**FINAL MINUTES- MCCPTA Board of Directors Meeting**

**October 14, 2020**

**Zoom meeting**

Cynthia Simonson, MCCPTA President, called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.

A quorum was present. The agenda was approved. The September minutes were approved with one correction- (National PTA met with the leaders of the seven, not six, council PTAs in Maryland).

**Updates**

Update on MD PTA- Cynthia Simonson

National PTA has filed a motion to dismiss the temporary restraining order from MD PTA. The attorneys representing National PTA indicated MCCPTA should not file the Amicus Brief unless it becomes necessary. The TRO expires on October 22, but MD PTA may request an extension. We should let National PTA proceed with their actions as we focus on the mission of PTA.

MD ballot for local PTA/council PTA to vote on allowing virtual meetings-

The number of votes per PTA is based on membership numbers last year- at least three ballot per PTA, then one per 50 members. Local PTAs can return the ballots if they want to. Alternatively, they can wait for the results of National PTA’s efforts. If PTAs do return the ballots, leadership should get input from the PTA BOD. If the MD PTA ballot initiative passes, there will be discussions about the platform that PTAs can use for the meetings and how votes are taken.

The MCCPTA BOD considered having the DA vote to provide input on MCCPTA’s vote on the MD ballot question. However, the final decision was to not have the DA vote.

The ballot will be circulated to the BOD, to ensure everyone has time to read it. If needed, the BOD will vote on the question in November.

Mental Health Awareness Week

MCPS will mark Mental Health Awareness Week from October 26–31 with a weeklong expo, including Zoom workshops, a resource fair, breakout sessions and a question-and-answer session. Some workshops will be available in multiple languages. All workshops and activities throughout the week will be held virtually.

(Hannah Donart)- MCCPTA has an opportunity to provide a presentation, a PowerPoint is available and a video is in progress. MCCPTA would like to do something related to physical activity.

Laura Mitchell- A Waymaking special related to safety (with Ed Clark) will be released on October 28.

**Officer Reports**

President- Cynthia Simonson- (See written report for details)

Cynthia and Rodney will meet with the Chamber of Commerce on 10/15 to determine how to best use the relationship between our organizations.

To better facilitate MCCPTA BOD communication, it is important to use MCCPTA email addresses. In addition, we will ensure all board members are on the elist.

A list of MCCPTA resolutions approved in the past will be provided to the board so we are all aware of them. We need to consider the process for bringing forward resolutions.

Reminder- it is important that officers and committees provide reports so Cynthia (and others on the executive committee) can inform MCPS of our activities.

VP Educational Issues- Rodney Peele- (See written report for details)

As MCPS transitions from the first month of school, they are moving from “getting used to the virtual environment” to the actual learning environment.

MCPS is considering ways to bring some students back into the buildings- small cohorts, possibly starting with special education. However, any change is not imminent.

VP of Programs- James Modrick- see written report for details

VP for Administrative Issues- Rochelle Fink-

Some BOD members have not completed the required boardsmanship training, or they completed the training and MCCPTA office does not have a copy of their certificate. Pam Loebach will request the missing certificates.

Requested SOCA information from MD PTA because we have not received the September or October report. Local PTAs should continue to submit compliance items to MD PTA.

VP of Advocacy- Laura Stewart- (See written report for details)

SSP Subcommittee is meeting a few times a week. The policy is going through council committees now. Details of multiple discussions are included in the written report. Overall, MCCPTA is fighting for proper funding of the CIP budget. The MCCPTA SSP Subcommittee would like to see the projected impact all of SSP-related decisions on CIP revenues.

Treasurer- Khristy Kartsakalis- (See written financial documents)

Current balance is $59,883. There has been some membership income, but it is slow. Many PTAs typically do not pay until the end of October.

The MCCPTA financial review will be sent to MD PTA. Local PTAs should send their financial reviews to MD PTA, after approval by membership.

Next important deadline- 990s are due Nov 15.

**Committees**

Advocacy Committee- Laura Stewart presented the Advocacy Priorities, which were updated based on BOD feedback. Because the list was getting long, a more general, big picture version was drafted. Committees can do the work on the specifics. In the more general document, the COVID-19 Emergency section is the most detailed.

There was a comment that we need to focus on curriculum efforts that will sustain us to the end of the pandemic. Another commenter indicated issues such as diversity/equity/inclusion are also high priority. Other systemic issues need to be included- mental health and the whole child.

There was general agreement with having a broader document. The expanded COVID-19 section can be moved to the top.

The board can continue to discuss by email for a week and then the document for DA vote will be prepared.

Safe Routes- Alison Gillespie

The committee continues to work on efforts related to student and pedestrian safety and school zone enforcement. There may be a pilot program for middle school students to bike to school to get their lunches.

Operating Budget- Laura Mitchell

The committee needs a member from each cluster.

There will be an operating budget virtual forum on January 9.

School Climate and Safety- Rob Wilcox

Current committee focus- SROs and gun violence prevention. The committee will speak with the MCPS BOE policy committee about gun violence prevention.

Membership- Carrie Palsson

Membership numbers are approximately 50% of last year’s at this time. There seems to be confusion about MCCPTA vs MD PTA membership payments.

Other areas of confusion with local PTAs- family memberships (each membership must be associated with an individual) and how MD PTA enters member names for local PTAs that do not use MemberHub.

**New Business**

New Cluster Coordinator to affirm: Heather Carroll-Fisher (Rockville) and Yin Zheng (Wootton)- Heather and Yin were affirmed as CCs.

Change in committee chair

Amanda Graver sent a letter of resignation to the Executive Committee, resigning her position as Curriculum Committee Chair. The Executive Committee elected Michelle Gluck as Curriculum Committee Chair.

CIP Testimony Strategy

It is important to emphasize the need for upgraded HVAC to allow students and teachers to safely return to school.

MCPS will meet with MCCPTA at 5:30 pm on 10/27 to present the superintendent’s proposed CIP. Our video testimony is due noon that Friday. Laura negotiated an extension from the original deadline of Thursday.

Bylaws

The bylaws committee met to begin the revision process. The committee would like input on several items before they finalize the version to present to the BOD next month.

Article VIII, section 5-

Current- If a member of the board of directors (other than an elected officer) files for candidacy for public office, he/she shall not speak publicly on behalf of MCCPTA. If elected to public office, a member of the board of directors shall resign immediately.

Proposal to discuss- BOD member resigns when filing to run for public office.

*Based on discussion- committee will not propose a change. However, more detailed instructions regarding “not speak publicly” will be added to the standing rules we plan to draft.*

Article VIIIA- AVP and CC section- propose to add statement indicating an individual cannot be CC for two clusters at the same time. *No objection.*

Article VIIIA- proposal to change voting/affirming process for CCs and AVPs. Take the annual meeting component out of the process. Conduct the same area and cluster nomination meetings. Send the names to the nominating committee prior to the May BOD meeting. Affirm at May BOD, so new AVPs and CCs can participate at the June BOD.

*BOD agreed with the proposal. There was also a proposal to conduct all area/cluster elections in the same manner and not have a different process for consortia. There was no objection to this proposal.*

Article XII (Note sure of specific location in Article)- indicate that DA votes on Advocacy Priorities. *No objection.*

Article VIII, 4g and Article XVIII, 2- currently state treasurer and others handling funds on behalf of MCCPTA should be bonded. Proposal- Exec comm should be bonded. *No objection.*

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm

Minutes submitted by Kellie Schoolar Reynolds, MCCPTA Secretary for BOD