

DELEGATES' ASSEMBLY MEETING AGENDA
Tuesday, November 22, 2016
7:30 p.m., Carver Center Auditorium

(35 voting members to achieve quorum)

Mission of PTA

*To make every child's potential a reality by engaging and empowering families
and communities to advocate for all children.*

*Hacer una realidad el potencial de cada niño al comprometer y apoderar las familias
y comunidades para que intercedan por todos los niños.*

Welcome

Affirmations!

Approval of Agenda

Approval/Review of Minutes

Old Business

New Business

Officer Reports

- President
- Vice President Education
- Vice President Administration
- Vice President Programs
- Treasurer

Committee & Cluster Reports

Announcements

Adjournment

Minutes for MCCPTA Delegates Assembly Meeting; Tuesday, October 26, 2016

Affirmations:

- Dr. Mickey Greenblatt and his family help recognize teachers via the Marion Greenbelt Award.
 - To nominate a teacher write a letter about how the teachers has made a difference to the students or to your child's life.
 - Around 40 -50 teachers are nominated each year and 4 winners are chosen for the award. One of those four teachers is then selected as the master county teacher of year and is considered for the Maryland Teacher of the year award.
 - Local PTAs are encouraged to contact their principals and encourage them to send in a nomination.
 - The award amount this year has been doubled. Three teachers get \$1,000 each and the master teacher gets \$2,000.

Agenda and Meeting Minutes: October 26, 2016 agenda & minutes from the September 27, 2016 meeting were approved

New Business

Paul discussed the following:

- There is a new MCPS Finger Print Policy. Finger prints are needed for key volunteers who volunteer to help on field trips 50 miles away, volunteer coaches, and overnight volunteering.
 - Contact Dr. Johnathon Brice if you have any questions. [Jonathan T Brice@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Jonathan_T_Brice@mcpsmd.org)
- Volunteer training – It is important that volunteers know what to look out for and we need to make sure volunteers have the tools to do so.
- Reminder of the Insurance Prevention Guide from the Knight Insurance. There are green, yellow, and red light activities.
- MCCPTA Advancing Priorities Proposed – A draft document containing a list the areas that the MCCPTA plans on advocating was created. After the BOE approves of the document, the document comes back to the MCCPTA to be approved and be taken up by the MCCPTA committees. Paul encouraged everyone to join a committee to help address the priorities. The list of areas will be discussed at the next BOE meeting. During the delegates meeting the it was suggested the following areas be added to list:
 - Add more equitable resources for all the schools not just Title 1 schools because some non-Title 1 schools cannot afford to support assistant teachers and ESOL teachers.
 - Address the traffic build up going into the schools and not just the traffic going out of the schools.
 - Change the bell times for schools in holding schools because the holding schools are generally further away than the student's home school. Therefore the commute to and from the holding schools takes longer.
 - Get score cards to show what MCCPTA has achieved with our advocacy efforts. Paul said the issues with getting score cards is the time involved and the challenge in grading how well we did last year.

Officer Reports

- President
 - Paul said he met with Dr. Smith to discuss the importance of maintaining our buildings and that there is a need to do a better job at allocating more funds to maintain our schools.
- Vice President of Education
 - Regarding the Choice study, Jennifer said that MCPS hired a consulting group to get feedback from parents on how to keep the program robust.
- Vice President of Administration
 - Steve said he met with Dr. Smith to see how open he is at hearing our (MCCPTA) input.
- Vice President of Programs
 - Melissa gave thanks to the people involved in the Cultural Arts Performance and promoted the Reflections program.
- Treasurer
 - Our current total income is \$6,955.00 and expenses are \$1,640. She thanked the person who helped MCCPTA save \$1,200 year. She also said the MCCPTA audit was completed and the 990 files have been filed out. Audits are due 10/31/16 and submitting them via email is best. The 990 is to be filed by November 13.

Committee reports

- The membership committees reported 13,340 members as of 10/25/16.
- The CIP report is available to cluster coordinators as of 10/27/16. For those thinking of testifying at the BOE November 10 and 14th public hearing, MCCPTA is offering a testimony workshop on Nov. 2nd in the Carver Building.

MCCPTA Officer Reports for November 2016

President's Report

Aloha!

What a month it has been!

We have been working overtime this past month (actually I have been doing so since May 2013) on all sorts of efforts to improve our schools, add additional funding to the equation and generally be a goodwill ambassador for y'all.

Tops on my personal list has been finding additional funding for CIP and operating budget needs. There is a famous expression used in the space program, "No bucks, no Buck Rogers,"

That is why I am thrilled to let you know MCCPTA, through the hard work of our CIP Committee and Next Steps Reps subgroup, just made major strides in ensuring future growth in Montgomery County is fair growth. That means new developments will pay their fair share (read: the cost of constructing a new seat for every new student) at rates much more in tune with the actual costs to MCPS to construct that seat. This was a Herculean effort that has been ongoing since March 2015. Kudos to Liz King and Melissa McKenna and their entire team for making this happen. The new Subdivision Staging Policy was approved by the County Council last week!

In other news, if we are to keep up with all the demands being placed on our school system, we must find new sources of revenue. One plentiful source is Casino Gambling Revenue from Table Games. This is the lowest impact, highest return investment on our advocacy efforts in Annapolis. Why? Because our County Council has moved the needle far on getting us some of the funding we need. Annapolis needs to do the rest.

Events/meetings attended: Numerous County Council hearings of the Government Operations and Planning, Housing and Economic Development Committees in support of fairer SSP goals; Teacher of the Year Gala in Baltimore County; a Community Meeting about the Montgomery County Agricultural Reserve (don't laugh...got a good lead to help MCPS with our lawn and turf issues at several schools), several MCPS Budget Steering Committee meetings; a Cultural Arts Showcase; met with Nancy Floreen and County Council staff to discuss SSP issues; met with Dr. Smith to discuss volunteer training, MCPS/NAACP Parents' Council Kick-Off Meeting; MCPS Press Conference to announce partnership with Common Sense Education at Takoma Park Middle School (will teach online civics and civility); Charles Drew Elementary School's 25th Anniversary Celebration; Northeast Consortium/Sherwood Cluster CommUNITY Day; the MCCPTA BOD meeting with the Division of Long-Range Planning; BOE meeting with MCCPTA; the MCCPTA CIP Workshop;...

As always, thank you for your service to your/our kids through MCCPTA. It has been a wonderful month of travelling the county, meeting old and new friends and putting forth the message that there is always hope if you advocate and ask for things in the right manner. I do hope we can all keep that in mind. Civility is key along with persistence and hard work. My grandparents instilled that in me and I try my best to live up to it every day. It has served me well and I hope, for whatever length of time y'all will have me, that I can use it to serve our organization. Greatly appreciate this opportunity to serve you. Mahalo!

MCCPTA-ly yours,

Paul Geller

October Activities

- Reviewed Committee reports (Curriculum, Gifted Child, Special Education)
- Participated in October Executive Committee and Board of Directors meetings, October 6.
- Reviewed Proposed 2016-2017 Advocacy Priorities
- Participated in October Delegates Assembly meeting, October 25.
- Identified *four* new MCCPTA volunteers. Will meet with Executive Board to place these new faces in the Committee/Subcommittee positions most suitable for their expertise.
- Participated in joint MCCPTA/BOE meeting, October 26.

Recent and Ongoing Issues

Choice Study and the need to reach all students

MCPS Board of Education unanimously voted to adopt a Choice Study response plan (at September 26th meeting) which hopes to strengthen education at all schools over the course of the next three years. To this end the Board seeks to reach more students of all backgrounds and to meet the needs of students in their home schools both in general education and GT programs.

At the joint MCCPTA/BOE meeting discussion flowed around the need to have flexibility enough to allow students to attend the schools that best fit them and their study preferences. This goes beyond the magnet and center programs to include vocational programs such as automotive programs, culinary arts and other programs only available at select schools across the county. We need to ensure that all children receive a quality public school education that prepares them for success in the real world.

In an open topic discussion with the Board, concern was expressed about African American, Asian and Hispanic teachers leaving the profession. The loss of teachers in these groups, already underrepresented, leave students with fewer and fewer role models. The resurrection of Study Circles was suggested as a way to brainstorm on answers for this dilemma.

The concept and implementation of differentiation remains a concern. Are teachers strained to teach at different levels and still provide each student with the challenges that help them reach their potential? Our GT and Curriculum Committees seek to help provide feedback and answers to this constant issue.

Use/Overuse of mobile phones by middle school students

Liaised with Dr. Lang with regard to use of mobile phones used in teaching in middle school classrooms. Parents have expressed concern about too much screen time at the expense of face-to-face learning. Our Curriculum Committee continues to advocate for a curriculum that does not rely heavily on technology not only for concern over too much screen time for our students, but also as it puts low income families at a disadvantage.

Special Education Committee Update

This committee is in the process of designing a post-IEP meeting survey and end-of-year survey for parents and guardians. If you would like to provide input, please contact our Committee Chair Jeanne Taylor at frtjmt@aol.com.

MCCPTA Committee Chairs

As of last week we now have four fresh-faced volunteers – yeay! Of course we still need more eager volunteers to either help by joining a Committee or Subcommittee or to run one. We need YOU to advocate for our students in all our important venues.

Vice President for Administration; Stephen Wilson

MCCPTA team, I do not have a lot new to report since my last officer report, so this will be very brief. However, I hope you find it informative.

1. MCCPTA Executive Committee (EXCOMM) meeting with Dr. Smith
 - I attended the first formal EXCOMM meeting with Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) Superintendent, Dr. Jack Smith, on 17 October 2016. Some of the items discussed were:
 - Capital Improvements Program (CIP)
 - Focus should be on CIP necessary in this amendment year
 - MCCPTA should emphasize a cross-MCPS approach that highlights areas of common concern
 - Volunteer Training
 - MCPS will look at ways to make getting this training easier for MCPS volunteers (e.g. being about to get training on hand-held devices, and expanding training in different languages)
 - MCPS will explore ways to make background check process easier and more affordable for those who need to undergo this process
 - MCPS must maintain its operational excellence while at the same time improving in areas where it can do better (e.g. math scores)
2. Delegates Assembly
 - a. Attended October DA meeting on 25 October 2016
3. Standards of Continuing Affiliation (SOCA)
 - MCCPTA has recently received a new SOCA report from Maryland PTA. I will promulgate this information to respective Cluster Coordinators and Area Vice Presidents shortly.

Treasurer: Lisa Betts, treasurer@mccpta.com

The October Financials are available. Income reported at \$9,556 and expenses reported at \$1,805.56

MCCPTA in past years was carrying a Staples credit card account. I have requested this account be closed and submitted a final payment.

I have been working with Williams, Stearns and Associates, P.C. to complete MCCPTA's financial audit and preparation of its 990 filing. Both were completed and have been submitted to MDPTA and filed with the IRS to meet both deadlines.

Throughout the month of October I have been working with many units on their financial audits and 990 preparations to meet the October 31 and November 15 deadlines.

We were able to cut costs with Verizon by \$1,200 annually. Work is still being done regarding the copier lease. To be continued...

I attended a Board of Education Candidate Forum, the Northeast Consortium / Sherwood Cluster's CommUNITY Day, which was exceptional (shout out to Charisse Scott for organizing and having the vision), the October Delegates Assembly and the Board of Education and MCCPTA Board Meeting, which I found the format to be very engaging, meaningful and open.

MCCPTA Committee Reports

MCCPTA CIP Committee Report covering September and October as of October 25, 2016

Melissa McKenna, chair

Ongoing work

- Subdivision Staging Policy (SSP)--attending many County Council committee meetings, full council meetings, and contacting many Council Staff and Councilmembers on various aspects as it evolves. Coordinating with Next Steps Reps Subcommittee Chair, Liz King.
- CIP: attended budget creation meetings with MCPS in September. Working to sign up Cluster Coordinators to testify. Working with MCPS staff and BOE staff regarding supplement questions and testimony. Working with and attending meetings with individual schools and cluster coordinators to interpret supplement recommendations released 10/13.

Meetings Attended

9/10 MCCPTA training, led and co-led budget and advocacy sessions

9/13 provided SSP testimony before the County Council with Next Steps Reps subcommittee members

9/27 MCCPTA Delegates Assembly

10/6 MCCPTA Executive Committee and BOD meeting

10/17 Executive Committee meeting with Dr. Smith as VP of Programs

10/18 NAACP Parents Council kick off

10/27/2016, 7 pm, 45 W. Gude Drive, cafeteria, DLRP and MCCPTA joint CIP Presentation

11/2/2016, CIP testimony workshop, 7-9 pm Carver

11/10 and 11/14, CIP testimony hearings before the BOE

11/21 BOE action on CIP

IMPORTANT UPDATE

FACT scores will NOT be released with the CIP but in late Winter/early Spring.

Cultural Arts Committee Report: Priscilla Peterson, Chair; PrisFP@verizon.net

The MCPS Cultural Arts Showcases were held on October 5, 13, 19 & 21. Twenty-eight schools sent representatives, and some of those sent several people. In addition, we had representatives from Montgomery County libraries each day, since they frequently hire performers from our Showcases for their programming. Attendance ranged from about ten to twenty-five at each of the showcases. Holding two of the four Showcases in the evening rather than the daytime continues to be popular since parents can come after work, buy pizza at the door, and bring their children with them.

There are now 156 performers listed in the MCPS Performing Arts Catalogue, although many do not participate in the Showcases due to scheduling conflicts. However, we have a different mix of performers each year and most have now been videotaped at the Showcases. Several of our new performers, who auditioned in September, performed & were videotaped on the final day of the Showcases; these videos will be added to the already existing ones sometime in the next few weeks. **To see the videos online, as well as the 2016-17**

MCPS Performing Arts Catalogue, go to: <http://www.biglearning.org>

Click on “Cultural Arts Showcases” and you will see the shows listed alphabetically (“Showcases A-D, E-H, I-L”, etc.)

The PASSWORD to view the videos is: culturalarts

Copies of this year’s MCPS Performing Arts Catalogue, as well as other important information for cultural arts reps, were distributed at the sign-in table at the Showcases, which I run. Schools that did not send a rep to the Showcases have now had a copy of the catalogue sent to them.

I continue to serve as Moderator for the PTArts e-list, which serves cultural arts reps from the schools. It is very important that each school have one or more people on this e-list to receive news about occasional free performances that are available, grant opportunities, updates on the Showcases and cultural arts workshops, etc. It also provides a place for school reps to exchange information with each other about their cultural arts programming (recommendations, questions, etc.)

To join the PTArts e-list, please send your Name, School, Position, and Email Address to: PTArts-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

Gifted Child Committee Report for October 2016; Lang Lin, Chair (pta.langlin@gmail.com); Kim Testa (kgtesta@aol.com) and Iris Masucci (ri@robertandiris.com), Vice Chairs

EVENTS:

10/5 Iris, Kim, and Lang participated in the prep meeting for MCCPTA GT Liaison Training and Parent Info Night. Other meeting participants were Ms. Lori-Christina Webb, Ms. Meredith Casper, Ms. Siobhan Alexander, Ms. Michelle Gluck.

10/6 Lang participated in the MCCPTA BOD meeting.

10/7 Lang attended MCPS briefing meeting on the Choice Study response plan on talent development and Center Programs for the Highly Gifted. Participants were Dr. Erick Lang, Ms. Lori-Christina Webb, Ms. Meredith Casper, and Ms. Michelle Gluck.

10/10 Iris and Lang participated in the MCPS BOE meeting. At the meeting, Lang gave testimony on behalf of MCCPTA GCC. The text is available at

[http://www.boarddocs.com/mabe/mcpsmd/Board.nsf/files/AELG594217A7/\\$file/Lang%20Lin%20Testimony%2020161010.pdf](http://www.boarddocs.com/mabe/mcpsmd/Board.nsf/files/AELG594217A7/$file/Lang%20Lin%20Testimony%2020161010.pdf)

MCPS officially presented the Choice Study response plan provisions on talent development and Center Programs. The following document from the 10/10 meeting is available from MCPS on boarddocs.com:

[http://www.boarddocs.com/mabe/mcpsmd/Board.nsf/files/AEDPTL662E28/\\$file/Choice%20Study%20Update.pdf](http://www.boarddocs.com/mabe/mcpsmd/Board.nsf/files/AEDPTL662E28/$file/Choice%20Study%20Update.pdf)

10/19 Lang gave a talk entitled "Changes Coming ..." at the Blair Cluster PTA Meeting. The talk was on Metis' Report and the Choice Study response plan. There were 10 participants including East Silver Spring ES principal intern Kristine Donohue, Blair PTSA president Diane Friedman, cluster rep Therese Gibson, and presidents from local MS/ES schools.

10/20 Kim and Lang attended the MCPS Curriculum Advisory Assembly

10/24 Kim attended the MCPS Curriculum meeting.

10/26 Kim and Lang attended the MCPS AEI Feedback Council meeting

10/26 Iris attended the MCCPTA BOD and MCPS BOE event. At the meeting, she had an opportunity to discuss the Choice Study response plan and other issues with attendees at her table: BOE President Mike Durso, BOE member Jill Ortman-Fouse, Deputy Superintendent Kimberly Statham, Erick Lang, and Lori-Christina Webb.

ADVOCACY:

Math 7 and Math8

11 middle schools will not be offering Math 7 (and possibly Math 8) at all next year, in favor of putting all students in the compacted IM class followed by Algebra I without regard to assessment data from Math 6. We are hearing several parent concerns if these courses will not be offered to those students who are not ready for the compacted IM math class.

Math 4/5 and 5/6

This year, Math 4/5 is offered in home elementary schools and highly gifted centers, but not at the middle schools. Math 5/6 will be offered in home elementary schools, highly gifted centers, and middle schools this year.

The identification system will no longer be run out of Carver/AEI but will be "opened up" for local school decisions.

Delivery method will be up to the principal. Delivery by way of differentiated instruction in an on-grade-level classroom will be allowed and, presumably, will not be discouraged. We are aware of one example of that going on right now, at College Gardens ES.

Kindergarten through third grade math is being reevaluated to see if it is too slow, and whether there are better ways to identify and prepare more students for math 4/5/6.

Advanced English in Middle Schools

An update meeting was held between OCIP (Office of Curriculum & Instructional Programs) and OSSI (Office of School Support & Improvement) to learn more about the current state of Advanced English as it relates to the MCPS system expectations. A collaborative meeting has been scheduled to review school strengths and needs and work together toward next steps. Parent-identified schools with differentiation skills needs will be shared with OSSI.

Middle schools were asked to complete an action template which responds to the school's action steps in the following areas: communication, school structures, professional learning and instructional delivery. From here, there are supposed to be ongoing conversations, support, and monitoring from the directors in their ongoing work with principals and schools.

AEI and OCIP will be working with OSSI to hear about their findings and see where support is needed.

Membership Committee Report as of November 22, 2016; Tracie Potts, Chair

In November, the committee:

- Sent weekly updates promoting the monthly challenge and tips to boost membership. Beginning Nov. 21, the update will highlight one school's success story each week. The first school featured is Sherwood High, which
- Sent 40 congratulatory notes to PT/SAs that have exceeded last year's membership
- Send 20+ personalized notes to PT/SAs a bit behind last year's November total, with tips on boosting membership

Current membership: 21,968 (as of 11/22/16).

- Total is 1,727 below last November (with a week to go). Some PTAs report checks sent that have not yet been received.
- 102 PT/SAs have reported membership!
- 36 PT/SAs have already exceeded last year's *total* membership. They will receive certificates at November's Delegates Assembly and enter November's gift card drawing for 10 \$25 Giant gift cards and a 5'x3' vinyl banner
- 91 PT/SAs have not yet reported membership. PTAs are encouraged to send dues as soon as possible, and update monthly. No matter how large or small, EVERY VOICE COUNTS to strengthen our advocacy!

Join the December "Star Student / Staff" Monthly Membership Challenge!!!

MCCPTA will recognize PT/SAs with the highest reported student and staff membership.

Special Education Committee Report October-November 2016; Jeanne Taylor, Chair; frtjmt@aol.com

Activities:

Held PTA Special Education Chair “Meet and Greet” on Monday, Oct 10.

Moved next meeting to Thursday, December 8, from 7 to 8:30 pm, due to scheduling conflicts. We will have various special education advocacy groups present information about their organizations.

Reviewed MCCPTA advocacy priorities.

Working with Audit Accountability team – the most recent project is designing a post IEP meeting survey and end of year survey for parents and guardians.

Working with two PTAs to help address a lack of resources/space for additional special education students who have moved, or will move, to their respective schools.

Helping families navigate issues with the school system.

Calendar Items

Delegates Assemblies, CESC Auditorium 7:30 pm (Fourth Tuesdays)

Attendees: Officers, Area VPs, Cluster Coordinators, Committee Chairs, Presidents, Delegates

January 24, 2017

February 28, 2017

March 28, 2017

April 25, 2017

May 23, 2017

June 27, 2017

Cluster Meetings with Board of Education - all meetings are 7-9 pm

February 9, 2017 Kennedy Cluster

February 16, 2017 Magruder Cluster

February 23, 2017 Wootton Cluster

March 16, 2017 Churchill Cluster

March 23, 2017 Rockville Cluster

April 20, 2017 Quince Orchard Cluster

April 27, 2017 Northwood Cluster

MCCPTA Presidents and Principals Event

Date and Location TBD