

MCCPTA Standing Committees

Advocacy - Develops priorities from member feedback to share with elected officials; plans and hosts events allowing PTA members to interact with elected officials; tracks and organizes testimony on county and state legislation and funding affecting students and schools.

Lima Abdullah

Email: advocacycommittee@mccpta.org

CIP (Capital Improvement Program) - Educates members about the Capital Improvement Program that governs school building improvements, including major renovations, system replacements, ADA upgrades, technology and more. Organizes testimony for Board of Education and County Council hearings.

Laura Stewart

Email: cip@mccpta.org

Subcommittees:

Green Schools/Outdoor Spaces –

Joanna Snyder

Email: greenschools@mccpta.org

Safe Routes - will partner with MCPS and state and local government agencies to pursue solutions that improve student safety at school bus stops, as well as the safety of students who walk and bike to school.

Kristy Daphnis

Email: saferoutes@mccpta.org

Vice Chair: Melissa Regan

Communications - Creates print and electronic messaging to keep members informed of all MCCPTA activities, including e-lists, website design and management, fliers, and social media. Produces media releases and responds to media requests. Produces Blue Book directory of PTAs, county/state government offices and community resources.

OPEN

Email: communications@mccpta.org

Subcommittees:

Blue Book – Collects contact information and designs MCCPTA's annual directory.

Adam Lee

Email: pandarail@gmail.com

e-Communications - Designs Constant Contact emails and manages e-lists.

Adam Lee

Email: pandarail@gmail.com

Social Media - Manages Facebook and Twitter accounts

Mini Varughese

Email:

Public Relations - Creates press releases and responds to media inquiries about issues involving MCCPTA.

OPEN

Email: communications@mccpta.org

Webmaster - Manages, updates and designs MCCPTA.org.

OPEN

Email: webmaster@mccpta.org

Curriculum - Keeps membership abreast of key changes and areas of concern involving the MCPS curriculum and academic programs; advises members and school communities how to address concerns; assists with planning and promoting MCPS curriculum nights; advocates with MCPS and the Maryland State Dept. of Education for effective programming. Connects students to SSL opportunities. Represents MCCPTA on the Early Childhood Coordinating Council.

Evelyn Chung

Email: curriculum@mccpta.org

Vice Chair: Renata Campante

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Subcommittees:

Student Service Learning (SSL)

OPEN

Email: ssl@mccpta.org

Early Childhood Education

Charisse Scott

Email: necsherwood@mccpta.org

Diversity and Inclusion - Partners with individuals and group within and outside MCCPTA to empower diverse families; elevate the voices of all students and families in decision-making; and champion initiatives and programs that promote diversity and inclusion.

Carla Morris

Email: diversityandinclusion@mccpta.org

Subcommittees:

LGBTQ – Promote understanding, support and advocacy for LGBTQ students, families and staff.

Mark Eckstein

Email: lgbtq@mccpta.org

Restorative Justice Practices

Debra Budiani-Saberi

Email: restorativejustice@mccpta.org

Wylea Chase

Engagement –

OPEN

Email: engagement@mccpta.org

Subcommittees

Generational & Cultural –

Stephanie Bonaparte

Email:

Teacher/Staff & Admin Support

Oriole Saah

Email:

ESOL – Educates, advocates and supports families with students and/or parents learning English as a Second Languages. Partners with ESOL staff to provide resources and learning opportunities to families. Ensures availability of interpreters at MCCPTA events.

Jennifer Jackson

Email: esol@mccpta.org

Gifted Education - Educates, advocates and supports gifted students and their families; meets regularly with MCPS officials to review and improve policies and programs; manages and expands a network of local GCC chairs.

Renata Campante

Email: gifted@mccpta.org

Vice Chair: Shilpa Ghodgaonkar

Health and Wellness - Monitors and educates on all issues affecting the health and wellness of MCPS students.

Hannah Donart

Email: healthandwellness@mccpta.org

Subcommittees

Environmental –

Hannah Donart

Email: healthandwellness@mccpta.org

Mental Health & Wellness - Plans annual Mental Wellness Fair; manages health and wellness Facebook group.

Claire Rosche Matzzie

Email: mentalhealth@mccpta.org

School Nutrition – Monitors policies and practice surrounding the nutritional content of school

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breakfast, lunch and foods offered at after school events and activities. Educates families about health options.

Chelsi Lewis

Email: nutrition@mccpta.org

Substance Use & Prevention – Educates and advocates on issues such as vaping and addictions. Supports families.

Laura Mitchell

Email: operatingbudget@mccpta.org

Membership - Works with local leaders to grow the membership of PTAs to increase the power of our collective voice for the children of Montgomery County. Organizes workshops, outreach activities, and tailored mentoring in an effort to help each local grow membership and encourage engagement by all parents, staff, and, where applicable, students.

OPEN

Email: membership@mccpta.org

Operating Budget - Supports the advocacy of MCCPTA-established priorities on operating budget issues, including representing MCCPTA at MCPS budget meetings. Priorities reflect input provided by PTA leadership from each area of the county as voiced during summer area meetings, as well as the collective input of the MCCPTA Board of Directors and MCCPTA Delegates.

Laura Mitchell

Email: operatingbudget@mccpta.org

School Climate and Safety - Facilitates communication and advocacy related to school safety and security; preventing of all forms of bias, discrimination, hate, sexual harassment, and violence in schools; ensuring rights of and protections for undocumented students and families; preventing, reporting, and responding to child abuse and neglect; promoting restorative justice and community-building practices; and supporting school communities in the midst of crisis.

Rob Wilcox

Email: climateandsafety@mccpta.org

Special Education - Advocates for families of students with special needs (e.g., students with IEPs and 504 Plans). Acts as a watchdog to ensure consistent provision of special education services and accommodations countywide and policies consistent with that. Supports local PTA Special Education Chairs. Organizes and hosts annual Special Education Awards celebration, recognizing students, parents, staff and programs for outstanding achievement supporting special needs students.

Cara Fletcher

Email: special@mccpta.org

Vice Chair: Alexis Rice

Email: specialvicechair@mccpta.org

Technology – Educates members about the positive and negative impact of technology in the classroom. Advocates to empower families how they can request non-electronic options when preferred. Works with MCPS officials to ensure the safety of student data.

Gail Ravnitzky Silberglied

Email: technology@mccpta.org