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The Montgomery County Council of Parent-Teacher Associations

www.mccpta.com

May/June 2011

2011-2012 Officers

President

Kristin Tribble
president@mccpta.com
301-414-2329

VP for Educational Issues

Laurie Halverson
vpedissues@mccpta.com
301-983-6453

VP for Administration

Paul Morrison
vpadmin@mccpta.com
301-977-9230

VP for Programs

Rebecca Smondrowski
vpprograms@mccpta.com
301-325-6246

VP for Legislation

Larry Edmonds
vplegislation@mccpta.com
240-381-3984

Treasurer

Jaimie Jacobson
treasurer@mccpta.com
301-972-5946

Rec Secretary-Delegates

Shebra Evans
secretaries@mccpta.com
703-786-5848

Rec Secretary-Board of Dir

Deb Lang
secretaries@mccpta.com
301-983-6794

MCCPTA Office

Pam Loebach, Office Mgr
office@mccpta.com
2096 Gaither Road
Suite 204
Rockville, MD 20850
Phone 301-208-0111
Fax 301-208-2003

What a Ride It's Been!

Who knew when we all started out at this point last year how many issues we would face? Between the search for a new Superintendent to the fiscal crisis affecting the funding of our children's schools to the multitude of issues you have tackled at the local level, it's been a wild ride. Yet, at every turn, I am so impressed with the level of commitment within each and every one of our PTAs. Every PTA serves their unique community and if couldn't be done with you! Thank you for your time, for your efforts, for your contributions this year. So, let's do it again!

Operating Budget

Many have commented on the advocacy of PTA members this year with regard to the MCPS Operating Budget. Thank you! We made an impact. To summarize the MCPS budget process, including a few highlights and resulting actions, see page 7.

March and April Delegates Assemblies of 2010-2011

The resolution *Maryland High School Students being Eligible for In-State Tuition at Maryland Public Colleges and Universities* was adopted by our MCCPTA delegates in March. As a side note, the Governor signed legislation into law in May which extends in-state tuition to undocumented students who meet certain conditions.

In April, the delegates voted to hold with tradition and canceled the May Delegates Assembly. Instead, we celebrated our volunteers and principals at our annual dinner held at the Marriott North Bethesda. If you weren't able to attend this year, make sure to plan on coming next year (and include it in your PTA budget!)

Next Delegates Assembly: September 2011!

MCCPTA Spring Leadership Training

Monday, June 6, 2011
6:30pm – 9:00pm
Rockville High School
2100 Baltimore Road, Rockville

FREE – Bring your entire PTA Leadership!
RSVP not required. Just come!

INSIDE>>>>>>>

MCCPTA Committees.....	2
President's Checklist.....	3
National PTA.....	3
CIP Report.....	4
2011-2012 Elected Officers, etc.....	5
Awards.....	6
Op Budget.....	7
Dues Voucher.....	8

MCCPTA Committee and Sub-Committee Chairpersons 2010-2011

STANDING COMMITTEES

Bylaws/Standing Rules
Capital Improvement Program
Curriculum/Education
Curriculum/Education
 Grading & Reporting Sub-Comm
 Technology Sub-Committee
Health/Safety
Health/Safety
Membership
 Community Outreach/Parent
 Involvement Sub-Committee
Operating Budget
School Support
 Downcounty Consortium Sub-Comm
 Guidance & Counseling Sub-Comm
 High School Sub-Committee
 Middle School Sub-Committee
 Student Service Learning Sub-Comm
Special Instruction
 ESOL Sub-Committee
 Gifted Child Sub-Committee
 Special Education Sub-Committee

Andrea Bernardo
Steve Augustino
Kathy Boehlert
Ted Willard
Unfilled
Unfilled
Donna Pfeiffer
Susan Burkinshaw
Janette Gilman
Elisia George

Pam Moomau
Jeannie Dillingham
Mary Abe
Jeannie Dillingham
Dave Lechner
Unfilled
Debra Lang
Joy Burdin
Joy Burdin
Michelle Gluck
Jeanne Taylor

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEES

Cable TV
Cultural Arts
Finance - Point of Contact
Legislative
Legislative
E-Lists/Spotlight
Nominating Committee
Presidents/Principals Dinner
Public Relations
Reflections
Special Events
Training Committee
Website Coordinator

Suzanne Weiss
Priscilla Peterson
Jaimie Jacobson
Patrick Dunn
Charles Duffy
Debra Lang
Frances Frost
Dale Ryan
Chris Kelly
Unfilled
Unfilled
DeBora King
Paul Morrison

AD HOC COMMITTEES

Growth Projections

Merry Eisner

Thank you to our Committee Chairpersons who served so ably this year!

If you are interested in stepping up and helping with any of these committees next year, please let us know. There will be a number of chairmanships that will need to be filled so don't be shy about letting us know what your passion is and where you would like to help!

Email Kristin Tribble at president@mccpta.com with any questions and we'll match you up with your interests.

Other help needed: Someone out there is reading this newsletter and thinking "This could be better if....". If that's you, email Kristin Tribble at president@mccpta.com. We need you!!

HELP US REACH ALL PARENTS! Volunteer Translators Needed

We are still looking for volunteers to translate MCCPTA items into Spanish and/or any other needed languages. Please contact Kristin Tribble at president@mccpta.com

Presidents' Checklist

- ✓ Time to wrap up the year! First and foremost, make sure to thank all of your parent volunteers...and give yourself a pat on the back while you're at it!
- ✓ Ask your treasurer and membership chair to confirm that dues payments have been made to BOTH Maryland PTA and MCCPTA and that they "match". That is, your PTA has paid for the same number of members to each of these organizations.
- ✓ Confirm with your treasurer that the Personal Property Tax Return was filed by April 15.
- ✓ Touch base with your Cluster Coordinator or Area Vice President and ensure your PTA has met all Maryland PTA Standards.
- ✓ Check with your Area Vice President for the date, time, location of your Area meeting with MCCPTA officers and encourage your PTA officers to attend.
- ✓ Ensure your treasurer has a plan to have an audit/financial review completed and remind them to send a copy to Maryland PTA once done. And don't forget to change the signature authority on your checking account!
- ✓ Conduct a review of your PTA efforts this year. Before those committee chairs leave for the summer (or other schools), ask for their feedback and what changes they would suggest for next year.
- ✓ Meet with incoming officers and committee chairs and encourage them to attend the June 6 MCCPTA Spring Training (6:30pm, Rockville High School).
- ✓ Register for next year's PTA Back To School Kit online at <http://www.pta.org/3104.asp> or call the National PTA Information Center at 1-800-307-4782 to order by phone. Kits will be shipped weekly starting June 17.
- ✓ Send in your officers' contact information to BOTH Maryland PTA and MCCPTA – email officeadministrator@mdpta.org and office@mccpta.com or send to our mailing address.
- ✓ And as you get further into the summer, create your calendar and submit your room reservation requests to ICB/CUPF by August 15. You will receive more info directly from ICB/CUPF during the summer.

**Maryland PTA Annual Convention
July 15-16, 2011
Crowne Plaza Baltimore, Timonium, MD
Elections – Workshops – Exhibits
For info, go to mdpta.org**

From National PTA

Proposed Dues Increase

National PTA has held firm on the cost of dues for more than a decade while still providing resources for parents and schools and benefits for all children. However, in order to ensure National PTA remains relevant to PTAs and parents nationwide, the board of directors unanimously approved a motion on March 7 to recommend to the delegates of the 115th National PTA Annual Convention to increase the National PTA dues 50 cents from \$1.75 to \$2.25. If approved, the increase would go immediately into effect.

Apply for the National PTA® Healthy Lifestyles Grants Today! National PTA will award up to 10 grants of up to \$1,000 each!

National PTA Healthy Lifestyles Program promotes good nutrition and regular physical activity in order to address the nation's childhood obesity epidemic. One-third of American children are either obese or at risk of becoming obese. Increased access to high-calorie good-tasting, inexpensive foods, along with increasingly sedentary lifestyles, has contributed to the rise in childhood obesity. The reduction and elimination of recess in as many as 40 percent of U.S. school districts has limited students' physical activity during the school day. Furthermore, consistent findings show that obesity is often associated with poor levels of academic achievement.

PTAs can play an important role in increasing physical activity and improving nutrition in the school community by engaging families, teachers, administrators and students in programs and activities that encourage the school community to be active and to eat healthier foods.

Deadline: Friday, September 2, 2011 at 5 p.m. EDT.

Applications must be **submitted online**.

Contact:

Questions about the grant, the application, or funding decisions should be directed to National PTA's Healthy Lifestyles Program Specialist at HealthyLifestyles@pta.org or (800) 307-4PTA (4782).
http://www.pta.org/pta_healthy_lifestyles_grant.asp

Capital Improvement Program Committee

Steve Augustino: sauggiedog@comcast.net

CIP Budget. By all indications, the CIP budget is proceeding without the drama and uncertainty surrounding the MCPS Operating Budget. At this time, it appears that the County Council will fund all, or essentially all, of the Board of Ed's requested CIP for 2012.

However, as I have noted at the Delegates Assembly for the past few months, it appears that next year's CIP, which is a "full year" CIP process, may generate increased pressure to reduce spending on capital items. In a February 1 document prepared in connection with the County's Spending Affordability Guidelines, county planners warned that the SAG likely would be reduced in future years and that "major changes" to the county's CIP may be appropriate next year. In preparation for that, I've provided further information to the Delegates over the last few months. The Committee will consider these possible changes in its CIP priorities resolution for next year.

FY 2013 CIP Comments. Adrienne Karamihas recently sent her annual request for comments on the FY 2013 CIP (next year's CIP). The annual cluster CIP comments are due on June 1. MCPS uses these comments to identify trends across MCPS schools and to ensure that individual cluster needs are known so they can be prioritized. MCCPTA also uses these comments to help identify our priorities for the construction portion of the budget. Please begin gathering information for the comments as soon as you can.

2010 CIP Committee Initiatives. The CIP Committee's workplan identified three initiatives for the 2010-11 school year: (1) review of countywide CIP projects; (2) drafting of a Parents' Guide to the Construction Process; and (3) study of costs related to the maintenance and renewal of athletic fields. The Committee continues to review the countywide CIP projects, and intends to submit recommendations to be incorporated with the CIP priorities resolution next year. The Parents' Guide was intended to accompany the MCPS "Principal's Guide" but that document has been determined to be out of date. Accordingly, a Parents Guide has been put on hold for now. The Committee is gathering information on the athletic fields issue. It is not determined yet when a final product can be presented.

SPOTLIGHT on Our Own!!

PTA Leaders Address Bullying at White House Event

Susan Burkinshaw, MCCPTA Health and Safety Co-chair, and **Laurie Halverson**, MCCPTA VP of Educational issues were invited by National PTA to participate in a White House Roundtable event, "Winning the Future: Champions of Change" on April 13.

Russlyn Ali, Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education led the roundtable discussion with 15 parents from around the country who have been considered "champions" in their efforts to cause change in their communities for children.

Susan and Laurie were asked to participate because of their work in Montgomery County on anti-bullying in schools. Susan helped to develop an anti-bullying task force at Kingsview Middle School which meets on an ongoing basis to break down barriers and hopefully be a model for anti-bullying programs for other schools in the county. Laurie was a co-chair of the MCPS committee that developed the new anti-bully policy. Susan and Laurie worked with Frank Stetson, Director of the Office of School Performance to improve the School Safety and Security at a Glance Report to reflect all incidents of bullying that are reported, to more accurately reflect the documentation of bullying in our schools. Susan and Laurie continue to learn about and pursue a consistent bullying prevention program county-wide.

Visit <http://www.whitehouse.gov/champions/parents> to hear about what Susan, Laurie and other parents in the country are doing in their communities to make an impact on education.

Don't miss anything this summer!.

Subscribe to the MCCPTA listserves now!

Start with the delegates elist by emailing:

mccpta_delegates-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

MCCPTA SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

Tuesdays and Thursdays

10:00am – 12:00pm

Beginning June 20, 2011

301-208-0111

**MCCPTA Elected Officers, Area Vice Presidents,
and Cluster Coordinators 2011-2012**

President: Kristin Tribble
VP for Educational Issues: Laurie Halverson
Vice President for Administration: Paul Morrison
Vice President for Programs: Rebecca Smondrowski
Vice President for Legislation: Larry Edmonds
Treasurer: Jaimie Jacobson
Recording Secretary, Board of Directors: Debra Lang
Rec Secretary, Delegates Assembly: Shebra Evans

**Bethesda-Chevy Chase, Walter Johnson, Wheaton,
Whitman**

Area Vice President: Terri Salus
Bethesda-Chevy Chase Cluster Coordinators:
Mary Cobbett
Craig Brown
Lynn King

Walter Johnson Cluster Coordinators:
Jennifer Cope
Barbara Ferry

Wheaton Cluster Coordinators:
Shebra Evans
George Gadbois

Whitman Cluster Coordinators:
Jean Schlesinger
Elise Browne Hughes
Keith Parsky

Blair, Einstein, Northwood, Kennedy

Area Vice President: OPEN

Blair Cluster Coordinators:
Amber Khan
Susan Fleck
Bladimir Duenas

Einstein Cluster Coordinator:
Jean Claude Zenklusen

Northwood Cluster Coordinators:
Stephanie Helsing
Lory Green

Kennedy Cluster Coordinator:
Frances Frost

Churchill, Richard Montgomery, Rockville, Wootton

Area Vice President: Jill Trone

Churchill Cluster Coordinator:
Melanie Twomey

Richard Montgomery Cluster Coordinator:
Cheryl Moss Herman

Wootton Cluster Coordinators:
Bob Weiss
Rich Edelman
Karen Collishaw

Rockville Cluster Coordinator: OPEN

**Clarksburg, Damascus, Gaithersburg, Magruder,
Watkins Mill**

Area Vice President: Ted Willard

Clarksburg Cluster Coordinators:
Todd Powell
Janet Sanchez
Seenu Suvarna

Damascus Cluster Coordinator:
Jennifer McDonald

Gaithersburg Cluster Coordinators:
Laurie Augustino
Kathy Lloyd

Magruder Cluster Coordinators:
Annie Foster Ahmed
Beatrice Hanson
Martha Schaerr

Watkins Mill Cluster Coordinators:
Martha Crews
Sumbal Sheldon

**Sherwood and the Northeast Consortium - Blake,
Paint Branch, Springbrook**

Area Vice President: Patti Twigg

Sherwood Cluster Coordinators:
Virginia Twombly
Tina Velazquez

Blake Cluster Coordinator:
Jocelyn Walker

Paint Branch Cluster Coordinators:
Larry Edmonds
Princess Akwura Igwebuike

Springbrook Cluster Coordinator:
Reva Gambrell

**Seneca Valley, Poolesville, Northwest and Quince
Orchard**

Area Vice President: Juan Johnson

Seneca Valley Cluster Coordinators:
Kevin David
Scott Bogren
Julie Lucas

Poolesville Cluster Coordinators:
Donna Lowell
Jennifer Kasten
Dawn Albert

Northwest Cluster Coordinators:
Beth Kennington
Sarah Kessler

Quince Orchard Cluster Coordinators:
Rebecca Smondrowski
Jim Keenan

2010-2011 Membership Awards

GROW IT!

Recognizing year-on-year growth in percentage terms

Up 5%

Herbert Hoover MS
Springbrook HS
Lakewood ES
Fairland ES
Arcola ES
A. Mario Loiederman MS
Brookhaven ES
Greenwood ES
Farmland ES
Beverly Farms ES
Montgomery Blair HS
S. Christa McAuliffe ES
Brown Station ES
Dr. Charles Drew ES
Highland ES
William Tyler Page ES
Takoma Park MS
Poolesville ES
Bethesda ES
Diamond ES
Strawberry Knoll ES

5-10% Growth

Cashell ES
Damascus ES
Fox Chapel ES
Stone Mill ES
Fields Road ES
Benjamin Banneker MS
Sequoyah ES
Bannockburn ES
Argyle MS

10-25% Growth

Paint Branch HS
William Gibbs ES
Ridgeview MS
Gaithersburg HS
Luxmanor ES
Newport Mill MS
Woodlin ES
Whetstone ES
Flower Hill ES
Jackson Road ES
John Poole MS
Westbrook ES
Clearspring ES
Forest Knolls ES
South Lake ES
College Gardens ES
Germantown ES
Seven Locks ES

Piney Branch ES
Bradley Hills ES
Earle B. Wood MS
Wyngate ES
Ashburton ES
Maryvale ES
Julius West MS
Beall ES

25-50% Growth

Rosa M. Parks MS
Burtonsville ES
Bel Pre/Strathmore ES
Glenallan ES
Summit Hall ES
Little Bennett ES
North Bethesda MS
Carderock Springs ES
Takoma Park ES
Great Seneca Creek ES
Garrett Park ES
Cresthaven/Roscoe Nix ES
Francis Scott Key MS

100-300% Growth

Walt Whitman HS
Watkins Mill HS
Sligo MS
Eastern MS

BUILD & SUSTAIN IT!

Recognizing the largest membership in absolute terms

Elementary:

Stone Mill ES
Beverly Farms ES
Spark M. Matsunaga ES

Middle School:

Hoover Middle MS
Thomas Pyle MS
Robert Frost MS

High School:

Winston Churchill HS
Walt Whitman HS
Walter Johnson HS

ENGAGE IT!

Recognizing the greatest PTA member to student number ratio at each level

Sherwood Elementary School
Hoover Middle School
Winston Churchill High School

Highlights from our Presidents and Principals Annual Dinner

MCCPTA PTA President of the Year (2010-2011):

Alysa Emden
Westland Middle School PTSA

Congratulations to Alysa and to our distinguished finalists:

Shruti Bhatnagar, Takoma Park ES PTA
Linda Kuserk, Magruder HS PTSA
Don Hauprich, Paint Branch HS PTSA
Teresa Kaczmarek, Quince Orchard HS PTSA

These individuals have shown incredible commitment and a dedication to the principles of PTA. Alysa received a plaque that each year will be inscribed with the name/school of the PTA President of the Year and will hang at the school for that year.

The Maryland PTA Lifetime Membership Award was presented to **Henry "Hank" Heller** in recognition of his support for education over many decades.

The National PTA Lifetime Membership Award was presented to **Dr. Jerry Weast** for his obvious contributions to the children of Montgomery County.

Student bands who performed were incredibly gifted in their talents:
Faizan from Walt Whitman HS
Smoke 'N Mangos from Poolesville HS
Emma and Carson from Walt Whitman HS

We also thank a few distinguished guests who provided remarks complimentary of our PTA volunteers:

Chuck Saylor, National PTA President
Dr. DeRionne Pollard, President of Montgomery College
Ike Leggett, Montgomery County Executive
Chris Barclay, President of the Board of Education
Dr. Rebecca Newman, President of MCAAP
Doug Prouty, President of MCEA

Highlights of the FY2012 Budget Process

February 2011 – Board of Education adopts a \$2.205 billion budget based on the expectation of 3,400 additional students for 2011-2012.

March 2011 – County Executive recommends a \$2.123 billion budget (a decrease of \$82 million from the BOE's requested budget).

March 2011- Montgomery County (with the support of the BOE) applies for a waiver from the state Maintenance of Effort (MOE) requirement.

April 2011 – Montgomery County withdraws the waiver request. The result is that Montgomery County will not receive an estimated \$26 million in additional state aid in 2012-2013 and that the state-required level of funding (MOE) for Montgomery County schools will decrease.

May 2011 – County Council approves the MCPS Operating Budget appropriation of \$2.086 billion (a decrease of \$119 million from the BOE's requested budget and \$18 million less than the prior year 2011 budget.)

May 2011 – The BOE tentatively approves an operating budget based on the funding allocated by the County Council.

*Maintenance of Effort is the state mandated amount of per pupil funding that the county should contribute. For example, in 2009, the county contributed \$11,249 per student. The 2012 county budget contributes \$9,759 per student.

*State Aid – The State of Maryland assists local education through a formulaic funding mechanism driven primarily by the needs within a community (poverty, special needs, English language learners). For 2012, the State will contribute \$559.8 million, about \$71 million more than last year.

*Federal Aid – In 2010 and 2011, states benefited from federal stimulus funding for education. Unfortunately, that ended for 2012 with Montgomery County receiving \$50 million less than for 2011.

Comparisons:	<u>2010-2011</u>	<u>2011-2012 (County Council Approved)</u>
MCPS Operating Budget	\$2.104 billion	\$2.086 billion
Tax Supported Budget	\$1.919 billion	\$1.950 billion (Includes State, Federal \$)
County Contribution	\$1.415 billion	\$1.370 billion
Student Enrollment	144,064 (actual) 143,309 (budgeted)	146,649 (budgeted)

PLEASE TAKE CARE OF ALL OBLIGATIONS NOW

**Ensure all dues have been paid to
MCCPTA (\$1 per member) and
Maryland PTA (\$3.25 per member)**

**Note: Any memberships sold prior to July 1 apply to the
2010-2011 year**

MCCPTA Newsletter
2096 Gaither Road
Suite 204
Rockville, MD 20850

Pony Mailing



Please share with PTA Delegates and PTA Members
May-June 2011

MCCPTA DUES PAYMENT VOUCHER FOR 2010-11

Return bottom portion to: MCCPTA, 2096 Gaither Road, Suite 204, Rockville, MD 20850.
PTA membership is open all year and dues should be paid monthly as new members come in.

MCCPTA Dues Are Due Monthly
Keep this portion for your records

Name of PTA: _____

Number of Member: Adults _____ Students _____ Teachers _____ Total _____

Amount Remitted (\$1.00 per member): \$ _____ Check# _____

PTA Treasurer: _____ Phone Number _____

*****Return this portion to MCCPTA*****

Name of PTA: _____

Federal Tax ID Number: _____

Number of Member: Adults _____ Students _____ Teachers _____ Total _____

Amount Remitted (\$1.00 per member): \$ _____ Check# _____

PTA Treasurer: _____ Phone Number _____

For MCCPTA Office Use Only:

Delegate Card Numbers:
_

