**MCCPTA Board of Directors Meeting**

**October 10, 2019**

**Carver Educational Services Center- Room 134**

Lynne Harris, MCCPTA President, called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm. A quorum was not present at the beginning of the meeting.

Lynne introduced the MCR SGA (Montgomery County Regional Student Government Association; typically called MCR) MCCPTA representative (Helena Aytensifu; a junior at Richard Montgomery) and the MCR Chief of Staff (Sachi Sakaniwa; a senior at Einstein).

**Information Update**

Many upcoming events were highlighted-

Education Equity and Excellence Forum [10/15]

Safe Routes to School Forum [10/19]- real-time feedback from students is important

MCCPTA Presents: Cybermare [10/22]

MCCPTA/BOE Annual Meeting [10/23]- topic “Moving the needle”- what can we do NOW to improve the school experience for students?

MCPS/MCCPTA CIP workshop [10/30]

Facilities and Boundaries Testimony to Board of Education [11/5, 11/7, 11/13, 11/18]- 11/18 is devoted to districtwide boundary analysis

Kirwan Commission Presentation [11/6]

MCPS Mental Health Fair [11/9]

NAACP Parents Council Annual Kickoff [11/19]

*At 7:13 a quorum was achieved*

Agenda and September minutes were approved by consent

**Information Updates, continued**

MD PTA MemberHub

Carrie Palsson (MCCPTA Membership chair; member of MD PTA Membership Committee) presented initial information about MD PTA MemberHub. PTAs in MD will be required to use MemberHub beginning in July 2020. It is an all-in-one service for PTAs. Members can pay dues through the hub. The hub manages membership and only e-cards will be provided. PTAs can upload files related to SoCA requirements to the hub.

MD PTA VP for Membership, Sarah Mugo, will provide tech support. There will be upcoming training sessions.

Board members had many questions about the hub. Answers will be provided after MD PTA updates the membership committee.

Some of the questions-

Who populates the various sections of the hub?

Who can edit? (We need levels other than “admin” and member”)

What features will PTAs be required to use?

A “view“ feature that allows CCs to view SoCA status is needed (CCs are not members of most PTAs in their cluster)

With the directory feature of the hub, how will A to Z directories be affected?

MCPS Schools at a Glance (SAAG)

Laura Stewart indicated these documents are usually released in November. As of the October BOD meeting, we heard that MCPS would no longer produce theses pdf documents. They will use a dashboard format, instead. The new format will allow individuals to view similar information, but not print a useful document. PTA leaders and many decision makers (such as elected officials) use the SAAG documents when they advocate for schools. MCCPTA leadership will follow up with MCPS regarding the concerns related to the loss of SAAG.

Impact Tax Bill proposed by Evan Glass

Laura Stewart indicated Evan Glass plans to introduce a bill that would implement impact taxes on “teardown” homes when the replacement home exceeds the total square footage of the previous residence. The larger homes may lead to more students in schools. Part of the tax would go to schools and part to affordable housing.

Laura requested that MCCPTA representatives attend the announcement in support of the impact tax. The BOD discussed pros, cons, and unknowns related to the bill.

Laura Stewart presented the following motion:

The BOD supports MCCPTA attending the press conference and support the idea of the new impact tax.

The motion was seconded.

The motion passed by voice vote.

**Workgroup Report- Independent Activity Fund Workgroup**

Henry Smith presented the report from the Independent Activity Fund Workgroup. A written report is available. Independent activity funds are dollars raised outside of the school budget. The workgroup was formed because there is a large disparity in the fund amounts across schools. MCPS wants to understand the differences and determine how differences can be reduced. MCPS will present information to the BOE, including recommendations for a central fund. MCCPTA may be asked to support a plan that is presented to the BOE.

**Unfinished Business**

Laura Stewart presented the potential changes that were made to the draft Advocacy Priorities. The BOD received the document with the potential changes. The changes will be presented as amendments to the document that was distributed to the Delegates Assembly in September. The delegates will vote on amendments and the overall document on October 22.

**Committee Reports**

Special Education Committee- attendance at the first committee meeting was higher than in previous years. Discussion included tips for IEP meetings. The committee wants have a local PTA committee chair in all schools.

MCCPTA Special Education Committee leadership will change in December.

Membership committee- The membership award process will change. PTAs will be asked to submit innovative membership-related plans to MCCPTA. Winners will be selected from the submissions.

Operating budget committee- The MCCPTA Operating Budget workshop is scheduled for January 4.

Nominating Committee- We need a member from each area. AVPs should work with clusters in their area to find a member.

CIP committee- THE MCPS/MCCPTA CIP Workshop is 10/30 at 7 pm (45 West Gude). MCCPTA typically has a meeting to discuss testimony strategies. 10/30 from 6-7 is a possible time.

**Officer Reports**

President’s Report- Lynne Harris

Lynne met with Ruchelle Rubin, the new MCPS Associate Superintendent, Office of Student and Family Support. High priority topics are BeWell 365 and Restorative Justice. There is a lot of activity around Restorative Justice. MCPS is in contact with the Philadelphia School System and Philadelphia Police Department, which implemented a diversity program. Since the MD law to implement restorative practices in schools was passed in July 2019, some responses are enthusiastic and others are pushing back. MCCPTA needs to make sure local PTAs have accurate information about the topic.

Nancy Navarro, president of Montgomery County Council, recently announced a proposed Racial Equity and Social Justice Act. The act would affect all agencies in the county. It is consistent with many discussions within MCCPTA. Lynne and several other MCCPTA leaders will meet with Council President Navarro to discuss how MCCPTA can help advance this work.

VP for Education Report- Cynthia Simonson

Last year was the first time students had to pass the English and algebra PARCC in order to graduate. About 10% of students had to complete bridge projects because they did not pass the PARCC. Support for bridge projects is not a line item in the operating budget. Cynthia testified on this topic at the Sept 24 state board of ed meeting. This is a good year to codify what support is needed for bridge projects. Next school year there will be increased testing requirements for graduation.

VP for Programs- James Modrick

MCCPTA Presents October program is Cybermare. Planning is underway for the winter and spring programs.

We still need a chair for Reflections.

MCCPTA Celebration of Excellence will be scheduled for the 3rd week of May. We are checking for conflicts. A committee is needed.

VP for Advocacy- Laura Stewart

There was a subdivision staging policy workshop on October 7. Laura, Katya Marin, and other MCCPTA BOD members attended. Katya is representing MCCPTA at SSP meetings.

Senator Kramer is drafting a bill to expand the current Inspector General’s jurisdiction to MCPS.

VP for Administration

Report is available in meeting materials. Current SoCA compliance is higher than in the past. There are a number of upcoming deadlines for SoCA items.

Treasurer’s Report- Khristy Kartsakalis

Report is available in meeting materials.

Upcoming due dates- Financial Review due to MD PTA on 10/31. 990s due on 11/15.

There will be a financial review session on October 19.

**Additional Workgroup Reports**

Proposal for Voting Members of MCCPTA Board of Directors- The recommendation from the workgroup was to recategorize cluster coordinators as non-voting members to allow them more time to support local PTAs. Prior to the BOD meeting several CCs provided comments in opposition to the proposal. They felt it would disengage CCs from important MCCPTA discussions that affect clusters and local PTAs. Attendees at the BOD meeting agreed. MCCPTA will not move forward with the proposed change.

Workgroup Considering MCCPTA Area/Cluster Alignment with OSSI Director Assignments

Jennifer Young summarized the written report. The group determined that realigning clusters and areas with MCPS OSSI structure is not preferred. However, it makes sense to move Poolesville to the area that includes QO/SV/NWest/CBurg. This will be discussed with Poolesville cluster.

There are additional proposals related to schools that split articulate. As those proposals are considered at the cluster level, it is important to understand how they affect testimony.

The meeting adjourned at 8:53 pm

Minutes submitted by Kellie Schoolar Reynolds, MCCPTA Secretary for BOD