

MINUTES OF THE MCCPTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Thursday, September 7, 2006 at the Carver Educational Services Center

ATTENDANCE:

Officers: Jane de Winter, Kay Romero, Victor Salazar, April Keyes, Liz Wheeler
Area Vice Presidents and Cluster Coordinators: Jim Keenan, Ted Willard, Steve Crowley, Liza Durant, Donna Pfeiffer, Elizabeth Enders, Livleen Gill, Kate Savage
Committee Chairs: Patti Twigg, Neal Meyerson, Lynda B. White, Diane Dickson

OPENING BUSINESS:

Call to Order: MCCPTA President Jane de Winter called the meeting to order at 7:57 PM.

Agenda: Work plan copies were removed from the agenda because copies weren't available. Committee reports will include Curriculum, Reflections and List Serv. Poolesville was added to the agenda under new business.

Minutes/Secretary's Report: The August 3 and August 28, 2006 Board of Directors meeting minutes were distributed. The President's report in the August 3 minutes was clarified by adding to the MD PTA section, "At MD PTA training another county's representative suggested that the school's address could be used instead of your own if parents were reluctant to join if their address would be sent to the National PTA." No corrections were made to the August 28 minutes.

Ted Willard made a motion to approve the minutes as amended and presented. It was seconded and passed by a voice vote.

The Recording Secretary for the Board of Directors reported on her recent activities overseeing the Cultural Arts committee and meetings she's attended since the August 3 Board of Directors meeting.

The Recording Secretary for the Delegate Assembly reported on the MCCPTA fall training scheduled at Carver on October. 7. Registration begins at 9 AM. The first of three sessions begins at 9:30 and the last finishes at 1:45 PM. Twenty-one trainings are offered during the three sessions with RSVP only needed for the third session. The training flier was distributed tonight, was sent to all PTA presidents and will be posted electronically to the Board and website. Board of Directors members are expected to attend and encourage local PTA members to attend, too.

Treasurer's Report: Budget

The Treasurer was absent tonight, but a copy of the MCCPTA Proposed 2006-2007 Budget was distributed. (See President's report below.)

OFFICERS' REPORTS:

Vice President – Programs:

The Vice President distributed the NAACP Parents' Council 2006-2007 information packet including: the organization chart; contacts for officers, chairpersons and key representatives; meeting schedules and agendas; September 9 and October 4 fliers; letter from the NAACP Parents' Council Chair; and mission/vision, who, what and how flier. As Membership Secretary for the Parents' Council, too, she requested that Area Vice Presidents and Cluster Coordinators gather their local schools' parent representative(s) name(s) contact information and send it to her. In response to a comment and question about vacancies for this position, she responded that there could be two representatives; the school principal could assist in recruiting volunteers; and referred to the packet for the position description and responsibilities. Parents' Council meetings are held monthly on

the morning of the second Saturday. The first meeting is this Saturday, September 9 at 9AM at the Lynnbrook location, and the annual kick off meeting is on October 4 at Kennedy High School. Shelly Lipton, from the Montgomery County Police Department, offered to present a program on the sex offender registry when there is an opening in our program schedule. The Vice President is looking for a host/moderator for our Board of Education candidates' forum in October. The format for the first delegate assembly on September 26 will be: opening remarks by the President; MCCPTA budget for 2006-2007; minutes; resolutions; operating budget compact and advocacy priorities; and brief comments by some committee chairs preceding the committee fair. The purpose of the committee fair is to explain committees to and recruit members. The change in Forum format for the MCPS Strategic Plan was discussed, too.

Vice President – Legislation:

The dinner with legislators will be held at Carver in the auditorium on Monday, November 13. Invitations to legislators will be sent out after the primary elections. The Vice President requested that Area Vice Presidents and Cluster Coordinators get contact information for their local PTAs and find out what local issues are.

President:

The President distributed a list of her activities from August 4 through September 7.

Status of CNA:

The Board of Education (BOE) gave PTAs back their privileges at the BOE meeting on September 30. Discussions have been held with our attorney, and state and national PTA.

Letter to BOE regarding staff reports:

At a meeting with Marilyn Praisner, monthly reports on staffing were discussed. Members present tonight discussed writing a letter to the BOE requesting a monthly report and concluded that this be brought forward as a resolution.

Approval of 2006-07 Budget:

The Treasurer was absent tonight, but a copy of the MCCPTA Proposed 2006-2007 Budget was distributed. This budget format follows MD PTA advice. Note that our dues have increased and the presidents and principals dinner has increased, too. It was suggested that this budget and last year's budget be presented at the Delegate Assembly. The Board of Directors must approve this budget before it's sent to the Delegate Assembly.

Ted Willard made a motion to approve the MCCPTA Proposed 2006-2007 Budget. It was seconded and passed by a voice vote.

G. B. Thomas Gala:

Invitations have been sent out for this event to benefit Saturday Schools. Discussion concluded that the executive committee can decide who MCCPTA will fund to attend as part of our community outreach.

Cell Phone Update:

A reply to the President's letter requesting the names of the middle schools piloting the cell phone high school policy and asking for a change to the definition of the end of the instructional day to be changed to the end of the last class was circulated. No changes will be made this school year for other schools.

Task Force on Mentoring:

This was sent out on the list serv.

AGENDA ITEMS:

(Although committee work plans were removed from the agenda; it was noted that the List Serv Committee Chair had turned hers in.)

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Curriculum:

The Committee Co-chair reported that they have forty-two members. To meet work plan goals they still need members from the Einstein, Kennedy, Gaithersburg, Clarksburg, Blake, Poolesville, Seneca Valley, Richard Montgomery, and Wheaton clusters. Local PTA presidents can post this request. The members work on curriculum advisory committees with MCPS and meet four times a year. Math, reading and English are covered sufficiently. They are in need of volunteers for ESOL, special education, arts, physical education, and foreign language. Technology was mistakenly listed, so it suggested that these volunteers could be sent to our technology committee. Four curriculum related resolutions were passed by last year. The film policy decision was postponed by the MCPS leadership team. According to MCPS, elementary science and social studies is now on the calendar for discussion in September when community superintendents and elementary principals meet. The Strategic Planning forum should address it, too. The next Curriculum Committee meeting is Monday, Sept. 11 at Carver in the cafeteria.

Reflections:

The Reflections booklet is on the MD PTA website and will be mailed to local PTA presidents. An open committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 20 in the Carver cafeteria. The program emphasis is on participation, and this year's theme is, "My Favorite Place."

List Serv:

The committee chair distributed a committee report, points to consider when starting or running a PTA list serv and relevant feedback. Please post notices to the bulletin since it goes to more people. The fifty-five people who are subscribing to the delegate list serv who don't subscribe to the bulletin are doing that by choice. They are fully aware that the official notices and meeting announcements go to the bulletin, and they subscribe to delegates because they like the discussions. One person from the president's list asked to be added to bulletin. There was discussion on point number one.

Gifted Child:

The Chair reported that the committee work plan will be developed next Monday at a committee meeting. Work from last year's plan is continuing. Representatives are sought from all areas of the county. A fall training program for PTA chairs will be held October 11 at Richard Montgomery in the auditorium.

Cluster Reports:

Magruder - The Cluster Coordinator reported that a cluster wide Conquista tus Suenos program was held. The value of this program was shown by a previous participant becoming a member of the PTA executive board at Sequoyah Elementary.

Richard Montgomery – Pedestrian safety is being emphasized. Construction issues and the importance of involving parents were discussed and examples were shared for this and other clusters.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

ICB:

There will be a call for people interested in looking into ICB issues at the next Delegates Assembly.

Survey of Teacher Absences:

Discussion of the issue of the time that teachers spend out of the classroom resulted in a decision for a Board of Directors volunteer to develop a survey for all BOD members to fill out on a daily basis for one month.

Poolesville:

The magnet program at Poolesville High School was discussed. There is a need for representative PTA leadership in this cluster. Related budget issues were discussed, too. It would be helpful to have Schools At A Glance published earlier than March. It was noted that MCPS will start a new accounting system July 1, 2007. A question about the Gifted Child committee's role regarding magnet programs was raised. This committee would like to increase communication and broad representation with a focus on local schools.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 9:33 PM.