

MCCPTA Board of Directors
Thursday, October 5, 2017 – 6pm
Carver Educational Services Center - Room 120

Present: Officers, Area VPs and Cluster Coordinators (see sign in list).

The Board of Directors was called to order at 7:05pm with quorum by President Lynne Harris. The agenda was approved with no changes. September minutes were approved with one minor correction (spelling of treasurer Cheryl PEIRCE's last name).

OLD BUSINESS

Financial Review Committee Report: The review of April-June finances was accepted with everything in order and one recommendation - two signatures on check requests.

Board approvals: The Executive Committee approved Laura Mitchell as Operating Budget chair. The board affirmed Rosemont PTA's Henriot St. Gerard as Northwood Cluster Coordinator. Seneca Valley Cluster Coordinator Rosa Gomez has resigned.

Committee Chair Openings

- ESOL – President Lynne Harris will circulate a description in English & Spanish
- Multicultural Awareness - no clear charge, make it your own!
- Nominating - Matt Swibel will reach out to Areas/CCs to form a new committee (bylaws restrict serving more than one term)

Boardsmanship training: 28 members haven't completed training adopted last May by the 10/1 deadline. The Executive Committee will publish names of those out of compliance. Lynne will contact them by December. Training is strongly recommended for local boards.

Blue Book: Communications Chair Sook Seo continues to verify consent for online listing. The board is done – she's updating delegates and local officers. Bylaws chair Kellie Reynolds will provide updated bylaws (correcting errors). Sook is awaiting MCPS updates for the printed version. Next year we'll require consent when information is collected. Anyone not currently serving will be purged from e-lists. New members are invited when Blue Book data is received. Print version should be ready to go to print in two weeks.

NEW BUSINESS

Advocacy Priorities: Discussed creating two versions - detailed for membership and a one-page summary for those outside MCCPTA. This does not limit our advocacy. Requested additions:

- MCPS materials printed in native languages
- Large maintenance projects not covered by RevEx (Laura Stewart)
- Enrolment & diversity/inclusion/tolerance, i.e. DACA, hate speech (Jennifer Young)
- Seek alternative funding sources (Nermine Demoupoulos) – board discussed whether this is political
- Enhance mental health & wellness (Sunil Dasgupta)
- Opportunity/achievement gap in early childhood (Victoria Robles)
- Middle school expansion (Monique Ashton)

VP of Advocacy Neal Orringer moved to substitute Jennifer Young's version as the base document, to which recommendations should be made by 10/13/17. VP of Administration Matt Swibel seconded. It was approved. Neal will provide a Google doc for group editing.

Bylaws Review: The committee's proposed changes were discussed. Suggestions were made. A final version will be completed by Oct. 16 and provided to the board one week before its next meeting.

Committee Restructuring Proposal: Lynne presented her plan & rationale. Lynne moved to table this issue and discuss electronically. Neal seconded. It was approved. The board will vote in November.

Matt moved to extend time to 8:45. DA Secretary Oriole Saah seconded. It was approved.

Undocumented students resolution: The resolution was presented to the September Delegates Assembly for information only. Gillian moved to adopt. She shared a brief history of the language of the resolution, which draws upon existing documents, Supreme Court decisions, and the Maryland Dreamers Act. There is no Maryland PTA resolution on this issue. This proposal is in line with the National PTA resolution. The purpose is to make our position public. Presence of undocumented students was questioned and confirmed. The resolution was unanimously approved.

Strong Schools Maryland: Video presentation on an effort to get constituents engaged in school funding advocacy and urge the Kirwan (state school funding) Commission to make decisions without regard for politics. MCCPTA will partner with this group.

Matt moved for VP of Education to begin USM presentation and extend time to 8:55. Both were approved.

OFFICER REPORTS

VP of Education presented a report on a 30% drop in MCPS students meeting University System of Maryland requirements. MCCPTA is concerned and is inquiring about the elimination of on-grade level classes limiting pathways for all students - access for all does not mean one size fits all.

Matt moved to extend time to 9:05 – it was approved. Discussion included:

- new science requirements and other subjects affected
- greater access to summer school to compensate for on-level classes eliminated
- principals who believe "all honors" closes the achievement gap
- starting conversations earlier (3rd grade parents don't understand pathways and the implications of their decisions)
- whether USM bears responsibility for stressing Algebra II at the expense of recognizing high achievement in other areas
- "bumper courses" to allow students to "shore up" skills and meet requirements.

The meeting adjourned at 9:05pm.

Prepared by DA Secretary Oriole Saah and BOD Secretary Tracie Potts