorum at 7:13 pm)

2. Changes to OSSI next school year. With the new budget, the number of OSSI directors will increase from nine to twelve, with two clusters under most directors. This is a good time for MCCPTA to consider whether there are adjustments needed in the MCCPTA-OSSI interactions.

Points made during the discussion:

a. In some clusters, there appears to be minimal movement on issues discussed with OSSI directors.

b. Some conversations seem one-way: MCCPTA provides information to OSSI, but does not receive much information

c. Some relationships have improved over the past year

d. One successful model- doing joint projects with OSSI, instead of having meetings

e. MCCPTA AVPs see value in meetings that include the principals. Inclusion of cluster coordinators in principal meetings (by cluster) is variable.

ACTION: At the last meeting with OSSI this year, AVPS should discuss how to build relationships going forward.

**The Agenda and the January minutes were approved by consent**.

**Updates**

1. Maryland Public Information Act (Cynthia Simonson)

Reminder- we can file a request for information and MCPS has 30 days to respond or to request more time. Cynthia has filed approximately six over the past three years. Example: correlation between AP course second semester grades and AP test score.

Is there interest in having MPIA request results posted in a resource, for transparency? There was overall interest in such a resource.

2. MCCPTA Officer/Board Political Involvement (Kellie Schoolar Reynolds)

Discussed the information included in the meeting materials folder. Bottom line- PTA officers and board members (and all members) can participate in election and campaign activities as individuals. However, they should not give the impression that the PTA (or PTA officers or board) endorse a candidate.

3. BOE Candidate Forum and questionnaire.

March 30 Candidate Forum (League of Women Voters, MCCPTA, NAACP, several other organizations as sponsors).

The forum will include the three district 4 candidates and 13 at-large candidates. Because of the large number, there will be three segments: 30 minutes for D4 and two 45-minute segments for groups of at-large candidates. There will be overflow rooms and possibly live-streaming. Forum sponsors provide questions for the moderator to ask. MCCPTA members can send questions to Jennifer Young or Charisse Scott.

MCCPTA questionnaire for candidates- Sarah Kessler and Debby Orsak are compiling questions. Committee chairs and other board members should send questions directly to Sarah or Debby.

**Officer Reports**

1. Acting President (and VP-Ed)- Cynthia Simonson

State Board of Ed and the MISA (see written report)

Discussion at MCEA bargaining session- MCEA requested parents to work on a “site council” which is similar to a component of the community school model. It is an advisory committee for the principal, providing suggestions on how money should be spent on the school. It is advisory. The principal is the decision maker.

Is there interest? Contact Heather Carroll-Fisher if interested

2. Treasurer’s report- Khristy Kartsakalis (see written report)

Current balance- $67,984

Concern- low membership numbers. We have collected $30,825 of the budgeted $45,000.

Meeting with Community Use of Public Facilities (CUPF, previously ICB)

New software requires payment when reserving space, thus a credit card is needed. Since PTAs so not have credit cards, an individual would have to pay and then be reimbursed. A solution- purchase a gift card through Active Montgomery. PTAs can write a check for the gift card and then use the gift card for reservations.

3. VP Administration- Tracie Potts (see written report)- most information is in the written report (communication by groups.io, compliance with SoCA, MCPS Family Engagement)

MemberHub- 1/3 PTAs have activated. Membership and compliance components will be required.

4. VP of Programs- James Modrick-(written report available)

We still need suggestions for a new name for MCCPTA Celebration of Excellence

(Additional information in New Business)

**Committee Reports**

1. Nominating Committee (Chris Rutledge)- We still need a nominee for VP-Admin next year. The nominating committee is working on AVP and CC nominations. There will be a vote on the President (Cynthia Simonson) and VP-Education (Rodney Peele) for the remainder of the school year at the February DA.

2. Membership- Carrie Palsson (See written report)- Membership is down this year. Carrie sent messages to PTAs indicating MCCPTA membership this year, last year, and MD membership numbers. Some PTAs that paid $10 to vote at the October DA may not have paid additional dues.

3. Communications -Adam Lee (See written report)

Many PTAs did not report all officers to MCCPTA. We use the blue book forms to build the mailing lists. We need to ensure better reporting so all PTAs receive email from MCCPTA.

4. Bylaws- Kellie Schoolar Reynolds (see written report)

Topic- bylaws information related to nominating committees and elections for local PTAs

**New Business**

1. Board confirmation of new Watkins Mill CC, Christian Leatherbury.

A cluster committee elected Christian. The board confirmed him.

2. Budget requests from James Modrick (VP Programs)

a. The MCCPTA Celebration of Excellence will take place at Universities at Shady Grove. The event will include a buffet. There is a cost for parking. James made a motion to: Increase the event budget from $20K to $21K to prepay parking.

The motion was seconded.

Discussion- Tickets will be $30 to $35. There was agreement that attendees should not pay for their parking. MCCPTA would only pay for the number of individuals who park.

After discussion- The vote was postponed to the next meeting.

b. Reflections event-

James made a motion to increase the Reflections budget from $3K to $5K to allow the Reflections event to be held at a cultural center in the community instead of at a school. The motion was seconded.

After discussion- The vote was postponed to the next meeting.

2. Montgomery County Safety Day- call for volunteers

The event is intended to teach kids about pedestrian and traffic safety. The County Council and County Executive are supportive of the event.

Location- CESC parking lot. Date- May 2.

3. MD PTA needs field service volunteers. A request, with details, will be sent to the MCCPTA distribution list.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

1. Two SMOB finalists were selected. They are from Richard Montgomery and Magruder

2. MCCPTA Presents in March- Math presentation by MCPS (understanding the course selections and trajectory)

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm.

Kellie Schoolar Reynolds

MCCPTA BOD Secretary