

**Since September 1 -- Meetings/Calls/Events:**

9/03 Associate Sup – OHRD discussion (Magnets)  
9/05 MC/USG/HHS MCPS/IAG – Community Discussion  
9/08 National PTA Discussion with 7 Maryland Councils  
9/09 Discussion with Office of Secretary of State (MDPTA concerns)  
9/09 MCCPTA Board of Directors' Meeting  
9/11 MC/USG/HHS/MCPS/IAG – Community Discussion  
9/14 BOE staff discussion – Cluster Meetings with BOE members  
9/14 Deputy Superintendent Advisory Group Meeting  
9/15 ESOL Committee Discussion  
9/15 MDPTA Leaders Meeting (call)  
9/18 BOE Officers meeting – Upcoming BOE/BOD Meeting  
9/22 Delegates Assembly (Zoom)  
9/23 Delegates Assembly (Parking Lot Vote)  
9/23 Meeting with Office of Teaching, Learning, and Schools (OTLS)  
9/23 Meeting with Superintendent  
9/24 CIP Hearings Discussion  
9/25 MC/USG/HHS/MCPS/IAG – Community Discussion  
9/26 MCCPTA Engagement Committee Meeting  
9/28 Associate Sup -- OHRD Discussion  
9/29 MCCPTA Safe Tech Discussion  
9/29 MCCPTA Nutrition Subcommittee Discussion  
9/30 Meeting with Office of Curriculum and Instructional Programs (OCIP)  
10/05 League of Women Voters BOE Forum (co-sponsored by MCCPTA)  
10/06 Guest Speaker – Candlewood Elementary School  
10/09 MC/USG/HHS/MCPS/IAG – Community Discussion  
10/12 Deputy Superintendent Advisory Group Meeting  
10/12 Council Presidents' Meeting

**Top 10 -- Activities/Concerns:**

- 1) MDPTA Concerns** -- Provided updates to the elists (Presidents, Treasurers, Delegates and Board) outlining latest understandings of activities (9/10, 9/16, 10/10) with MDPTA and the process followed by National. The most recent update included actions by National to move the proceedings to US District Court (out of Anne Arundel Circuit Court). The current Temporary Restraining Order (TRO) is set to expire on October 22. We await the decision on the motion to dissolve the TRO.

It is unclear where local units should deposit dues since the Restructuring Process outlined by National included MDPTA must transfer all bank accounts but the TRO has postponed that event. As National the MDPTA work out their issues (and many locals are just not getting officers elected, budgets passed, etc.) it is prudent to hold off paying dues until National PTA provides specific direction.

MCCPTA Delegates approved filing an Amicus Brief in support of National PTA in these court proceedings. MCCPTA volunteers have been in discussions with the National attorneys but on their advice are postponing filing the brief pending the outcome of the US District Court decision.

- 2) **Text Book Discussions** – Raised concerns with Superintendent and the Chief of Learning, Teaching and Schools regarding how text books are (and are not) being distributed, particularly at the high school level. Some high schools distributed text books for most courses while other high schools have students that received no hard copy materials – relying fully on online resources. This raises numerous issues including concerns about increasing the hours students are on screens.
- 3) **Reopening Schools** – Engaged in conversations through multiple mechanisms (Superintendent, DSAG, Community Partners) regarding the reopening plans. Requested better communications and opportunity to review of survey data (who is responding, are we reaching a broader audience with each survey). How decisions are being made and what we should expect with decisions.
- 4) **Donations/Education Foundation** – Continued to follow up with Education Foundation on meeting basic supply needs for students. Sent message to Education Foundation Executive Director asking for better timeline so we can set expectations. <https://www.mcpsfoundation.org/covid-19-gift-card-campaign?fbclid=IwAR0qoj2nqThHPmf0nVEiFaaNy7EqnyRpSltrR0SHq0VTBzmJ53Wm2oUJV2k>
- 5) **Donations/Community Foundation** – Coordinated with other community partners to support Equity Hubs. <https://www.thecommunityfoundation.org/childrensopportunityfund> Funds raised through this foundation make it possible for impacted students to participate in full day “daycare” with supervision while participating in virtual school. MCCPTA aims to help ensure each student has upgraded headphones to help minimize distractions for students while participating in virtual learning sessions.
- 6) **Community “External Stakeholder” Discussions** – Continued participating in discussions with Dr. Pollard (Montgomery College) and Dr. McKnight (MCPS) that included representatives from Universities of Shady Grove, Independent Schools, Health and Human Services, and several non-profits to share information – reopening schools, food security of students, technology concerns, independent/private school experiences with cluster outbreaks, etc.
- 7) **Trouble shooting Synergy/Student Information System Launch** – Continued to provide feedback to the Chief Technology Officer (OCTO) on needs parents have in navigating the new technology system. Currently connecting this work with the ESOL committee work so we are hitting both pieces. Connecting DEI and ESOL to ensure information is shared widely in multiple languages.
- 8) **Magnet Staffing discussions** – Follow up meeting regarding the Upcounty PAC (Clemente/MLK middle school test-in magnets), with new Associate Superintendent overseeing Human Resources to discuss the hiring practices for the countywide magnet programs. Requested MCPS revisit the hiring practices – ensuring the county-designed programs have input from the Central Office on the hiring practices and assigning of staff.
- 9) **Upcoming BOE Meetings** – Engaged with BOE staff and officers to discuss three pending MCCPTA events: October 29, the annual BOE/BOD roundtable discussion (will be held over zoom); November 2 and 5, CIP cluster testimony (also over zoom with each cluster sending in 5 minute testimony); and Spring cluster meetings generally held every 4 years and how those logistics might work, assuming those will need to be virtual and will need to include the meetings missed spring 2020.
- 10) **Food Security** – Continued to follow up on food security issues – expanding sites and pressing for better “family friendly” times for distribution. Reviewed food service options being provided by other counties to get some idea about options.