

Guidance and Counseling Committee

The MCCPTA Guidance and Counseling Committee met on October 16, 2007 from 7 until 8 pm in the Carver Building Room #120 Rockville, Maryland.

In attendance were Ann Gallagher and Risa Sandler.

- Topics from previous meetings were reviewed. Members felt at a loss to make progress in the absence of the other committee members.
- It was reported that Kay Romero, MCCPTA VP for Education, and Jane Winter, MCCPTA President were aware that committee members were interested in pursuing increased counselor allocation at the elementary school level.
- Members were reminded that the MCCPTA is interested in support and funding for counselors in MCPS. For example Summer Area Meetings emphasized more staffing at largest Elementary Schools, reduction in student / counselor ratios at MS and HS, and more PPWs and psychologists. More information can be found on the MCCPTA website: http://www.mccpta.com/resolutions/Resolution_on_FY2009_Operating_Budget_Priorities.pdf
- Methods to change the dynamic between parents and counselors was considered but not resolved. This seems to be the area of most need this year. The committee would like to improve (or codify) how parents, counselors, and administrators cooperate to identify and solve issues under the purview of counselors.
- Location for future meetings was reconsidered. It was suggested that RSVPs be requested. Perhaps meetings could be held in Bethesda if no up-county members were going to be able to attend.

The next meeting is planned for November 27, 2007 from 10 – 11 am.

Ann Gallagher, Chair
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