

**DRAFT Minutes MCCPTA Delegates Assembly**

**April 24, 2007**

**Carver Educational Services Center**

**Annual Meeting**

**Call to Order:** President Jane de Winter called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM

**PTA Mission:** Sharon St.Pierre, VP for Education

**Introductions of Guests:** Mary Jo Neil, President, Maryland PTA, Cathy Lilja, MCCPTA Office Manager

**Approval of Minutes:**

The minutes from the March 27 Delegate Assembly were reviewed. The minutes stand approved as written.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Treasurer Juan Johnson presented the Balance Sheet as of April 24, 2007 and Budget vs. Actuals for July 2006-April 2007. We are in good shape financially. There is \$20,000 rolled over each year for prepaid insurance. The treasurer's report will be filed for audit.

**New Business Item:**

**Annual Election:** Nomination slate from the MCCPTA Nominating Committee was presented on overhead and handouts. Vicki Rafel , Bylaws Committee Chair went over procedures for election, Robert's Rules of Order/Bylaws, Voting Body. Voting Body consists of three people from each local PTA President and 2 Delegates and members of Board of Directors. Officers will be voted on first then Area Vice Presidents. Only those from a particular area vote on the Area Vice President for their area. Cluster Coordinators will be voted on next and only those from that cluster votes. Officer qualifications were reviewed. Nominees are to be members of local PTAs in good standing and have served as a local PTA President or member of Board of Directors for MCCPTA. Ms. Rafel stated that a motion would need to be made to adjust for correct spelling of names of those nominated when we get to any ballots. Members were asked if there were any questions. There were none.

**ARTICLE VI: OFFICERS AND THEIR ELECTION**

Section 1. The elected officers of MCCPTA shall be a president, a vice president for educational issues, a vice president for administration, a vice president for programs, a vice president for legislation, a recording secretary for delegate assemblies, a recording secretary for board of directors meetings, and a treasurer.

Section 2. These officers shall be elected at the Annual Meeting in the month of April and shall assume their duties after installation, except for the treasurer who takes office on July 1.

Section 3. The vote shall be conducted by ballot and a majority vote shall elect. When there is only one candidate for any office, that election may be held by voice vote.

Section 4. The following provisions shall govern the eligibility of individuals to be officers in MCCPTA:

- #a. Each officer shall be a member of a local PTA within the area of this PTA council.
- b. Only members of a local PTA whose National, state, and council PTA dues are paid shall be eligible to hold office. All officers shall have served at least one (1) full year as a local PTA officer or one (1) full year on the PTA council board of directors.
- c. A term of office shall be one year or until a successor is elected. No officer except the treasurer may be eligible to serve more than two (2) consecutive terms in the same office. The treasurer may serve three (3) consecutive terms.
- d. A person who has served in an office for more than one-half of a full term shall be

deemed to have served a full term in such office.

e. Any officer of MCCPTA shall resign within a week of filing for candidacy for public office.

**Voting Body:**

**ARTICLE XII: GENERAL MEMBERSHIP (VOTING BODY)**

Section 1. The general membership (voting body) of MCCPTA shall consist of the board of directors, the presidents of each local PTA or their alternates, and delegates from each local PTA or their alternates as specified in Section 2 of this article.

Section 2. In addition to the local PTA president, each local PTA shall be entitled to be represented by two delegates or their alternates, selected by the local PTA according to its own bylaws.

Section 3. Individuals are entitled to one vote, even though they may be serving in more than one position.

MCCPTA President, Jane de Winter was asked to preside over the election.

The names for each office as proposed by nominating committee were read. Delegates were asked if there were any additional nominations from floor as each name was presented. Those on nomination slate proposed by nominating committee were uncontested. For MCCPTA Secretary-Delegates Assembly- Ted Willard was nominated from floor as that position was not filled on slate as presented.

Elections were held for Officers, Area Vice Presidents and Cluster Coordinators. The results are listed below:

*(Asterisk [\*] indicates nominated from the floor instead of from the nominating committee)*

**Officers:**

President	Jane de Winter
Vice President: Educational Issues	Kay Romero
Vice President: Administration	Liz Wheeler
Vice President: Programs	April Keys
Vice President: Legislation	Victor Salazar
Recording Secretary: (Board of Directors)	Susan Thomas
Recording Secretary: (Delegates Assembly)	Ted Willard *
Treasurer:	Dale Ryan

**Area Vice Presidents:** *(Asterisk [\*] indicates AVP nominated from the floor instead of from the nominating committee.)*

Sherwood	Deborah Stevens-Panzer
Northeast Consortium (Blake, Paint Branch, Springbrook)	(no nomination)
Sherwood cluster	
Churchill, Richard Montgomery, Rockville, Wootton	Kate Savage

Blair, Einstein, Kennedy, Northwood Sally Taber  
B-CC, Walter Johnson, Deborah DeMille-Wagman\*  
Whitman, Wheaton

Clarksburg, Damascus, Gaithersburg, Allyson Morrison  
Magruder, Watkins Mill

Northwest, Poolesville, Jim Keenan  
Quince Orchard, Seneca Valley

**Cluster Coordinators:** *(Asterisk [\*] indicates cluster coordinator nominated from the floor instead of from the nominating committee.*

Sherwood Deborah Stevens-Panzer, Fran Simon  
Paint Branch Patti Twigg  
Blake Dawn Dolan, Lee Ann Doerflinger\*  
Springbrook Naghma Hussein\*, Pamela Johnson\*

Churchill Janet Gilman, Laurie Halverson, Brenda Willett  
Wootton Andrea Bernardo, Mohan Gupta\*, Carol Falk\*  
(Rich Edelman withdrawn)  
Rockville Amy Hartley, Michael Joseph\*  
Richard Montgomery John Hall, Lori Merrill (Elizabeth Enders withdrawn)

Einstein Diane Dickson, Faye Nabavian\*  
Kennedy Ricky Ford, Dan Gaskill, Karen Sullivan  
Blair Pete Lafen, Bladimir Duenas  
Northwood Pam Megna, Jennifer Chambers, Stacy Menendez

Bethesda-Chevy Chase Deborah Missal\*, Jack Hayes\*  
Walter Johnson Pam Moomau, Joanne Vanderhorst  
Wheaton Karen Smith  
Whitman Paula Robinson, Deborah Goldman\*

Clarksburg Jamie Jacobson, Sonya Leaman, Donna Pfeiffer  
Damascus Leslie Cuneo, Kristin Tribble  
Gaithersburg Steve Augustino, Carroll Lovelace  
Magruder Linda Kuserk, Dawn Trahern and Ted Willard  
Watkins Mill Brenda Szczesny, Susan Young **(No one there from cluster to vote) TBA-Names will come to MCCPTA Board of Directors for approval as in all additional vacancies to be filled.**

Northwest **TBA- Names will come to MCCPTA Board of Directors for approval as in all additional vacancies to be filled.**

Poolesville Roger Hayden- **(No one there from cluster to vote) TBA-Names will come to MCCPTA Board of Directors for approval as in all additional vacancies to be filled.**

Quince Orchard

**TBA- Names will come to MCCPTA Board of Directors for approval as in all additional vacancies to be filled.**

Seneca Valley

Juan Johnson\*, Julie Lucas\*, Brenda Martin\*

New MCCPTA Officers, Area Vice Presidents and Cluster Coordinators are introduced and congratulated. Officers will be installed at the May Presidents and Principals Dinner on May 23, 2007. The newly elected MCCPTA Treasurer begins July 1.

**Business:**

Grading and Reporting Resolution introduced at March, 27, 2007 Delegates Assembly. A motion was made by Jane de Winter for 20 minutes of discussion with 2 minutes to each speaker (Noted that extension of discussion/debate could be done.)

Beth Kennington, Grading and Reporting Committee Cochair, read the resolution to the Delegates as related to grade calculations. Resolution is offered on overhead as well as on handouts. Chart examples are also offered-grade configuration with final exam given and grade configurations for nine week marking period (or second semester for seniors) without the final exam. Weight of quarters is 50 percent when no final exam is given. When final exams are given weight of quarters is 37.5 percent for each quarter and 25 percent for final exam. We are not asking MCPS to report numerical grades. We want the final grade to be determined and be reflective of the numerical/percentage grade earned. Example: If 89 is grade earned in first quarter we want 89 to be factored in with next quarter's grade and also with final exam grade.

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION FOR GRADING AND REPORTING**

The Montgomery County Council of Parent-Teacher Associations (MCCPTA) finds that the application used by Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) in computing secondary school final grades at the end of each two-quarter period (semester) results in compression of grades under its current application.

WHEREAS MCPS currently applies the grading methodology detailed in the Grade Configuration Table for Semester Grades (GCTSG method) when computing final grades in secondary schools; and

WHEREAS MCPS' use of the GCTSG method may result in grade compression when a final exam is given or in grade trending when no final exam is given, based on the 0-100 percent grade conversions to a letter grade; and

WHEREAS MCPS Policy IKA, Grading and Reporting, states that "[f]air representation of a student's performance on a variety of measures over time" and "[a]ccurate and precise records that support reported achievement" shall occur; and

WHEREAS the MCCPTA believes that in the interest of fairness to students and accuracy in the reporting of grades, MCPS should revise its Grading Procedures in Grades 6-12 to incorporate a procedure in which each semester/final grade is determined by weighting the grades on a 0-100 % scale (percentage scale), now be it, therefore,

RESOLVED that the MCCPTA requests that Montgomery County Public Schools discontinue use of the Grade Configuration Table for Semester Grades when calculating a semester or final grade; and be it, further,

RESOLVED that the MCCPTA requests that Montgomery County Public Schools

revise the Grading Procedures in Grades 6-12 to require that final grades for all secondary courses be determined by weighting the final grade on percentage scale for each of the two quarters and for the final exam grade, if one is given; and be it, further,

RESOLVED that MCCPTA requests that MCPS retain the percentage grade earned, when reporting a letter grade on the report card in order to later demonstrate the most precise measure of each student's letter grade earned.

Draft Resolution and charts are located on MCCPTA website.

<http://www.mccpta.com/gradingAndReporting.html>

Question was asked, why not percentage numbers?

This is a separate issue and broadens scope of this resolution as was noted by Jane de Winter.

Cloverly ES Delegate asks how this is reflected in final transcripts.

Jane de Winter explains that this resolution requests no changes to transcripts. Transcripts would still have A, B, C, D or E. This just means how those letter grades are calculated.

Question was asked about what other school systems are doing.

Beth Kennington, Grading and Reporting Committee Cochair noted that a Texas school system was under percentage scale.

Blair HS Delegate asks about teacher discretion.

Jane de Winter states no change requested.

Churchill HS PTA Delegate raises concerned that this is drastic change for GPAs and states that GPAs will go down.

Bells Mill ES PTA President stresses that the parents of elementary students who may not understand this and may need to take more time and talk more with their particular schools about this issue. She also asked that committee take more time with this discussion. She state their PTA voted for percentage scale only if it helps the student and not if it hurts the student.

Discussion continues for taking this back to committee for more discussion there. More concerns are raised in does this help or hurt kids. This resolution does not speak to forcing grades. What is the most accurate representation of grades earned? Not all PTAs have had meetings to discuss this.

Walter Johnson HS PTA delegate makes a motion to table this vote until later time. The motion was seconded. The motion to table the resolution to a later date passes by voice vote.

**President's Report:** Jane de Winter- The issue of May Delegates Assembly needs to be addressed. Do Delegates want one? If we have a May Delegates Assembly proposed bylaws amendments would be introduced then, a draft resolution to be introduced for schools meals from wellness policy workgroup and resolution for grading and reporting can be brought back up. If we have no May meeting voting body will have changed due to elections and all those things will have to be reintroduced in September for an October vote. Delegates voted to not to have a May Delegates Assembly by voice vote.

Additional information about a MCPS Middle School Issues Committee is provided. Ted Willard Curriculum Committee CoChair, Ellen Paul, Middle School Committee Chair and a representative needed from pilot middle schools will be on the committee. An email has gone out to try and identify the representative from the 5 pilot middle schools. An additional request expected to

come from MCPS for people to work on a committee developing surveys along with tracking different issues going to the Board of Education about middle schools.

A brief update about Finance Literacy Resolution and response from Dr. Weast is discussed. Sharon Schulman, Curriculum Committee Cochair will share what this involves when this response is reviewed later in more detail.

### **Committee Reports:**

**CIP-**Marney Jacobs, CIP Committee Cochair states that new council members need to hear from your clusters. All clusters will get testimony slots on May 1. Cluster comments will be due soon as well as CIP forum scheduled. Reminder email will be sent out. A buffet dinner with County Council members is on May 1.

**Operating Budget-** Victor Salazar, VP for Legislation states that nothing has changed with regards to full funding of \$1.9 billion proposed by school board. The gap between County Council and BOE proposed is \$19.7 Million. Last Tuesday County Council approved the spending guidelines for FY08. The guidelines set the limits on spending, the reserve fund and allocations for county agencies before the council debates the budget. The adoption of the SAG (Spending Affordability Guidelines) set the operating budget at \$3.65 billion. This is \$1.5 million less than proposed by the County Executive. The reserve fund (or rainy day fund) will be \$229.7million at the end of FY08. Marilyn Praisner, County Council President said the SAG process identified revenue available for the CIP and operating budget and there are not new revenue measures for the council to consider at this time.

**Special Education Committee-** Diane Dickson, Cochair reminded all that the MCCPTA Special Education Recognition Ceremony is on May 7<sup>th</sup> at Rockville HS. A handout was distributed with all award winners selected to be recognized at this ceremony. Everyone is invited to attend. This is the 19<sup>th</sup> year the committee has sponsored this ceremony and attendance ranges from 300-400.

**Reflections Committee:** Neal Myerson, Chair stated that the third annual Reflections Ceremony will be held on April 25, 2007 at Northwest High School. About 300 people are planning to attend.

**MCCPTA Training:** Sharon St. Pierre, VP for Education- Training is May 30<sup>th</sup> at Rockville High School. Flyer is on table. PTA packets will be available with guidebooks for local PTAs. Training sessions provided will be: New Presidents, Returning Presidents, Treasurers, Secretaries, MCCPTA Delegates, Board of Directors/Cluster Coordinators and AVPs, Reflections, MCCPTA-EPI FLES, Newsletter Editors, Bylaws, and Officer Responsibilities (in Spanish)

**Business Items:** Vicki Rafel, Bylaws Committee Chair, present the proposed bylaws amendments that will be reintroduced in September for a vote in October. Three of the proposed amendments addresses the quorum issue and two relate to changes from Maryland PTA. Pounded items are mandatory. It is important for members of the MCCPTA Board of Directors to attend meetings. Discussion continued about the inaccurate email posted to listserv concerning quorum numbers. A corrected one will be put out.

### **MCCPTA Committee Update – April 2007 Bylaws Committee Report**

On March 27, the MCCPTA delegates directed us to bring forward amendments to MCCPTA bylaws relating to the organization and operation of the board of directors. The rationale is as follows: Maryland PTA requires that the quorum for the MCCPTA board of directors be a majority. The board of directors currently number more than ninety people (officers, area vice presidents, cluster coordinators, committee chairs, and immediate

past president) which sets the quorum at about forty-eight people. Reducing the number of people on the board would allow the quorum requirement to be achieved more easily.

Three of the proposed amendments address the quorum issue and the other two relate to changes from Maryland PTA.

- Article VIII, Section 8: Board of Directors – Insert a second sentence, “Each cluster and each committee is entitled to only one vote in meetings of the board of directors.
  - Article X, Section 2b: Area Vice Presidents, Cluster Coordinators, and Their Election – Insert after “shall coordinate the work of the cluster coordinators,” the phrase, “shall participate in meetings of the board of directors and delegate assemblies;”
  - Article X, Section 3b: Area Vice Presidents, Cluster Coordinators, and Their Election – Insert after “coordinate testimony of the cluster before the Board of Education and the County Council;” the phrase “attend delegate assemblies;”
  - Article VI, Section 2: Officers and Their Election – Insert after “installation” the words “in May”.
  - Article VIII, Section 9: Board of Directors: Removal from Office – Insert after “a two-thirds (2/3) vote” the phrase “of the members present and voting”.
- (Note that this amendment addresses an issue raised last year regarding inconsistencies between the articles of incorporation and the bylaws.)

Delegate from Rosemary Hills ES introduces a proposed draft resolution on behalf of MCCPTA Health Committee:

#### **Draft Resolution on School Lunches/Formation of a Work Group**

Draft MCCPT A Resolution - Fruits and Vegetables and Wellness Policy  
/Work Group 4/23/07

DRAFT Resolution on School Lunches/Formation of a Work Group

MCCPT A Resolution: to promote more fruits and vegetables in school meals and to establish a work group to address nutrition and physical activity issues in MCPS.

Whereas, most children do not consume recommended servings of fruits and vegetables - the average 6 to 11 year old eats about 3.5 servings a day achieving only half the recommended seven servings of health-promoting fruits and vegetables a day for this age group;

Whereas, children are more likely to consume fruits and vegetables when presented in an appealing way in a form that is easy to consume;

Whereas, the MCPS School Wellness Policy (Policy JPG) is an important step in the right direction to continue improving the school environment to promote nutrition and physical activity;

Whereas, there is a need for a dedicated group to monitor wellness policy implementation progress and other important county nutrition and physical activity issues (the MCPS Wellness Policy Team was disbanded once the Wellness Policy was approved), be it now therefore

RESOLVED that MCPS establish the Wellness Policy Work Group, or some other

group, to include representatives from within the MCPS nutrition and physical activity areas, the county health department, Board of Education, parents and other key stakeholders, to address nutrition and physical activity issues, including additional improvements to school meals, and report back with recommendations within 6 months with periodic updates in the future.

Ted Willard, Curriculum Committee CoChair made a motion for the Delegates to reconsider having a May Delegates Assembly. The motion was seconded. Vote to not have a May Delegates Assembly passes again by voice vote.

**Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 9:25 PM

\*Please note that proposed resolutions will have to be brought up again in September since Delegates voted to not have a Delegates Assembly in May.