**MCCPTA Board of Directors Meeting**

**June 13, 2019**

**Carver Educational Services Center- Auditorium**

Lynne Harris, MCCPTA President, called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm

Prior to formal business, Joe Francaviglia from Strong Schools Maryland discussed the Kirwan Commission activities and their importance. (Several documents were provided prior to the meeting.)

Main points-

The Kirwan commission recommendations and their implementation should be the number one priority for MCCPTA. This is a once in a generation opportunity to secure funding for education.

The topic should be discussed at all MCCPTA summer area meetings.

There are significant concerns with education in Maryland. Maryland is the only state in which grade 4 and 8 math and reading scores decreased from 2013 to 2015. The percent of schools with concentrated poverty increased from 22% in 2002 to 44% currently. In Montgomery County 43% of schools have concentrated poverty.

Montgomery County is underfunded from the state by $75 mil/year.

The task of Kirwan Commission- determine what it will take to make Maryland schools the best in the nation.

The Kirwan Commission has five areas of policy initiatives-

Early childhood education

High quality and diverse teachers and leaders

College and career readiness pathways

More resources to ensure success of all students

Governance and accountability

In response to questions, Joe provided the following information-

1. We must address all five initiative areas. Leaving out any area because of funding concerns will not allow us to solve the problems in the education system.

2. The suggested policies are sound. The ideas are not new, but they now packaged together for effectiveness.

3. Kirwan Commission is not recommending a one-size-fits-all approach to technology use.

4. There will be a political plan that MCCPTA can follow.

5. To address differences in performance across schools, Kirwan adds a funding stream based on concentration of poverty.

Implementation of the initiatives will cost $$ and lead to tax increases. Message from Strong Schools- we need to let elected officials know the tax increase is OK.

Official meeting business (A quorum was present)

The meeting agenda and the May 9, 2019 meeting meetings were approved by consent.

**Old Business**

Lynne Harris provided an update on Lisa Betts’ (former MCCPTA Treasurer) appeal of her guilty plea for embezzling MCCPTA funds. Ms. Betts indicated she filed the appeal because her prior attorney did not inform her of the effect of a guilty verdict on her immigration status.

If Ms. Betts is deported, she cannot pay restitution. The hearing is scheduled for August 4, but may be postponed. BOD meeting attendees did not object to the change in plea (no formal vote)

**New Business**

1. Summer PTA activities

Kellie Schoolar Reynolds reminded BOD of the “Summer PTA Activities” information sheet included with meeting materials. Cluster coordinators should make sure local PTAs know what business to take care of over the summer.

Cynthia Simonson talked to Mr. Wilson from OSSI regarding: evidence of learning, equity and accountability model, and education resource system. He can speak to the BOD about the topics or at summer area meetings.

2. Tracie Potts conducted an MCCPTA BOD communication system demo. BOD members have MCCPTA email addresses, which they should use for MCCPTA communication. Each cluster, area, and committee has cloud storage for their documents. Using these storage areas is important for records retention, short and long term.

3. Formation of work groups.

The BOD discussed the need to form workgroups around several different topics. Two work groups were formed. Each work group needs to discuss the topic, pros and cons of various approaches, and draft a 1-page summary with recommendations. The full BOD will discuss electronically and then vote at the Sept BOD meeting. Depending on the recommendation, we may propose bylaws amendments that require discussion and approval at a delegate assembly.

Work group 1-

Topic- Should we realign our cluster/area structure to be consistent with OSSI director assignments?

Group members-

Sarah Kessler (shustonkessler@yahoo.com)

Charisse Scott (avpnecsherwood16@gmail.com)

Jennifer Young (Jennifer.Young@ed.gov)

Heather Carroll-Fisher (Rockville2@mccpta.org)

Michele Moller (michelemoller@gmail.com)

Work group 2-

Should we change the definition of "voting BOD member" as it relates to cluster coordinators and AVPs? This topic includes clarity around any cluster/cluster coordinator vote.

Group members-

Ram Tangirala (QOclustercoordinator@mccpta.org)

Chris Rutledge (CRNKAR@gmail.com)

Kellie Schoolar Reynolds (BODsecretary@mccpta.org)

We did not assign a group to determine consequences of not meeting the training requirements or attendance requirements. We will evaluate that policy after we consider results of WGs 1 and 2.

4. Options for making BOD service more convenient. We would like to find a way to make virtual BOD meeting attendance possible. We need a platform that allows two-way discussion. Considerations: quality of technology platform, capabilities of platform, room configuration. A small group will discuss and bring back to BOD.

5. Lynne went through the list of open committee positions.

6. Lynne presented a **motion from the Executive Committee: divide the health and wellness committee into two committees- (1) climate and safety and (2) health and wellness.**

The health and wellness committee will include all current subcommittees, except climate and safety. (Note- “climate” refers to school climate)

The motion passed.

7. Lynne presented a **motion from the Executive Committee: Change the name of the Multicultural Engagement Committee to Diversity and Inclusion Committee**

The motion passed.

**Officer Reports**

Treasurer- Khristy Kartsakalis

(Written report included with meeting materials)

Our 2018-2019 budget planned for a $45,712 carryover to next year if we spent all allocated funds. We did not spend all allocated money, so carryover will be approximately $65,000. We need to look for new programs to support. Committee chairs need to be aspirational when drafting workplans. What do they want to accomplish? How much will it cost?

Khristy suggested a **motion** be presented, as follows, **related to the 2019-2020 budget.**

**MCCPTA should pay $2500 to be a Gold Sponsor for the Run for Everymind 5K run/3K walk.** (Event is Sept 15)

Debby Orsak entered the motion, with a second from Cynthia Simonson.

Discussion-

We have sponsored other organizations at the $1000 to $1500 level. Everymind worked with the Health and Wellness committee to offer all day training at some schools. The mental wellness topic is of high importance to MCCPTA.

The motion passed.

VP for Education- Cynthia Simonson

Cynthia mentioned concerns with principal selection process. It is often fast, with a new principal appointed by the Board of Ed after a 2.5 to 3-week selection process. She would like to testify at the Board of Ed regarding the speed of the process and the lack of a periodic check-in with outside comments on principal performance. There is an every other year OSSI evaluation of principals, but it does not include parents and PTA. MCPS is aware that there are some concerns with the process. Cynthia will be cautious in her approach during the testimony.

VP for Advocacy- Laura Stewart

Laura has been participating in an Equity Round Table with other groups from Montgomery County. We need to be involved with these conversations.

The first money based on the work of the Kirwan Commission was received. The money funded 2 positions per school at 8 schools.

VP for Administration- Tracie Potts

Tracie reported that the MD PTA nominating committee did not report a slate of candidates. All candidates will run from the floor.

**Announcements**

Julie Reiley, chair of the Special Education Committee, reported an incident where a special needs child was questioned by the police in the principal’s office without parents notified or present. She wants to pursue the situation. Sunil Dasgupta, Chair of Health and Safety Committee, will work with her.

The meeting adjourned at 9:03 pm

Minutes submitted by Kellie Schoolar Reynolds, MCCPTA Secretary for BOD