Independent Activity Fund Workgroup (IAF)

Purpose: To develop a central fund, and to identify how and which funds will be identified for the central fund, in order to achieve more equity in IAF funding to each school. Funds under consideration for inclusion in the central fund are donations to schools, PTA and other fundraisers, cell phone funds, and other sources.

Henry Smith

Melissa Regan

Summary of MCPS actions on IAF as of September 2019

1. Introduction of the Foundation to parents by Foundation and MCPS:

Mid-October -- First communique will be from Dr. Smith with opt-out option for recipients.  It will introduce the Foundation and its website and newsletter.  The message will go out on the Foundation html platform which includes an unsubscribe option.  Html message will be reviewed by General Counsel’s office to ensure that it conforms to mandated communication policies for parent communication.  The MCPS Public Information Office is helping with this launch.

1st week of November -- Second communique will be a Foundation newsletter with story about parent request for creation of a fund.

1st week of December – Third communique will be a foundation newsletter with story announcing parent solicitation campaign.

2nd week of December – Parent solicitations begin and continue through end of year. (Assuming there are no negative reactions from parents in response to the actions listed above.)

1. Action to add a new fund for schools that do not have substantial IAF:

The auditors are advising the Foundation to wait for BOE to draft policies before they gear up this action. BOE must determine in its fundraising policies how schools may work with the Foundation to fundraise. Their policy development process will look at IAF funds and existing school-based 501(c)3 booster clubs and educational foundations

Inventory (to date) of 501(c)3 Entities: 64 ed foundations ($2.5M): none at middle schools. Also boosters for sports or specific programs (art, music, etc)

1. Issues to be resolved by BOE and MCPS during 2019-20

BOE to draft policies re

Can MCPS and MCCPTA work on fund-raising together?

Can all school fundraising go thru the Foundation for a centralized, coordinated effort?