

MINUTES OF THE MCCPTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Thursday, January 5, 2012 at Carver Education Services Center - Auditorium

ATTENDANCE:

Officers: Kristin Tribble, Laurie Halverson, Jaimie Jacobson, Shebra Evans and Debra Lang
Area Vice Presidents, Cluster Coordinators & Committee Chairs: Donna Pfeiffer, Janette Gilman, Jean Schlesinger, David Lechner, JoAnn Burl, Michelle Gluck, Antonio Hernandez-Cardoso, Lynne Harris, Kevin David, Frances Frost, Lory Green, Virginia Twombly, Tina Velazquez, Juan Johnson, Janet Sanchez, Beth Kennington, Sarah Kessler, Jim Keenan, Julia Lucas, Therese Salus, Mary Cobbett, Jennifer Cope, Melanie Twomey, Cheryl Peirce, Karen Collishaw, Martha Schaerr, Jennifer McDonald, Laurie Augustino, Kathy Lloyd, Carrie Bohrer, Martha Crews and Sumbal Sheldon

OPENING BUSINESS:

Call to Order: President Kristin Tribble called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm. All in attendance introduced themselves.

Sumbal Sheldon asked that Nominating Committee be added to the agenda under Committee Reports. Beth Kennington asked that Gender Neutral Bathrooms be added to the agenda under New Business. Lynne Harris asked that Cameras on School Buses be added to the agenda under New Business. With these changes, the agenda was approved.

The draft minutes of the December 1st Board meeting were considered. Richard Yarrow asked that his attendance be noted in the minutes. Michelle Gluck asked that Under the Gifted Child Committee's report, the phrase "We hope" gets inserted before "another meeting...". Kristin Tribble asked that the phrasing when reported action on the various motions become consistent (motions are approved, rather than seconded by voice vote, in a few circumstances). Sumbal Sheldon moved that the minutes of the December 1st Board of Directors meeting be approved as amended, which was seconded and approved.

Officer Reports:

President: President Tribble thanked and congratulated Jean Schlesinger for the great job that she did with the recent Funding Forum, and thanked Deb Lang for organizing hospitality for the evening, and Antonio Hernandez-Cardoso for providing Spanish translation.

President Tribble reiterated that in order for MCCPTA to be most effective, it is best to keep the officers aware of meetings that Directors have with the Superintendent or any of his Associate Superintendents.

President Tribble asked that any Director interested in attending the annual Martin Luther King Breakfast on January 16th, please contact her.

She provided an update on the Multi-cultural Parent Advisory Group, and their recent meeting with Dr. Starr.

Treasurer:

Treasurer Jaimie Jacobson reported that we have signed a new copier lease and have now obtained shredding capabilities. He thanked Membership Chair Janette Gilman for her efforts

and reported that our effective membership campaign has resulted in our being approximately \$12,000 over this time last year. He also clarified that in order to participate in the Reflections competition this year, local PTAs who are requesting an extension for the filing of their 990s, will need to file a copy of that extension with MDPTA

Committee Reports:

Operating Budget: Committee Chair Jean Schlesinger discussed the Superintendent's operating budget proposal and the most recent county fiscal report. She anticipates the Governor's Budget proposal in a few weeks, and will be looking to see if he is attempting to shift any portion of the pension costs to the County.

She spoke briefly about our upcoming opportunities to provide Operating Budget testimony to the Board of Education. Her testimony on behalf of MCCPTA will likely express support for the principle of Maintenance of Effort, reiterate MCCPTA's operating budget priorities and further request that additional support be added back into the classroom as soon as it is fiscally feasible. She encouraged cluster coordinators to independently advocate at the county level but reminded them to look to her and to the officers for information and support when doing so.

Beth Kennington offered that her community will be meeting with Craig Rice on February 6th, and interested parties are welcome to attend that meeting.

Membership: Membership Chair, Janette Gilman urged AVPs and CCs to follow up on recent notices to PTAs who had not yet paid membership dues to Maryland PTA. Failure to pay by February 1 will jeopardize participation in Reflections, and dues payment is a SoCA requirement.

Nominating Committee: Committee Chair Sumbal Sheldon reminded cluster coordinators who are not staying on another year that they should find replacements in time for them to be nominated in March. She also encouraged all to consider either nominating themselves, or worthy peers, to become members of the executive committee next year. The nominating committee's slate will be presented to the Board of Directors by March 15th.

Sumbal also reminded all to mail or fax their nominations for MCBRE's Champions for Children Award to the MCCPTA's office by January 15th.

Legislative Committee: Legislative Committee Chair Lynne Harris will soon be in touch with Cluster Coordinators regarding Anapolis visits; MCEA might not do their annual trip to Anapolis. Lynne recently spoke with Delegate Lee and hopes to meet with her on a fairly regular basis and will keep us updated and apprised about how we can be most effective in our lobbying efforts.

New Business:

Constant Contact mailings: After discussion, Deb Lang moved that we continue to use Constant Contact during the upcoming year and that we approve spending \$252 for the annual subscription service and, if deemed necessary, \$42 for a year of archival service, which resolution was seconded and passed.

It was separately requested that the MCCPTA monthly newsletters continue to be put together and circulated.

Cameras on School Buses: After some discussion, Legislative Committee Chair Lynne Harris moved that the Board of Directors supports the proposed bus camera legislation and authorizes

the drafting of a letter to the County Council to that effect, which resolution was seconded and passed.

Gender Neutral Bathrooms: Beth Kennington shared her concern that principals are being asked to come up with plans to address restroom and locker room availability for gender issued students during the next few weeks. Since no others had heard this, Beth will continue to monitor and will report back.

Unfinished Business:

NEC Resolution on Choice: High School Committee Chair Dave Lechner brought forth the Resolution on Preferred Choice in Consortium High Schools, as attached. After discussion, and with the following clerical changes (5th Whereas Paragraph, 3rd line down, no dash between “well” and “below”; 5th Resolved Paragraph should be labeled “E”, not “D”) this resolution was adopted by the BOD and will be sent to the Delegates Assembly later in the month.

Special Education: deferred until next month since no member of the committee was in attendance.

MCCPTA By-Laws: President Tribble announced that while Sandy Halloway is focused on a health issue, Janette Gilman will take over the submission of By-Laws to MD PTA for its triennial review and approval.

Board of Election Candidate Filings: President Tribble reminded all that the deadline for filing candidacy for a seat on the Board of Education is January 11th, that our by-laws require resignation from our executive committee within one week after making such a filing, and that all candidates for Board of Education refrain from speaking on behalf of MCCPTA, even if they continue to work as a member or Director.

Cluster Reports:

BCC Site Selection: Mary Cobbet briefly provided an update about the BCC Site Selection redo.

Seneca Valley High School Modernization: Juan Johnson reiterated the importance of personal perseverance in bringing about change as he recounted the plight of Seneca Valley High School’s leaking roof. His continual invitations to members of the Board of Education during bad weather days has resulted in a contractor being sent out to make the much needed repairs!

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted by
Debra Lang, Recording Secretary BOD