

Minutes MCCPTA Board Directors
Carver Educational Service Center
December 4, 2008

Officers

Kay Romero, President, Merry Eisner, VP Education, Liz Wheeler, VP Administration, Karen Smith, VP Programs, Rebecca Smondrowski, VP Legislation, Dale Ryan, Treasurer, Patti Twigg Recording Secretary, Delegate Assembly, Andrea Q. Bernardo, Recording Secretary, Board of Directors,

AVPs, Cluster Coordinators and Committee Chairs

Lee Anne Doerflinger, Dawn Dolan, Fran Simons, Susan Burkinshaw, Bob Murphy, Susan Joyce Thomas, Juan Johnson, Paul Morrison, Julie Lucas, Kevin David, Jim Keenan, Brenda Martin, Ricky Ford, Mary Abe, Laurie Halverson, Janette Gilman, Laura Siegel, Jen Pories, Carol Falk, Beth Kennington, Kate Savage, Roy Broussard, Melissa McDonald, Priscilla Peterson, Pam Moomau, April Keyes, Kristen Tribble, Steve Augustino, Sharon St. Pierre, Donna Pfeiffer, Valerie Rivers, Keith Parsky, Carol Salsbury, Terry Salus, Jack Hayes, Craig Brown, Joy White, Allyson Morrison, Ted Willard, Joe Stewart, Jane de Winter, Past President.

The Meeting was called to order at 7:35 pm. A quorum was present.

The Agenda was approved.

The November Minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report. Dale Ryan presented the Budget and Profit and Loss Statement.

Kay Romero reported that MCPS Budget Books will be out December 18. They will be ponied to schools.

Committee Reports

By-Laws Committee. Joe Stewart reported that the state had changed the template. The committee is reviewing the quorum issue and expected to

have a motion for the DA for the February meeting. Liz Wheeler pointed out that the list prepared by MDPTA contained errors on the renewal dates for some locals and reminded locals that by-laws are in effect for 3 years from the date locals approve them. Locals must reconcile their records with state records. Joe Stewart indicated that the Committee was maintaining its own list of school by-laws.

CIP. Steve Augustino reported testimonies were held on November 12 and 13 and thanked all who testified. The BOE approved the Superintendent's proposed budget on November 20. The County Executive's budget will be out January and voted in the Spring. The guide to the 2010 CIP was sent out to the listserv. Steve Augustino expressed the concern that modernizations and HVAC and roof repairs should not be delayed. He indicated that budget cuts should be expected, and asked input as to how MCCPTA should participate in the discussions with the County. A lengthy discussion ensued. One member expressed concern that it was difficult to make decisions when, for instance, it was not clear what Tech Mods included. One person expressed concern as to the necessity of the fire code upgrade. The cost of security camera and access systems was also questioned. The funding for the Promethean Boards was also questioned in that they seem to have appeared over the summer, cost more than comparable products, and appear to have been distributed somewhat unevenly county wide. Another member pointed out that some schools still needed more computers. It was pointed out that Oakland Terrace is very overcrowded and needed to be alleviated as soon as possible. The general consensus was that more information was needed as to the cost of various large items in the budget.

Several motions were introduced and seconded. After discussion as to text, they were tabled. Steve may bring an updated version of his motion to the January BOD based on discussion tonight.

Operating Committee. Pam Moomau continued the discussion of tight budgets for MCPS. The County is expected to have a \$500 million shortfall. The operating budget forum will be held January 5. It is important for that cluster coordinators, MCCPTA Delegates and those preparing for budget testimony to attend. Budget workshop will be held January 10 at Kensington Parkwood Elementary School at 9:00 am. Budget testimony will be January 14 and 21. Please let Liz Wheeler if you are not available either of those days.

Safety. Laurie Halverson reported that next meeting will be December 18 and will address the MCPS bullying policy. New security systems are being installed in schools. The school safety and security reports are out.

Health. The MCPS Wellness Committee is reviewing school issues and reviewed Policy JPG to determine how well it is working.

Grading and Reporting. Beth Kennington reported that there has been no feedback from parents on standards based grading. The committee is still seeking input from parents. There continue to be issues of teacher delay in posting to edline.

Kay Romero reported that the Middle School working group will resume discussions that concern middle school final exams for students taking high school courses.

Blue Books are published and will be ponied to schools that have paid their dues.

Kay Romero asked whether MCCPTA should endorse the Rigor Through Relevance Conference. The Board approved a motion to endorse.

Kay Romero asked for volunteers to attend the MLK Breakfast.

Kay Romero announced that MCPS is reviewing student curricular fees. The Board of Education is to receive feedback in January from the MCPS workgroups. MCCPTA was not part of the workgroups. New changes related to the fees will start in the fall of 2009. A communication plan is to be developed by MCPS.

Kay Romero announced that MCPS was developing a math working group. One focus will be teacher preparedness, staff development, and curriculum among other things. She asked for volunteers to participate.

New Business. Laura Siegel expressed the sentiment that when advocating, that MCCPTA should advocate with a unified voice. School communities should not be pitted against one another. It was agreed, however, that testimony should enlighten elected officials about individual schools.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:45 pm.