

MINUTES OF THE MCCPTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Wednesday, February 7, 2007 at Carver Education Services Center
(Re-scheduled from Thursday, February 1, 2007)

ATTENDANCE:

Officers: Jane de Winter, April Keyes, Liz Wheeler, Juan Johnson, Cassandra Abdelmeguid, Kay Romero, Victor Salazar, Sharon St.Pierre

Area Vice Presidents and Cluster Coordinators: Jim Keenan, Pam Moomau, Phil Kaufman, Steve Augustino, Linda Kuserk, Julie Lucas, Brenda Martin, Karen Sullivan, Roger Hayden, Elizabeth Enders, Paul Morrison, Alies Muskin, Andrea Bernardo, Steve Crowley, Donna Pfeiffer, Anne Regan, Carley Lee, Ellen Paul, Sally Taber, Jud Ashman, Jinhee Wilde, Sonya Leaman, Deborah DeMille-Wagman, Karen Smith, Carroll Lovelace, Liza Durant, Jaimie Jacobson, Gerard Jackson, Pamela Megna, Ted Willard,
Committee Chairs: Sharon Schulman, Mark Rother, Marney Jacobs, Patti Twigg, Diane Dickson, Beth Kennington

OPENING BUSINESS:

Call to Order: MCCPTA President Jane de Winter called the meeting to order at 9:03 PM.

Agenda:

Minutes/Secretary's Report: Minutes of the January 4, 2007 Board of Directors meeting were distributed, but not reviewed.

Treasurer's Report: The Balance Sheet as of January 31, 2007, the Budget vs. Actuals: Approved Budget – FY07- P&L July 2006 – January 2007, and the Profit and Loss - January 2007 were distributed.

OFFICERS' REPORTS:

Vice President for Administration:

Membership Update – The Membership Log for 2006- 2007 was distributed.

Cassandra Abdelmeguid made a motion that Patti Twigg be approved as a cluster coordinator for Paint Branch and that Bladimir Duenas be approved as a cluster coordinator for Blair. It passed by voice vote.

Vice President for Legislation:

PTA Night in Annapolis – The schedule for February 12 in the Joint Hearing Room of Legislative Services Building is: 6:00 pm to 6:30 pm registration; 6:30 pm to 7:00 pm talk by Senate President and Speaker of the House; and 7:00pm to 8:00 pm meeting with the Montgomery County Delegation in Room 170.

President's Report:

The President distributed a list of her activities from January 6, 2007 to February 6, 2007. The correspondence file was circulated. There was a discussion about our Council Bylaws. MD PTA has informed MCCPTA that we must adhere to the pounded section of the council template that requires a majority of Board of Directors (BOD) members for a quorum rather than the 15 members as passed by the delegates in January, 2006. This requirement is in effect with receipt of the letter from MD PTA in mid January. The BOD agreed that Jane will write to MD PTA to ask that the template be changed. There was a preliminary discussion regarding the make up of our BOD which will continue at the March BOD meeting.

AGENDA ITEMS:

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

MCCPTA Committee Updates for January 2007 were distributed.

High School – An announcement of the interactive forum for HS PTA leaders was distributed. The forum will be Saturday, March 3 from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm at Einstein HS in the Media Center.

Phil Kaufman made a motion that up to \$200 be spent for the High School forum for refreshments.

It was seconded and passed by a voice vote.

Special Education – Nomination criteria for Special Education Recognition to be given at the 2006-2007 Special Needs Recognition Ceremony on May 7, 2007 were distributed.

Printable forms are on the MCCPTA website and online nominations can be submitted using the online nomination form, too.

NEW BUSINESS:

High School Graduations – Steve Augustino, Gaithersburg Cluster Coordinator, asked for a sense from MCCPTA in regard to the long term and short term affects of Superintendent Weast's recent decision to pay for Blair and Sherwood to graduate from the Comcast Center. This topic will be on the agenda for the February 13, 2007 Board of Education (BOE) meeting. MCPS was able to find \$125,000 in the budget this year to help pay for graduations. MCPS will offer an amendment to the budget at the February 13 BOE meeting for putting money towards next year's graduation sites for all high schools. Discussion of the issue included: limited ticket availability at current graduation sites; need for a county facility with adequate capacity; identifying criteria for selection of graduation sites; budget issues; per capita; planning for preliminary discussion re: a privately funded arena in the up county area; inclusion of MCCPTA in the graduation site selection planning process (perhaps through the High School Committee); waiving public facility fees; and equity for high schools.

Jinhee Wilde made a motion that MCCPTA endorses MCPS paying for high school graduation and that MCCPTA should advocate to the legislature for rental fees to be waived for public facilities for high school graduations. The motion was seconded.

Marney Jacobs made an amendment to the motion that our letter include, that MCPS investigate and set criteria for a variety of graduation venue options and Jane de Winter added a friendly amendment that MCPS include MCCPTA in the establishment of the selection criteria. The amendment was seconded and passed by a voice vote.

The motion was passed as amended by a voice vote.

The motion now reads that MCCPTA will write a letter to MCPS that endorses MCPS paying for high school graduation, and calls for MCPS to investigate and set criteria for a variety of graduation venue options, including MCCPTA in the establishment of the selection criteria; and that MCCPTA will advocate to the legislature for rental fees to be waived for public facilities, such as the Comcast Center, for high school graduations.

Discussion of the motion included: set up and break down costs and rental fees; schools sharing rental fee costs; incomplete information; precedent of Virginia waiving the rental fee for a public facility; our current limited choices of sites having capacity and accessibility; and behaviors of attendees at graduations.

Ineligibility Rules/County Exam Pass Rates – MCPS had previously given out ineligibility data by grade and demographically for every high school, as well as pass rates for every course with a county exam. The Down County Consortium was able to get

able to get ineligibility information, but it was broken down differently by different schools. To measure success we need to look at this information across the board.

Alies Muskin made a motion that MCCPTA write a letter to request that MCPS make county exam pass rates and ineligibility information available. It was seconded and passed by a voice vote.

The consensus of the discussion concluded this data is public information.

Site Coordinator Resolution – The Richard Montgomery Cluster Coordinator distributed a resolution on Site Coordinators as passed by the PTAs and PTSAs of the Richard Montgomery Cluster. This cluster would like the endorsement of the MCCPTA BOD for a similar motion to be brought to the Delegate Assembly in February. Background information citing the benefits of the current Site Coordinator at Richard Montgomery, such as noticing omissions in construction plans, and current funding for such positions was given.

WHEREAS, MCPS currently only funds site coordinators for secondary school under the construction budget;

WHEREAS Richard Montgomery High School has a Site Coordinator who has alerted the school to issues arising with the replacement school construction, thereby resulting in savings for the school, MCPS and county citizens;

WHEREAS the funding for the salary of the Site Coordinator is shared between the MCPS Division of Construction and Richard Montgomery's budget for furniture;

WHEREAS the Richard Montgomery cluster knows the benefits of a Site Coordinator and wishes to extend it to other MCPS schools scheduled for renovation;

WHEREAS MCPS currently does not offer Site Coordinators to elementary schools;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the PTSAs of Richard Montgomery High School, Julius West Middle School, Beall Elementary School, Ritchie Park Elementary School, and Twinbrook Elementary School support and will advocate for Site Coordinators to be assigned to any MCPS school under construction or modernization;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that MCPS should revise the funding source for salaries for Site Coordinators such that implementation of the objectives of this resolution will not negatively affect the school's budget for construction or modernization.

Liz Wheeler made a motion that the BOD endorse the concept of similar Site Coordinator resolution to be brought to the February Delegate Assembly with specific references to Richard Montgomery removed. It was seconded and passed by a voice vote.

Discussion included: making the resolution county wide by removing the references to Richard Montgomery before bringing it to the Delegate Assembly; oversight; project managers and division of construction; educational impacts of on site construction; safety; and accountability.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 PM.