

MCCPTA Board of Directors Meeting March 3, 2016

In attendance: Frances Frost, Michelle Gluck, Melissa McKenna, Paul Geller, Julie Grimes, Lynne Harris, Kellie Schoolar Reynolds, Michele Moller, Jennifer Young, Kevin David, David Mintz, Lidiana Villones, Mary O'Driscoll, Jeanne Taylor, Jen Cope, Joe Piff, Yvonne Van Lowe, Sally McCarthy, Jennifer McCarthy, Daria Daniel, JoAnn Burl, Kim Testa, Tammy Clark, Karen Collishaw, Kevin Schramm, Michele Lacey, Carol Shivers

7:48 Vice President of Education Michelle Gluck called the meeting to order.

Under new business Lynne will discuss the Ficker amendment. Sally McCarthy motioned to accept the agenda as amended. Motion passed.

Michelle Gluck amended the minutes to include that she was at the Superintendent Interview though representing another organization. She further amended the minutes of her report to state the Curriculum committee not the Gifted Child committee. Motion passes to approve minutes as amended.

VP of Education Report:

The Choice report will be presented to the BOE on March 7. The MCPS Curriculum Department is planning on changing next year based on this report though previously we were told that there would be opportunities for parent input.

There is a state law that every year children must take math even if they have reached Calculus before 12th grade. This applies to the class of 2018. Common Core will complete its rollout next year. Mary O'Driscoll stated that Einstein said the pre-calc would not be rolled out next year. Michelle continued that the current sixth graders are the first ones to have gone through the 2.0 that supposedly puts everyone on track for Algebra by 8th year. MCPS does realize that not everyone will be ready. Eleven middle schools will not offer Math 7 next year; instead, those schools will put everyone in IM. MCPS was also were trying to eliminate compacted math, afraid that allowing some students to excel that would hurt other children. That decision has been reversed. Now selection for compacted will be at the Principal's discretion. This may lead to both over/under identification. Compacted 4/5 will be eliminated in schools that don't have enough for a stand alone class, and the principal should figure out how to serve those children. This brings up an equity issue.

Michelle included in her report a link to Washington Post's article on Chromebooks in MCPS.

Vice President of Administration

Make sure schools are SOCA compliant by March 31st or they cannot vote at MDPTA convention. Some have not paid MCCPTA dues and therefore will not be able to vote on nutrition bill. Nominating committee is seeking volunteers for next year. We have candidates for President, Treasurer, and VP of Programs. BOD is where we get VP's because our by-laws do not allow anyone not a board member to be a VP. All locals need to start their nominating process. We do not have the sign-up date yet for County Council testimony.

Vice President of Programs

Diane Morris from OSSI was on MCCPTA Presents along with Odessa Shannon and JoAnne Burl. It will be shown Saturday and Sunday morning (3/5-6) on MCPS TV. Paul is attempting to get governor Hogan on

the Program. He went to Annapolis on February 15 and dropped off thirteen letters to different delegates and senators. He also attended PTA night in Annapolis Feb 18th.

Vice President of Advocacy

Lynne thanked everyone who came to the BOE candidate forum. The questions submitted were substantive. All the questions came from what MCCPTA submitted. She asked that anyone who becomes aware of a candidate forum share the information with MCCPTA. The 8th Congressional District forum will be on March 12th at Takoma Park Middle. This is a Board of Elections Future Voters Program where students in grades 6-12 can be trained to be an Election Place aide on Election Day. Students who are 17 by 4/26th can be an Election Judge. They can receive 25 SSL credits or be paid. Remaining training for those positions are 3/7 at Northwest, 3/9 at Northwood, and 3/11 at Richard Montgomery. Students will receive five SSL hours. Lynne and Neal Orringer are planning a workshop for County Council testimony. In the General Assembly the bill for counties with advanced growth to receive additional construction funds has not been voted on yet. The governor funded Operating Budget to formula, except added eight million to three shrinking school districts in counties that voted for him. He is taking on mandated spending, wants to give more control to the governor, and has a bill to limit formula driven spending in the budget (85% of formula spending is education.) The bill currently exempts education, but prohibits any other formula in future. This bill doesn't seem to have any traction in the legislature.

President

We currently have 35,807 members. There are 57 PTAs that need to send in their dues. Frances asked cluster coordinators to look at lower PTA number schools to see what's going on. MCPS adjusted the end of the third quarter for snow days to April 8th which is after spring break instead of before. Frances has upcoming Achievement Gap and ESOL meetings with Dr. Navarro regarding the changes to ESOL (embed ESOL into regular curriculum and move ESOL to curriculum department). Many have expressed concern about having a designated point person at MCPS for ESOL. Frances would like to get ESOL, Curriculum, and Achievement Gap committees together to discuss.

Study Circles next session will be 3/7.

Frances is working on the Website and hopes to have it up by next week.

MDPTA board meeting will be next week. There may be Bylaw amendments and Frances will send them to the Board once finalized. Wednesday March 9th is the NPTA Legislative Conference. Frances will be on panel on Family Engagement.

Kevin Schramm asked about the Blair BOE cluster meeting. Lidiana Villones explained that schools advertised the meeting which was well attended, schools created posters to tell their stories, and the cluster coordinators had six tables for different subjects. The BOE members rotated between tables. Cori Vanchieri then asked BOE to tell the story of what they heard, what they were going to do, and what they recommend. Since then, the cluster has been writing letters to the County Council regarding budget needs. The officers don't usually go to the cluster meetings but Frances went because it's her cluster.

Financial report: February 2016 transactions—Frances pulled only those fields that had transactions. Joe Piff asked about the erroneous bank fees that were charged. Those have stopped, and Frances is trying to get refund. Paul asked about sponsorships. Frances asked for volunteers with help on that.

New Business:

Lynne: Lynne would like to explore whether MCCPTA would like to advocate for the Fricker amendment to be on a referendum for repeal. Several PTAs have asked about advocating for it. Lynne said they are free to advocate for this as long as it does not contravene an established position by MCCPTA, MDPTA, NPTA. The amendment says “9 council members”, not a unanimous vote. Yet there have been several times when there were only 8 county members. Also, council members say that the need for unanimity squelches debate. Jen Young asked how we would explain how doing so fits our mission. Lynne replied that as public schools advocates we should push for anything that allows something to benefit the public schools should at least be up for discussion. The County Charter Council meets monthly, and anyone can speak. Lynne made a motion to take the question of whether to support an initiative to put the Ficker amendment on the ballot. Jen Young and David Mintz think this should be a resolution. They simply want a written statement to vote on. Mary seconded. Kevin Schramm concerned that it’s hard enough to rally schools for things that directly affect them. Lynne agrees to present this as a resolution for the DA.

Lynne motions that we take the matter to the DA. Motion passed.

Presidents and Principals will be Monday May 23, Bethesda North Marriot. Frances would like to ask that PTAs purchase an extra ticket to offer to another PTA not in a position to go. We are looking for student group to perform. Committee is collecting photos-send no more than 2-3 pics and blurbs of one sentence.

Awards Committee is looking for more volunteers to serve on the committee. Awards includes Champion for Children Award.

CIP—because of Next Step Reps advocacy the Sector Plan discusses schools and usually it mostly focuses on transportation. In Subdivision Staging Policy research, we have discovered that the county collected only \$1.5 million in Facility Fees. Joe Piff collated the disparate county systems next to each other to discover where planning is disconnected amongst county entities. Please refer to attached document. The master plan doesn’t do anything except say what developers can do. SDSP (table 2). Pam Dunn at Park and Planning does have a copy. If anyone sees a suggestion for the document —please let Joe know. Sharing just with board now.

Special Ed—May 9th Special Ed Awards 6:15 Rockville. Send nominations to Jeanne.

Gifted Child Committee’s Secondary Meeting had 90 parents in attendance. The committee met with the director of AEI. They will be meeting with Scott Murphy on how to support advanced learners in the middle schools.

Jeanne Taylor asked whether the Health and Safety committee has done any work around child abuse. They have not. She also mentioned that ESOL is low tech compared to general ed. They have no access to Chromebooks. Frances recommended that Jeanne contact Fresia.

Walter Johnson cluster is still doing round-tables. The Tri-cluster meeting is done. The Next BOE cluster meeting is at Wheaton starting with a tour of the new facilities. Springbrook and Blair did a great job with their BOE cluster meetings.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30.