Safe Routes to School MCCPTA Committee Work Plan

Committee: Safe Routes to School

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Vision

All students should feel safe walking to school, riding their bike to school, and riding a bus to school. Currently, many of our streets are unsafe, and pedestrian and bike safety are not big priorities for many of our elected officials. We aim to make walking and riding safe and are working with parents, students, teachers, staff and administrators to reach this goal. This means getting MCPS to work more in concert with those who maintain roads and transportation networks, and also the county planning department. It also means empowering parents to advocate at their own schools for needed infrastructure changes.

Goals

Our biggest goal is to reduce the number of staff, parents and students involved in crashes in school zones.

Action Steps

This year we would like to host a forum for elected officials, parents, staff and students on the topic of pedestrian and bike safety.

We also hope to keep increasing our committee membership to eventually include a representative at every school in the county.

We will be working with Todd Watkins, Cara Grant, Maria Navarro, Andrew Zuckerman (all MCPS staff members) to form a working group that can meet regularly to discuss pedestrian safety on a regular basis, and draft a comprehensive plan to adopt Vision Zero at all MCPS schools. <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/visionzero/> Montgomery County is one of the places in the U.S. to initiate a Vision Zero plan, and the county has put resources in place eliminate fatal collisions in the next few years.

We will also be working with officials from the Montgomery County Department of Transportation, the MD State Highway Administration, the Montgomery County Planning Department, the Montgomery County Police Department, the Washington Area Bicycling Association, the Action Committee for Transit, and several key staff members from the Montgomery County Council.

Meeting Schedule

We do not have a regular meeting schedule, but hope to meet at least 5 times in the 2019-2020 school year.

Expenses

$2000 for our forum, scheduled for 10/19/19. This includes $700 for rental of Northwood HS for the morning, $300 for copying materials, and $1000 for food.