

**DRAFT Minutes MCCPTA Delegates Assembly
November 28, 2006
Carver Educational Services Center**

Program: Informational Program about George B Thomas, Sr. Learning Academy began at 7:06 PM.

Business Meeting

Call to Order: Jane de Winter, MCCPTA President called the meeting to order at 7:58 PM

Mission of the PTA: Sharon St.Pierre, VP for Education

Approval of Minutes: On motion made and seconded, the draft minutes of the October 24, 2006 Delegates Assembly were approved as written by voice vote.

Business Items

Draft-FY 2008 Operating Budget Compact

Jane de Winter highlighted that the MCCPTA Board of Directors endorsed compact with change to Goal 1 in removing "Support the roll out of all-day kindergarten in all schools." This was removed due to already being implemented in MCPS. Delegates approved.

Delegate from Bells Mills ES made a motion to amend the budget compact to include language about portables (Goal 5). The language proposed was, *"The use of portables should be recognized as a temporary short term measure. There must be a stated goal to do away with them completely in the very near future. For MCPS to aspire to the highest level of learning possible, the use of portables (with all the nuances involving air quality, safety, size, sound problems and special maintenance needs) is not congruent with its goals of increasing achievement and is counter to the goals of MCPS' mission statement.*

In addition, all portables in Montgomery County must have an ongoing and comprehensive proactive maintenance program which must be specifically designed and implemented. Quality standards should be addressed on a county level and the MCPS Maintenance and IAQ teams should be supported by MCPS with adequate training to ensure a safe learning environment for our children."

Proposed amendment was seconded.

CIP Committee felt this amendment language was more appropriate for Capital Budget.

Wootton Cluster Co Coordinator spoke against proposed amendment as being too long, needed shorter version and not appropriate for operating budget. Proposed adopting first sentence or two and end it there.

Victor Salazar, MCCPTA VP for Legislation noted that Legislative Platform for State of Maryland has language about portables and indoor air quality, etc., for state level action. This involves all 24 Maryland counties.

Delegate for Churchill HS raises concerned with second sentence that contains language of "do away with them." Consider replacing with permanent buildings language.

Area VP for Northwest, Poolesville, Quince Orchard, Seneca Valley and Co-Chair for CIP Committee stated he agreed with proposal but felt this was already covered in MCCPTA testimony on CIP.

Delegate from Rosemary Hills PS spoke in favor of shortening amendment.

Delegate from Rock Creek Forest ES offered a motion to amendment to shorten proposed amendment by striking all language after the word "measure." The language left in proposed amendment to the amendment was *"The use of portables should be recognized as a short term temporary measure."*

Also as part of the motion for the amendment to the amendment the language to insert *“including portable classrooms”* in portion for setting which education takes place, *“For optimal learning our schools including portable classrooms must be a place where the children feel safe, and their health is protected.”*

A motion to amend the amendment was made and seconded.

The motion passes by voice vote. This is to be noted under Goal 5.

PTA President, Bells Mills ES proposed another motion to amend the amendment to add another bullet point under Goal 5 while keeping previously proposed amendment

The amendment to the amendment to the initially proposed amendment, *“support a comprehensive proactive maintenance program to ensure implementation of quality standards of portables in MCPS.”*

A motion to amend was made and seconded.

The motion passes by voice vote.

The total amendments to the MCCPTA Operating Budget Compact as proposed by two amendments then passes by voice vote.

The final vote in adopting the MCCPTA Budget Compact as amended passed by voice vote.

MCCPTA FY2008 OPERATING BUDGET COMPACT

The Montgomery County Council of Parent-Teacher Associations (MCCPTA) believes that an Operating Budget for the Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) must provide funding to make progress towards the fundamental requirements described in this budget compact. This compact will provide the basis for testimony before the Board of Education and the County Council and in other forums concerning the MCPS Operating Budget for FY 2008. MCCPTA will not support any budget, MCPS Strategic Plan, or other planning or policy document, that does not make progress towards the requirements of this compact.

Goal 1 of the MCPS Strategic Plan: Ensure Success for Every Student. MCPS must focus on raising academic performance of all students so that all may reach their full potential, no matter where they reside in the county. There is a need for uniformly high expectations that all students will succeed and will have their needs met including Special Education, ESOL, and Gifted/Talented students. There must be sufficient funding for programs to raise the performance of under-performing students. There must also be adequate funding to enhance the performance of students who have attained satisfactory levels of performance but who can do better, and to challenge students who exceed satisfactory levels of performance but are able to perform at even higher levels. In order to further these goals, MCCPTA supports the following staff initiatives from the past several years and encourages continued support for these initiatives:

- Reduced class sizes throughout the County
- Reduced class sizes for art, music, and physical education
- Improved staffing ratios for LAD
- Move toward hours based staffing for special education students participating in order to ensure the success of a move toward promoting education in the least restrictive environment
- Phase-in of additional assistant principals.

In addition, the budget should provide for the following:

- Math specialists to provide early intervention for students
- Certification in the appropriate content areas for middle school teachers teaching high school courses and specialty courses offered in signature programs

- Additional reduction in student/teacher staffing ratios for art, music, and physical education
- Reduction in the use of substitute teachers in the classroom during academic year for teacher training
- Academic intervention/support such as summer learning opportunities for all students based on need. Resource allocation should not be limited to Title I schools.

Goal 2 of the Strategic Plan: Provide an Adequate Instructional Program
 As adequate educational staffing is achieved, it will become even more important to provide staff with the tools necessary to assure success. In order to further this goal, MCCPTA supports the following staff initiatives from the past several years and encourages continued support for these initiatives:

- Reform of the middle school curriculum to increase rigor and ensure instruction appropriate for each student.
- Increased support for high school literacy
- Expansion of gifted and talented programs into more secondary schools
- Improvements to technology and support for improved technology use.

In addition, priority should be given to providing for the following academic and developmental supports for students

- More emphasis on providing a well-rounded curriculum including a rich science, social studies, and arts curriculum
- Increased academic intervention/support resources to meet the demand based on need, including:
 - o Specific action/intervention plans for students not meeting standards under the new grading and reporting policy
 - o Specific action/intervention plans for students not meeting extracurricular activity eligibility requirements.
 - o Consistent funding and implementation of special programs across the county
- Increased attention and resources to students who fail at the 9th grade level to anticipate and avoid risk of later drop out
- Timely provision of new materials and textbooks when new curricula are introduced
- Improved vertical articulation to ensure students receive the foundation for future curriculum options.

Goal 3 of the Strategic Plan: Strengthen productive partnerships for education.

In a system with sufficient teaching resources in adequate buildings, other supports will still be needed to ensure a quality education for all children. We support continuation of the following former initiatives:

- Enhanced translation services
- Expanded study circles
- Implementation of Ed Line in all secondary schools.

However, there is a desperate need for enhanced communication and outreach at the local school level, especially in light of the growing number of families with limited knowledge of English. There is also a need for more general support for students and families. Therefore, we request more support for the following:

- Local school based resources for communications, especially with non-English speaking parents and increase translation services
- Additional guidance counselors and pupil personnel workers, and staff to address social/emotional/developmental needs at all levels
- More attention to addressing discipline problems, especially at the middle school level, including the problem of gangs, bullying and risk to student safety.

Goal 4 of the Strategic Plan: Create a Positive Work Environment in a Self-Renewing Organization.

Development, retention, and recruitment of talented educational, administrative, and support staff are fundamental to maintaining a high quality of education in Montgomery County. The following initiatives are needed:

- Reduction in high turnover rate for staff from Principals to building services staff
- Increased diversity in hiring
- Adequate training for all staff, including supporting services.

Goal 5 of the Strategic Plan: Provide high quality business services that are essential to the educational success of students.

Consistent with the goal of promoting maximum performance by all students, there must be greater attention to the health and safety of MCPS students and staff. We applaud the creation of a new goal in the strategic plan that acknowledges the importance of supporting services and facilities in promoting academic success. In addition, MCPS accountability for effective use of resources should be increased by using the inventory of all MCPS programs to reduce duplications and overlaps, and through outcome measurement rigorously evaluate programs for effectiveness and efficiency. We support the following initiatives in prior and current plans:

- Increased staffing for the Ride by the Rules program, to improve communication between bus drivers and principals
- Increased staffing of building services
- Key-card locking of ES doors to portables
- Overhaul of the financial and budgeting information systems.

We urge that additional attention and resources be devoted to the following:

- Adequate assessment of new programs and curricula before and after implementation, and should insure that sufficient course materials, guidebooks, and implementation documents are available, and teacher training completed before implementation.
- Evaluation of the use of new technology to ensure that it is the most cost-effective way to increase student performance.
- More oversight of local schools by the Community Superintendents.
- MCPS and BOE should develop a budget document that is more comprehensible to the public and that will allow decision-makers and the community to assess the costs and benefits of particular programs and initiatives.

Finally, the setting in which education takes place should not be neglected. For optimal learning our schools, including portable classrooms, must be a place where the children feel safe, and their health is protected. The use of portables should be recognized as a short term temporary measure. The following issues need to be addressed:

- Revision of salary structures or increased outside contracting for positions that are persistently vacant, such as HVAC mechanics and speech and language therapists
- More maintenance and repair personnel, particularly HVAC mechanics
- Expanded indoor air quality staff, with training in building envelope issues
- Adequate security personnel and other resources necessary for securing school buildings and portables
- Reassessment and adjustment of traffic patterns around schools to promote pedestrian safety
- Reassessment of bus stop placement to promote safety
- Improved nutritional value for school lunch and a la carte menu selections
- Improved coverage of school health rooms.
- Support a comprehensive proactive maintenance program to ensure implementation of quality standards of portables in MCPS.

MCCPTA recognizes that an Operating Budget that satisfies all of these requirements will necessitate a continued strong commitment to education by Montgomery County. Such a commitment and investment, however, is more than justified by the benefits a well-resourced educational system provides to the community.

Treasurer's Report: Juan Johnson, MCCPTA Treasurer presented copies of the MCCPTA Balance Sheet as of November 27, 2006, MCCPTA Profit and Loss Sheet –October 25 - November 27, 2006, as well as Budget vs. Actuals: Approved Budget- FY07 P&L – July - November 2006. Juan notes that insurance amount for each PTA is \$240.33. Every PTA will get an invoice and it needs to be paid. Every member of a PTA is bonded/covered under general liability. Every PTA gets a flat billing.

The Presidents and Principals Dinner was discussed as to efforts in seeking corporate sponsorship to help offset increased ticket prices due to venue change. The budget for that is \$30,000 but that money will come in and go out for that dinner. The first dinner was held in 1982. Jane de Winter gave background on the Presidents and Principals Dinner.

Treasurer report was filed.

Draft-Resolution on FY 08 Operating Budget Priorities

Jane de Winter and Operating Budget Committee Chair, Steve Crowley met with Marshall Spatz regarding MCPS budget.

Related to resolution which was offered last month this is a shorter list of highest priorities for more effective advocacy.

Ted Willard, Curriculum Committee Co-Chair offered a motion for an amendment to add to list of priorities, *“Improve the curriculum roll-out process so that teachers have the training and resources they need to teach a new curriculum well before they are expected to teach it.”*

The motion to amend was seconded.

Ted Willard, Curriculum Committee Co-Chair offered staffing and materials implications are attached to this. Goes back to MCPS poorly planned curriculum rollouts and implementation especially related to science and social studies. Teachers need to have materials to implement curriculum effectively. Training and support for teachers seems poorly done as to time frame when teachers get these and are expected to teach them.

Sharon St. Pierre, MCCPTA VP for Education, raises concern for more specifics and addressing what we are really asking for.

Delegate for Garrett Park ES raises concern on voluntary training versus mandatory.

Steve Crowley Rockville Cluster Co- Coordinator offers a motion to amend the amendment by dropping everything after the word *“process.”*

A motion to amend the amendment was made and seconded.

Steve Crowley explains that his amendment to the amendment leaves intact that one could use for explanation as to what the goal is for the amendment in relation to items deleted after the word *“process.”*

The motion to amend the amendment passes by voice vote.

Motion to amend to add another bullet item as proposed by amendments passes by voice vote.

New bullet item was added to operating budget resolution, *“Improve the Curriculum roll-out process.”*

A question was asked about Secondary Literacy. Jane de Winter explained that Secondary Literacy involves things such as a broad category including such things as after school programs, literacy coaches in school, more staffing within school, etc.

Ted Willard, Co-Chair for Curriculum Committee made a motion to amend to put in alphabetical order. Motion to amend was seconded.

PTA President for Hoover MS raises concern that item that reads, "Provide for safe, clean, healthy, modern school facilities is last on this list.

Wootton HS Co Cluster Coordinator spoke against placing in any order as we have never done that and felt that MCCPTA leadership could address issues competently without ordering list.

Delegate from Sherwood High School spoke in favor of moving last item first.

Motion to amend to put in alphabetical order fails on voice vote.

Delegate from Wootton HS made a motion to amend bullet item pertaining to school facilities by added the word "secure" between safe and clean. Motion read "*Provide for safe, secure, clean, healthy, modern school facilities.*"

The motion to amend was seconded.

The motion to amend to add to the bullet item for school facilities to read, "*Provide for safe, secure, clean, healthy, modern school facilities*" passes by voice vote.

Delegate for Bannockburn ES proposes motion to amend the bulleted list to add reducing class sizes throughout the county. The motion was seconded.

The motion to amend failed on voice vote.

Resolution on the FY 08 Operating Budget Priorities passes by voice vote as amended.

Resolution on FY2008 Operating Budget Priorities

Whereas, MCCPTA's mission is to speak for children and without question our highest budget priority is education;

Whereas, the Delegates have approved an "Operating Budget Compact" from which these priorities are taken;

Be it resolved that the MCCPTA Delegates approve the following operating budget priorities for the organization to concentrate on this budget year.

Increase Secondary Literacy,
Close the achievement gap,
Expand after school programs and in school programs for prevention and intervention of bullying and gang activity,
Expand the Special Education Hours based staffing Model,
Increase the number of Parent Community Outreach Coordinators,
Provide for safe, secure, clean, healthy, modern school facilities, and
Improve the curriculum roll out process.

Policy FFA - Naming of School Facilities Letter (Comments on Proposed Policy)

Jim Keenan, CoChair CIP Committee, provides information about parental and community involvement being eliminated in naming process. Also noted was BOE ignoring naming committee recommendations and doing what they prefer instead of what committee recommends. A draft letter to BOE for Delegates is moved forward.

Jane de Winter explains this motion is coming from committee so no second is needed.

Delegates approved letter by voice vote to be written by MCCPTA to address concerns on Proposed Policy FAA.

Policy FFA: Naming of School Facilities

Comments due to the BOB on December 15, 2006

BOB Statement on the proposed changes: *The Board tentatively approved revisions to Policy FFA, Naming of School Facilities . The policy provides a process by which the Board of Education adopts official names for county public school facilities after soliciting community preferences. The revised policy allows for compelling circumstances in which the Board would provide notice to the community of its intent to designate a school name and waive the process for community involvement.*

Draft of MCCPTA letter to the BOE on Policy FFA, Naming School Facilities

MCCPTA strongly urges you to reject the revisions on Policy FFA, *Naming School Facilities*. We believe stakeholder input is vital to building a school and it starts with the naming process. Parents and community work together with MCPS to create a new school (or rename a reopened school) and engage in collaboration on facility design, color schemes and school mascot, and principal selection.

The process of naming a school must allow for the community to be a valued member in this important step; thus the procedures on creating a naming committee and for recommending selections. Creating a loophole for the Board of Education to waive community involvement entirely, as the revisions permit, is unacceptable to us.

You have a process for adding names to preferred list for community to consider when that name fits their school community. The Policy already includes the Board developing a list of up to four names for the naming committee to consider.

This revision is in direct opposition of the new Policy ABA, *Community Involvement*, where the Purpose states;

"The Board of Education is committed to fostering and supporting community interest and involvement because citizen support of MCPS is essential to student success. The Board of Education will ensure the ideas, interests, and concerns of its stakeholders are considered and valued in decision making processes and that input and involvement is sought and encouraged from a broad spectrum of our diverse community. The Board is committed to the maintenance and monitoring of ongoing and collaborative communication processes with the community."

The message in the revised FFA, is that the Board wants to include the option to NOT consider the input of the stakeholders, NOR value their recommendations and, in fact, only communicate the final outcome. Our fears that the revisions of Policy FAA would lessen opportunities for parent and community involvement on facilities and long-range planning processes seem to be born out in the revisions of FFA.

Policy IEB - Middle School Education

Ellen Paul, Middle School Committee Chair, shares background and concerns about the proposed changes to Policy IEB as well as in relation to Middle School Reform ongoing work. Concerns were raised as to timing of this policy and its proposed changes without knowing what recommendations will be coming from Middle School Reform Steering Committee in future.

Old policy was 8 pages while new proposed policy is 16 pages. The proposed policy refers to 18 other policies. A bullet point document was put together for a letter to BOE. Comments have been many with some specific on certain lines and some not so specific in language on overall document.

Since motion for MCCPTA to write a letter to the Board of Education expressing raised concerns was coming from committee no second is needed.

A bulleted list of items for Delegates to give input was moved forward.

Motion on Policy IEB: Middle School

MCCPTA will write a letter to the BOE by the December 12, 2006, comment deadline including the following points:

- Parents should be identified as the primary stakeholder rather than diverse community groups or local businesses and there should be more focus on collaborative partnerships with parents rather than just "opportunities" for parents.
- The policy describes staff and leadership as being "highly qualified" which means that they have fulfilled certain certification criteria defined by NCLB. We also want staff that is "high quality".
- Ask that certain terms be defined or clarified within the context of the policy, including: fair, smaller learning communities, promote cultural competence amongst students, programmatic and instructional decisions ...will be based on...analysis of student performance data in relation to established benchmarks, encourage a more complete engagement in school, students will utilize technology to demonstrate mastery and monitor their own academic progress, co-curricular, and why the organizational structure section only sets out standards for high achieving middle schools.
- Supports alternative language A which has stronger language requiring schools to provide support to ineligible students. Suggest the last phrase "the school will provide the necessary academic support to ensure their success" be changed to "the school will provide the necessary academic support to meet or exceed the standard for eligibility."
- Add specific reference to "a sequenced and systematic higher level accelerated and enriched curriculum for Reading/Language Arts, Science, Social Science, and Mathematics in every grade" within the curriculum section of the policy.
- In the instructional practices section, restore the language which states that "Both homogeneous and heterogeneous groupings are appropriate."
- Suggest rearranging some of the sections on technology to make technology a subset of curriculum, instruction, and assessment rather than the most important aspect of that section.
- In the section on access to technology suggest they explicitly discuss issues of access outside the school day, suggest this is related to financial issues rather than diversity issues.
- Add language to staff development section "providing professional development for school staff on effective practices and techniques for instructional differentiation."
- Delete the section which states "This partnership will benefit from: Opportunities for parents and families to increase their ability to support the academic achievement of their children." This implies parents need to be taught. Schools should focus on educating students not parents. The focus with parents should be on partnerships and this idea is covered in later points.
- Add "and timely" to frequent two-way communication between parents and schools, so it reads: frequent and timely two-way communication...
- Change the responsibility to "create opportunities for professional learning communities to improve teaching and learning" from individual school staff to

central office.

- Staff should reflect the diverse student population of MCPS, not the diverse population of MCPS.
- The specific subject areas mentioned in the curriculum section of the old policy should be reinstated to retain mention of art and music in addition to other curriculum areas.
- Frustration at the pace of reform, frustration that we are being asked to comment on this without knowing what MCPS has in mind for Middle Schools, and frustration that there wasn't a longer comment period as was originally discussed for policy IEB.

Sharon Goodall, CoChair of Website Committee offered a motion to amend the bullet points to include an additional bullet to read, *“Instructional programs shall be implemented such that each child is challenged and supported to meet his or her academic potential.”*

Motion to amend was made and seconded.

Delegate from White Oak MS supported amendment by stating that each child’s potential should be aimed at while being accelerated and enriched.

Delegate from Earle B. Wood MS spoke in favor of amendment by highlighting that the letter needs to state dissatisfaction with timing of policy and not knowing about recommendations concerning Middle School Reform. Brought up were concerns about a “one size fits all policy” and the appearance that there is a dismantling of gifted education.

The motion on the amendment to add an additional bullet passes by voice vote.

Delegate from Takoma Park suggests adding language in reference to rigor. Some think challenging means going faster. The policy needs to address rigor through challenging, rich and engaging instruction. We need to have something on how this gets implemented. Referral was made to previous resolution adopted by MCCPTA.

Jane de Winter reiterated that anything in past resolutions pertaining to this can be referred to as MCCPTA is already on record for that and that could be referred to in letter.

Motion was made to amend language to add, *“We would urge BOE to make sure policy is assessed and implemented at all middle schools including through the school improvement plan process.”*

The motion was seconded.

The motion to amend language passes on voice vote.

Sally Taber, Area VP for Down County Consortium raised concerns on last bullet item about roll out and frustration over pace of middle school reform. We do not want to lose kids that are there now due to slow roll out.

Victor Salazar, MCCPTA VP for Legislation notes concern about bullet 2 and the terms “high qualified” and “high quality.” Education Trust released a report last summer about this that included criteria (7-8 characteristics) on possessing such qualities to be a teacher that is of high quality. We would like high quality

Delegate from Earle B. Wood MS states concern on process not allowed by MCPS in policy revision. Policy revisions should entail us having Middle School Reform report before us. Would like strong language in letter to address our frustration and oppose having policy comments before Middle School Reform report is issued to public including concern for short comment period. Process has not allowed public time to consider results of Middle School Reform hearings and forums and meetings of last year.

Ted Willard, Curriculum Committee Co-Chair offers language to say how frustrated we are in being asked to comment on this before report is issued and what MCPS has in mind.

Jane de Winter stated that letter would capture these issues and concerns.

A motion for MCCPTA to write a letter to the Board of Education regarding Policy IEB - Middle School Education which will include amended bullet language passes by voice vote.

MCCPTA Safety Committee

Pam Moomau, Safety Committee Chair introduces proposed resolution for Delegates to take back to locals for vote at January Delegates Assembly.

Resolution addresses concerns raised by parents on lack of security in school buildings. The MCCPTA BOD has seen. Background was provided on back of sheet and has been posted on listservs. Proposed resolution will be posted to listservs. Explanation was given for difference between EFO vs. security guards hired by MCPS.

Delegate from Cold Spring asked why an independent assessment could not be done. It was suggested that this be brought back in January as an amendment

Proposed Resolution Regarding Improving Security Conditions at Local Schools MCCPTA Safety Committee

WHEREAS recent incidents involving violence and threats of violence from intruders in schools both nationally and in Montgomery County have revealed the vulnerability of many Montgomery County school buildings to potential intruders; and

WHEREAS the potential for threats from intruders varies from school to school depending on the configuration of each school, its site, and its location; and,

WHEREAS all students and staff in Montgomery County Public Schools should be assured that everything that is reasonably possible is being done to enhance school security; and

WHEREAS portable classrooms pose the following security hazards relating to

- * Movement of students and staff between portables and the main building,
- * Isolation of students and staff, often without visual contact between the portable doorway and the main school building; and
- * Lack of access to building facilities such as bathrooms and water in the event of lockdown situations;

now therefore be it

RESOLVED that Montgomery County Public Schools conduct a security inventory of their school facilities, including soliciting input from staff and parents associated with each facility;

RESOLVED that MCPS provide resources as may be required to ensure that access to the school is adequately limited during the school day;

RESOLVED that MCPS amend the portable siting specifications to include consideration of security-related criteria; and

RESOLVED that MCPS investigate ways to improve access to bathroom facilities for students in portables, particularly during lockdown situations.

Policy JFA

Policy JFA: Student Rights and Responsibilities

BOE Statement: The Board tentatively adopted revisions to Policy JFA, Student Rights and Responsibilities. The revision to the policy stipulates that a student's conduct prior to election or appointment to the student government, or

other leadership position, meet a higher standard in order for the student to be eligible to attain, or retain, such leadership positions. Comments are due to the BOE on January 19, 2007.

From Policy JFA

50 4. Students elected to student government or occupying other
51 leadership positions must retain academic eligibility
52 during their term of office. ~~Additionally,~~
53

54 5. ~~students elected~~ **Students seeking election to or**
55 **occupying positions in** student government or ~~occupying~~
56 other leadership positions are expected to meet a higher
57 standard of conduct and comply with all policies,
58 regulations, and procedures on and off campus, ~~during~~
59 ~~their term of office.~~

Comments are due January 19, 2007 and Jane de Winter asks if MCCPTA should comment on this. Does the organization want to vote on each item raised or incorporate all in letter?

Do we want to write a letter? Yes or no vote was requested. A yes vote by Delegates was recorded.

What to write in letter was asked by Jane de Winter?

Motion was made and seconded on asking MCPS about clarifying what is higher standard of conduct. Passes by voice vote.

Sharon Shulman, Curriculum Committee Co-Chair asks about higher standard of conduct and what does that mean? Higher than what? We need clarifying language.

Motion made and seconded to express opinion that this change in policy is overly broad and precludes some students with minor infractions in past from being able to seek office.

Motion passes by voice vote.

Jane de Winter asked clarifying question on language to be put in letter. Does body support for having some higher standards for a period of time before elections or completely against this language? She asks for comments.

Delegate from Maryvale ES asks or clarifying language on standards.

Delegate from Martin Luther King MS standards being imposed that our own elected officials do not follow

Ted Willard, Curriculum Committee Co-Chair asks immediate proceeding school year or what is time frame?

Delegate for Pyle MS asks for clarification seeking additional authority to say students that do crimes, robberies, etc.

Delegate for Takoma Park MS states clarification is needed and that students should be free to select their own representatives as part of democratic process.

Delegate for Mile Creek ES speaks to compliance of standards with expected conduct and behavior.

Jane de Winter asks are there conditions of which we would support this change or opposed to this proposed policy?

Ted Willard, Curriculum Committee Co-Chair makes suggestion that since there are such varying view points that everyone could write their own letter. Motion made and seconded.

Consensus on two items was noted. No vote was taken as it was decided that those comments could be commented on due to consensus of Delegates.

Delegate from Montgomery Knolls made a motion for general letter from MCCPTA and that each person/local could write their own letter as well. Language to be included from MCCPTA that, *"many MCCPTA members experienced great concern in the over broadness, vagueness, and needing clarifying language. Members feel this is ill conceived in current language and expressed concern on short time period for comments without being able to take back to locals."*

Motion was seconded

Motion passes on voice vote to add comments and concerns as raised by Delegates for a general letter with no position to be written by MCCPTA to the Board of Education.

MCCPTA President updates:

New template for bylaws coming. Changes are mandatory.

Student Service Learning Hours (SSL) Resolution sent to Dr. Grasmick. Dr. Weast is appreciative of MCCPTA support of his position. Dr. Grasmick may come back with compromise.

Bluebooks will be coming out and ponied to schools. (6 bluebooks going to each PTA.)

There will be a MCCPTA Board of Directors Meeting on December 7, 2006.

Meeting was adjourned at 10PM.