**DRAFT MINUTES- MCCPTA Board of Directors Meeting**

**March 10, 2021**

**Zoom meeting**

Cynthia Simonson, MCCPTA President, called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm. A quorum was present.

**Agenda and minutes-** The agenda was approved. The minutes from the February meeting were approved by unanimous consent.

**Updates**

Update on National/MD PTA- Cynthia Simons

On February 23, National PTA told MD PTA that Marla Posey-Moss should be reinstated as President-Elect. MD PTA did not follow this instruction.

On March 7, another criminal charge was filed against the MD PTA President. The same attorney is representing the MD PTA President (in her personal capacity) and MD PTA.

Channel 4 news is planning a two-part story about MD PTA.

**Officer Reports**

President- Cynthia Simonson- (See written report for more details and topics)

Food security-

Several individuals from MCCPTA met with Gabe Albornoz and Craig Rice regarding food security issues for MCPS students. The number of sites for food pick up is decreasing as in-person school begins. Prior to 3/1 there were 105 sites; the number dropped to 84 on 3/1; on 3/15 there will be 24 cluster sites. Students attending school in person can pick up food at school. There will be significant issues for many families whose children are not attending school in person. DFNS indicates they are looking at the issue, but no solution has been provided.

Discussion- Faith based organizations should be able to help, but county council may need to OK. This is a logistics issue, not a money issue. The food is from the USDA. Some high schools have student-led groups that help with groceries/food- “Here to help” at BCC and “COVID cadets” at RM.

New item- Imagination Library (started by Dolly Parton)- A literacy program that provides one book per month for children ages 0 to 5. It is zip code driven, not income driven. Wheaton Woods is an affiliate.

New item- MCCPTA is a sponsor of the minority scholar’s program. They are having a retreat March 19 and 20. MCCPTA individuals are invited.

VP Educational Issues- Rodney Peele- (See written report for details)

Statewide testing- Weeks after revealing tentative plans for state assessments near the end of the 20-21 school year, MSDE and the State Board of Education decided last week to postpone required statewide assessments for ELA and math in grades 3-8 and high school until fall 2021, and to use a shorter “diagnostic” assessment at that time.

MCPS students will not take IB tests in spring 2021. Instead, performance and progress to the IB Diploma will be determined by “internal assessments” and predicted scores, a process similar to spring 2020

There will be AP tests. Some will be paper and some will be online. Tests will start in early May. MCPS has not provided details.

Maryland state graduation requirements- MCCPTA Curriculum Committee Town Hall held March 3. The proposed state regulations are expected April 9, with comments due May 1.

MCPS will hold a virtual event for ESOL students to learn about early college options through MCPS Dual Enrollment. The event will be online and on local TV at 6 p.m. Thursday March 25

VP for Administrative Issues- Rochelle Fink (See written report for details)

Local PTAs need to pay MCCPTA dues.

MCPS calendar for 2021-2022: Either 8/30 to 6/15 or 9/8 to 6/22. *(Post meeting update: 8/30 to 6/15 was approved by BOE).* Calendars do not address potential for COVID-related disruptions.

Sports practice start dates are mandated by the state. MCPS can elect to start later.

Reminder- Board members need to take required boardsmanship training and theft prevention training within 60 days after joining the board.

VP of Programs- James Modrick- (See written report for details)

There will be a virtual “Celebration of Excellence” on May 27, 2021. Base program will be to have awardee recognized by their nominator. Will have full Zoom program recorded so that it can be shared. Will try to incorporate Reflections student artwork.

VP of Advocacy- Laura Stewart- (See written report for details)

Kirwan legislation was introduced in the Senate and House of Delegates. The hearing is next week. Testimony is due 3 pm on 3/11.

The National PTA Legislative Committee met 3/10. Laura Stewart and Laura Mitchell participated from MCCPTA. NAT PTA Legislative Committee asks include: COVID relief bill, family engagement, school infrastructure (including HVAC), overall infrastructure, and student safety.

CIP news- The “non-recommended” budget list was released- Northwood HS and Woodward HS are delayed by one year; there are some delays for HVAC and roofing. (National and state funding may help)

SSP- The progressive recordation tax was not implemented earlier this year. It would help fund some of the CIP items. MCCPTA will ask when the item will be placed on the agenda.

Treasurer- Khristy Kartsakalis- (See written financial documents)

Current balance is $67,325.28. Outstanding checks- $2915.10. Balance on hand- $64,410.18.

All financial documents are in the meeting folder.

Khristy is working on the 2021-2022 budget and Hartford Insurance Audit.

**Committees (More written reports in the meeting materials)**

Virtual Learning- Gail Ravnitsky

There are approximately 25 individuals on the committee. They want to make sure they represent all families. To achieve this goal, they want to survey parents about the challenges of the virtual learning experience. For example, the effect of technology on grades’ privacy. The committee is in the information gathering phase, considering potential questions and how to collect representative responses.

The committee does not have data regarding the MCPS fall parent survey or second quarter grades.

Discussion-

MCCPTA curriculum committee has worked with MCPS re: grade distribution.

Safe Tech committee crowdsourced some tech issues and solutions. They discussed some issues with MCPS.

There was a reminder that there is a process to follow when surveying MCPS families.

**Old Business-**

DEI update- SRO resolution (Yvonne VanLowe)

Some amendments were submitted and more are expected after the local PTA meetings. Amendments are due 3/18. They will be posted. The process for submitted amendments was explained to delegates working on an “Audit and Reform” proposal.

Several PTAs and cluster collected information to share with the committee.

**New Business**

Process for registration and voting- March DA

PTAs need to pay MCCPTA dues before their president and delegates can vote. Each PTA has up to 3 votes. They can designate a sub- let Pam and Tammy know. For DA meeting- board members cannot designate subs. There is one vote per person, regardless of the number of roles they serve in.

Proposed deadlines, to help us prepare for voting at the March 23 meeting:

3/16- Inform Pam and Tammy of subs

3/19- Register for meeting

3/22- Submit MCCPTA dues

Process for approval of official messages from committees to external groups

This process is needed because messages from committees are often viewed as from MCCPTA as a whole. Until a process is outlined in our standing rules, messages (letters) from committees to MCPS or other external groups should be sent to the MCCPTA Executive Committee. Depending on the potential impact of the letter (to inform; to request a change) and urgency, the executive committee will determine what group should approve the communication (executive committee, BOD, DA).

Health and Wellness Committee (Hannah Donart)

The meeting materials included a letter the committee want to send to Superintendent Smith and the BOE regarding safe cleaning and sanitizing practices.

There was a motion to move forward with the letter (Debby Orsak; 2nd by Matt Swibel). The motion passed.

Proposal for ad hoc committee

Francesco Paganini proposed the formation of an ad hoc committee to evaluate the school year structure. The committee would use a data driven approach and make a proposal for MCCPTA to advocate around. He will draft a work plan for the BOD to consider.

The meeting adjourned at 9:02 pm

Minutes submitted by Kellie Schoolar Reynolds, MCCPTA Secretary for BOD