Name of Committee: **Operating Budget**

Chair: Laura Mitchell Phone: (410) 422 – 2694 Committee Email: [operatingbudget@mccpta.org](mailto:operatingbudget@mccpta.org)

Vice Chair: Phone:

Communication (e-list, etc): N/A

**SUBCOMMITTEES / WORK GROUPS** (if applicable): None/TBD

**Activities**:

* **Budget Advisory Committee (MCPS)**
  + Budget Advisory Committee meetings historically begin in August for MCPS to present a draft and gather input from student and staff centered interest groups. The group then meets 6-8 times to cover review and comment on each area of the budget with needs, gaps, and emerging issues.
  + Due to the pandemic, the FY2022 budget was presented in 4/5 meetings in near final form and with very limited input. Groups submitted their priorities, but we did not see much evidence of incorporation into the budget at that late stage.
  + To date, the BAC has met 4 times this year with one additional meeting scheduled for December 7th, which is after the overview of the budget is presented to the Board of Education. The process this year did, in fact, mimic last year’s proforma “engagement”. The meetings have been largely off topic with lengthy discussions of communication norms and lectures on what the budget is and how it works.
  + Only about 30% of the meetings to date have included actual budget information, however, even that has been a high-level overview with no details. Members of the Budget Advisory Committee have been intermittently broken out into small groups to discuss topics tangentially related to the budget. Members had one opportunity to offer priorities, which were largely pre-selected with members guided toward those options. Other breakout sessions used considerable time to rank the tome 3 of those priorities and “park” the others. Though those exercises were opportunities for discussion, they were in very small groups that reported out to the larger group with little to no opportunity for questions or feedback, and no information about the budget impacts of the exercise.
  + There is little evidence that any of our input has been incorporated into, or even considered, in the formulation of the operating budget, and the chair does not consider the hours spent as engagement nor particularly beneficial.
  + On numerous occasions, the Chair and other members of the BAC have requested a copy of the budget book. The committee typically receives a 4” binder with the basics at the first meeting and builds with additional sections at each meeting until we have the full budget. With each request, we are met with confusion and questions about what is in the book, who provided it, etc. MCPS leaders developing this budget and directing the BAC process seem to have no access to or knowledge of the materials the BAC has received in previous years.
  + The BAC members still have no detailed information on what is or is not included in the budget with less than a week to go before the overview is to be presented to the Board of Education, presumably with the standard assertion that the budget was developed with stakeholder engagement.
  + Not having the details of how the budget was built will impede our efforts to inform our members as to whether MCCPTA priorities are sufficiently funded in the FY2023 budget.
  + Attendance of MCPS leadership and staff with intimate knowledge of the budget details will be essential at our annual Operating Budget Workshop on January 8, 2022.
  + Staff will be asked to fill in the gaps for the MCCPTA leaders and members who will offer testimony to the BOE and County Council on the alignment of the budget and our priorities. Presentations of the details will necessarily precede the Q&A, therefore, extending the length of the workshop.
  + Committee Chairs will be asked to provide testimony to the BOE and County Council this cycle.
* The Operating Budget Committee needs members from each cluster and each committee. We will receive the proposed budget when it is made public, and we will need to review and respond quickly to ensure that all needs are addressed and funded equitably.
* **Blueprint for Maryland’s Future (Kirwan Commission) Accountability and Implementation Board** 
  + The seven (7) members of the Accountability and Implementation Board appointed by the Governor to serve six (6) year terms, are:
* Chair, Isiah “Ike” Leggett, former Montgomery County executive and currently a member of the University System of Maryland Board of Regents.
* Mara Doss, the associate vice president for teaching, learning and student success at Prince George’s Community College.
* Fagan Harris, chief executive officer of Baltimore Corps, a nonprofit that recruits talented professionals and connects them to leadership opportunities.
* William “Brit” Kirwan, the chair of the Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education, whose policy recommendations make up the foundation of the Blueprint for Maryland’s Future.
* Jennifer Lynch, the director of educational partnerships for Baltimore County Executive John A. Olszewski Jr. (D) and previously an elementary school principal in Baltimore City Public Schools for five years.
* Joseph Manko, the education program officer for the Abell Foundation and previously an elementary school principal in Baltimore City Public Schools for ten years.
* Laura Stapleton, the interim dean of the University of Maryland, College Park College of Education and a professor in human development and quantitative methodology.

**IMPORTANT DATES:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| November 15, 2021 | Board of Education members shared their operating budget priorities for FY2023 |
| December 2, 2021 | High level overview to the Boad of Education on the FY2023 Recommended Operating Budget |
| December 7, 2021 | Final meeting (#5) of the Budget Advisory Committee |
| December 16, 2021 | Public Presentation to the Boad of Education and Community of the Recommended FY2023 Operating Budget |
| December 2021-January 2022\* | Sign-up period for speakers at Board of Education Public Hearings |
| January 8, 2022 | Operating Budget Testimony Workshop |
| **January 11, 2022** | **Board of Education FY2023 Operating Budget Public Hearings** |
| **January 18, 2022** | **Board of Education FY2023 Operating Budget Public Hearings** |
| January 12, 19, and 25, 2022 | Board of Education FY2023 Operating Budget Work Sessions |
| January 19, 2022 | Governor Hogan releases the State’s FY2023 Budget |
| February 8, 2022 | Tentative Adoption of the FY 2023 Operating Budget |
| February 2022 | Board of Education Budget Transmittal to County Executive/Council |
| March 2022 | County Executive Releases the FY 2023 Operating Budget |
| April 2022 | County Council Budget Public Hearings |
| April - May, 2022 | County Council Work Sessions |
| May 2022 | County Council Budget Action |
| June 2022 | Final Adoption of the FY 2023 Operating Budget |
| \* Please check the Board of Education web page in December 2021 for information about the sign-up period for the public hearings. | |

**ACTIVITIES PLANNED**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Activity** | **Details** | **Timeframe/Deadline** |
| Outreach and communication | Share information through listservs, email lists, and social media on at least a monthly basis. | Ongoing |
| Meetings | * Attend MCPS Operating Budget Advisory Committee meetings. * Conduct monthly Operating Budget Committee meetings in Fall – Spring, and ad hoc meetings via conference calls as needed at other times. | Ongoing |
| Training | Provide virtual training for effective testimony to the Board of Education and the County Council.  Set an expectation that Committee Chairs (and members), Area VPs and Cluster Coordinators participate in the workshop, and strongly encourage Presidents & Boards from local units to attend. | January 8, 2022  (Via Zoom) |
| Local Testimony | Facilitate BOE and County Council testimony by MCCPTA Board members. | January/March/April |
| Kirwan Commission | Keep MCCPTA members apprised of the status of the efforts to integrate funding from the “Kirwan Commission” legislation and keep members apprised of related funding and programing requirements. | Ongoing |
| State Legislature | Work with State legislators to advance/protect the interests of MCCPTA families. Partner with Advocacy Chair on outreach to state legislators; host a legislative breakfast in Annapolis to share our point of view and enlist support for MCCPTA positions on proposed legislation. | January/February |
| Site visits | * Visit schools/PTAs with significant Operating Budget needs, upon request, during the day or during a PTA meeting. * Attend student leadership group meetings to gain feedback and insights, as permitted. | As needed |
| Updates | Keep MCCPTA updated on the MCPS Operating Budget priorities. | Ongoing |
| Educate County officials | Inform and meet with current and new political representatives and candidates about specific Operating Budget needs in the county. | Ongoing |
| Feedback | Propose annual and long-range objectives and policies for approval by MCCPTA Board of Directors and Delegates Assembly. | Ongoing |

**2021 OPERATING BUDGET COMMITTEE**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Area** | **Representative** | **Email** | **Phone** |
| At Large: |  |  |  |
| **DCC** (Blair/Einstein/Kennedy/Northwood/Wheaton) | Laura Mitchell, Chair | [laura@lauramitchell.org](mailto:laura@lauramitchell.org) | 410-422-2694 |
| **BCC**  (Bethesda-Chevy Chase/Walter Johnson/Whitman) | Vacant |  |  |
| **Central PTAs**  (Churchill/Richard Montgomery/Poolesville/Rockville/Wootton) | Vacant |  |  |
| **North PTAs** (Damascus/Gaithersburg/Magruder/Watkins Mill) |  |  |  |
| **NEC**  (Blake/Paint Branch/Springbrook And Sherwood) | Vacant |  |  |
| **West PTAs** (Clarksburg/Northwest/Quince Orchard/Seneca Valley) | Vacant |  |  |