

# MCCPTA Committee Work Plan: Fiscal Year/School Year 2021-22

**Committee:** LGBTQ Subcommittee  
**Chair:** Mark Eckstein  
**Email:** LGBTQ@mccpta.org  
**Address:** 12 Bentana Way; Rockville, MD 20850  
**Phone:** 305-773-3393

## VISION

The work of this critical subcommittee is strongly aligned to the Mission and Values of PTA:

- Mission: “EVERY CHILD. ONE VOICE”
  - We work to empower all families to bring their true authentic selves to the MCPS community; since our LGBTQ folks are often vulnerable and marginalized, we understand that visibility has a cost that not all stakeholders (families/students/staff) can afford: *the unfortunate high cost of being OUT in today’s world.*
- Values: Collaboration, Commitment, Diversity, Respect, Accountability
  - Much of our work will be in uncharted waters, in which there is no roadmap. Persistence may be met with challenges related to many things, including Implicit Bias. While we push aggressively to meet our Mission, we will constantly remind ourselves of these *Five Values*.

## GOALS

- Work with the relevant MCPS staff to improve LGBTQ-inclusivity in Curriculum and Professional Development.
- After great work to get GSA’s (LGBTQ Student Clubs) in every High/Middle School, we now strive to improve the quality by increasing the support to Clubs/Sponsors.
- Provide support to Schools, including working-groups of staff, parents, students; an ES is starting a ‘Rainbow Club’.

- Work with MCCPTA and other community partners to hold an annual LGBTQ Forum.
- Work to convince MCPS Senior Leadership that a dedicated LGBTQ position is needed within MCPS.
- Have good connections and communications to the BOE, including members and staff.

## **ACTION STEPS**

- Work with MCPS and BOE so they procure the first ever district-wide LGBTQ PD.
- Work with Greg Edmundson's dept to create 'Pride Alliance'.
- Work with OCIP, to solve Benchmark's lack of LGBTQ-inclusion.
- Liaise with GSA sponsors and students.
- Co-host/co-sponsor the annual LGBTQIA Forum.
- Liaise with Community Groups like MoCo Pride, PFLAG, GLSEN, SMYAL
- Communicate via Social Media and develop a homepage on MCCPTA's new website.
- Continue to work closely with other MCCPTA committees.
- Continue to work closely with City, County, State, and Federal policy makers. Advocate with Students to develop an 'Inclusive Restroom' County law.
- Continue to work closely with student organization; work closely with MCR Liaison to MoCoPride.
- Continue to lead and facilitate Trainings.

## **MEETING SCHEDULES**

- Formal Meetings are Quarterly and when needed. Most of the work will be done informally and in small working groups.
- The Sbcmte Chair has a list of members/prospects

## **EXPENSES**

Budgeting Request: \$1,600.00

- GSA support, engagement: \$200
  - These important clubs are often unfunded and struggle to get adequate recognition; we have done club visits in which we provide Pizza/Snacks
- LGBTQ Forum: \$950

- Funds would help with refreshments, transportation, etc
- Trainings/Professional Development: \$450
  - Since LGBTQ needs are significantly underrepresented among MCPS's equity offerings, there is a huge demand for improved LGBTQ cultural-competency/sensitivity. This Sbcmtc was instrumental in providing two successful staff trainings last year, but it remains a struggle to get MCPS to fund these efforts