

MINUTES OF THE MCCPTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Thursday, January 6, 2011 at Carver Education Services Center - Auditorium

ATTENDANCE:

Officers: Kristin Tribble, Laurie Halverson, Paul Morrison, Rebecca Smondrowski, DeBora King, Jaimie Jacobson, Sonya Leaman and Debra Lang

Area Vice Presidents, Cluster Coordinators & Committee Chairs: Andrea Bernardo, Steve Augustino, Ted Willard, Donna Pfeiffer, Janette Gilman, Pam Moomau, Cheryl Moss Herman, Christopher Kelly, Cheryl Peirce, Karen Collishaw, Therese Salus, Mary Cobbett, Jennifer Cope, Jean Schlesinger, Patti Twigg, Larry Edmonds, Jennifer Chambers, Frances Frost, David Lechner, Joy Burdin, Sumbal Sheldon, Juan Johnson, Beth Kennington, Jim Keenan, Kevin David and Janet Sanchez.
Kay Romero also attended as a member of PTA.

OPENING BUSINESS:

Call to Order: At 7:40 pm MCCPTA Vice President of Administration Paul Morrison determined that a quorum was reached and President Kristin Tribble began the meeting. All in attendance introduced themselves.

Patti Twigg asked that the following three items be added to the agenda under New Business:

- BOD eLists
- Status of MCCPTA's Standards of Affiliation
- Recent Dinners with the BOE prior to the CIP and OB Forums

With these additions, the Agenda was approved.

Steve Augustino asked that the minutes of the December 2nd meeting be revised to correctly identify the Renewal and Modernization Program (under the CIP Committee Report). BOD Secretary Deb Lang read the following section which was inadvertently left out under Cluster Reports and New Business

“Reva Gambrell stepped forward to become part of the Nominating Committee, which appointment was approved by the Board.”

With these changes, the minutes of the December 2nd BOD meeting were approved.

Officer Reports:

President:

President Kristin Tribble announced that the Executive Officers of MCCPTA will be participating in a Study Circles program led by MCPS, which will hope to include officers from the local National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), from Latino Parents and Students in Action (PALA) and from an Asian American parent group.

Kristin commented that while the BOE still isn't making any promises, it appears to her that the door may be opening for some participation by MCCPTA in the Superintendent Search.

Kristin reported that the Library Board has reached out to her asking for MCCPTA's support in our upcoming advocacy and testimonies – especially with the County Council.

Finally, Kristin reminded all BOD Members that they should respond to the BOD eList if they would like to attend the annual Martin Luther King Day Memorial Breakfast on Monday, January 17th at 7:45 am. MCCPTA has purchased a table with 10 seats.

Vice President – Educational Issues:

Vice President of Educational Issues Laurie Halverson spoke briefly about the Math Implementation Steering Committee, of which she and Merry Eisner are members. The charge of the committee is to oversee and monitor the development, vetting, communication and implementation of action plans in response to the recommendations of the Math Work Group. They expect to have their final action plans in May.

Vice President – Legislative Issues:

Vice President in charge of Legislative Issues, Rebecca Smondrowski, confirmed that she will again be arranging two day trips and one evening trip to Annapolis in order to coordinate our advocacy at the State level. Details to follow.

Rebecca also spoke briefly about a recent breakfast that she hosted with Senator Madeleno and Delegate Kaiser. Cheryl Moss Herman asked that talking points be written to assist people with their letter writing campaigns to the Governor and other State representatives. Jean Schlesinger spoke briefly about energizing our constituents to ask the State: 1) not to shift the pension obligation to the County, and 2) to make sure that Montgomery County is not disproportionately harmed by any budget cuts.

Vice President – Programs:

Vice President in charge of Programs, DeBora King, reminded all that nominations were being requested for the Annual Champions For Children Awards. She also announced that MCCPTA will be awarding a PTA President of the Year Award at the Principals and Presidents' Dinner in May, and that nomination submission forms are available online for that as well.

Vice President – Administrations:

Vice President in charge of Administration, Paul Morrison, reported that he has, and will continue to, touch base with all clusters about their upcoming testimony to the Board of Education regarding the Operating Budget on January 12th and January 19th.

Treasurer:

MCCTA Treasurer, Jaimie Jacobson, reviewed his Treasurer's Report, which is hereby made a part hereof. Jaimie also reminded all in attendance to remind their local Treasurers that the IRS Determination Letter that has been posted on the MCCPTA website will be coming down in response to a request to do so from MDPTA. Local PTAs will need to be in good standing from now on in order to access that ruling.

Committee Reports:

Reflections: Deb Lang reported that the Reflections Awards Ceremony will take place on Saturday, January 8th – and expects that it will be a wonderful evening. The winning submissions will then be sent compete at the State level in February.

Operating Budget Forum Recap –

Operating Budget Chair Pam Moomau responded to a concern by suggesting that what appears to be a lack of MCPS transparency, is likely a strategy designed not to show their hands to the County Council. Steve Augustino reminded everyone that there are a number of advocacy opportunities during the next few months. Ted Willard suggested that the BOD give some tips and list of dates to the delegates at the next DA.

Pam reminded all that there will be an Operating Budget Testimony Workshop on Saturday (Jan 8th) from 9-12 at Kensington Park Elementary School. She also requested that all who will be testifying during the next two weeks, please watch the Operating Budget Forum from January 3rd, that is available on cable.

Public Relations –

Public Relations Chair Chris Kelly announced that MCCPTA is now using Facebook and You Tube to reach out to members of the community – both of which are accessible through the MCCPTA Website.

Capital Improvements Program Committee - CIP Chair Steve Augustino reported that the Board of education approved the FACT process as distributed. He will continue to follow and report.

High School Committee: High School Committee Chair David Lechner reported that the video contest is in full swing, and that his committee will now be turning to other projects – watch for more information.

Unfinished Business:

By-Laws Committee – By-laws Committee Chair, Andrea Bernardo distributed the attached proposed by-laws changes.

Beth Kennington moved to amend Article X, Section 5 of the proposal, to read as follows:

“Section 5. Special committees may be established when such committees are deemed necessary by the Executive Committee, the Board of Directors or by the MCCPTA. The Executive Committee must notify the Board of Directors immediately, and the Delegates within 15 days, of the establishment, appointment and charge of the special committees.” Such motion was seconded and approved.

Juan Johnson moved to amend Article IX, Section 5 (e) of the proposal, to read as follows:

“e. establish special committee”

Such motion was seconded and approved.

Andrea Bernardo moved to accept the by-laws changes, as amended – which was seconded and approved.

CLUSTER REPORTS AND NEW BUSINESS:

eLists Issue: Patti Twigg notified the BOD that after the last BOD meeting in December, President Kristin Tribble notified Immediate Past President Kay Romero that her status on the BOD eList will be changed to moderated. Patti moved that Kay’s status be restored to unmoderated. After much discussion, Paul Morrison moved to table the motion until our next meeting, which motion was seconded and passed. Many members of the BOD expressed a desire that the parties discuss and work out the problems prior to this body having to take this up again a month from now. Juan Johnson moved that we instruct our eList Chair to recommend a set of standards for all of our eLists, which will include recommended sanctions if those standards are not met, which motion was seconded and approved.

Standards of Affiliation Issue: Patti Twigg asked about the status of MCCPTA's meeting the Standards of Continuing Affiliation for MDPTA. President Kristin Tribble asserted that all **requirements** have been met and that MCCPTA should be in Good Standing with MDPTA.

Dinners with the Board of Education Issue: Patti asked for information regarding the dinners that the MCCPTA Executive Officers held prior to the CIP and Operating Budget Forums. She specifically was interested in how much they cost, and whether or not they were authorized in accordance with any approved work-plans. Much discussion ensued during which the Treasurer reported that \$127.20 was spent on the CIP Forum Dinner.

Poolesville Cluster Coordinators: Juan Johnson moved that Donna Lowell, Jennifer Kasten and Dawn Albert be Cluster Coordinators for the Poolesville cluster, effective immediately, which motion was seconded and was approved.

President Kristin Tribble adjourned the meeting at 9:40pm.

Respectfully submitted by
Debra Lang, Recording Secretary BOD