

MCCPTA President's Letter

May 21, 2008

President

Jane de Winter
301-949-5368
president@mccpta.net

VP for Educational Issues

Kay Romero
301-946-2190
vpeducation@mccpta.com

VP for Administration

Liz Wheeler
301-424-8457
vpadmin@mccpta.com

VP for Programs

April Keyes
301-515-8249
vpprograms@mccpta.net

VP for Legislation

Victor Salazar
301-563-6780
vbsjpf@verizon.net

Treasurer

Dale Ryan
301-253-1780
treasurer@mccpta.net

Recording Secretary-DA

Ted Willard
301-212-9355
secda@mccpta.com

Recording Secretary-BOD

Stacy Menendez
301-602-6228
secbod@mccpta.com

MCCPTA Office

2096 Gaither Road
Suite 204
Rockville, MD 20850
Phone 301-208-0111
Fax 301-208-2003

Visit our web site

www.mccpta.com

Greetings,

I am writing this on the eve of the 2008 Presidents/Principals Dinner which will mark the end of my term as president. I am very excited about the idea of Kay Romero taking over as President. Besides having a long history of PTA advocacy, Kay has been a tremendous help to me and MCCPTA for the past two years. As secretary at the Delegate Assemblies, she kept track of all the things that I said I would do and sent me a recap every morning after the DA. She fed me the exact wording of motions and resolutions so that I could get those position statements sent. She also took on many of the extra responsibilities that fall to the officers. This year as VP Educational Issues, she was my support system. Our participation in the budget process took a great deal of time—probably more than Kay and I knew it would be. Over the past month or so, Kay and I have been working on the transition. I considered a drive by transition where I would load up my van with boxes of PTA papers and dump them in her driveway at 3am, but she knows where I live too, so I reconsidered and we've reviewed the status of various committees and issues and will get together to pass along files in a more organized fashion.

Your other MCCPTA officers have put in a lot of time working to assist local units and to advance our advocacy efforts and I thank them on your behalf. Liz Wheeler and Dale Ryan will continue in their current offices and Ted Willard will move up to replace Kay as VP Ed Issues.

April Keyes is stepping down as VP Programs but I have heard a rumor that there is a local unit presidency and MCCPTA committee chairmanship in her future. Victor Salazar stepped into an almost brand new office when he became VP Legislation and worked with Maryland PTA to keep us informed on legislative issues. He will continue his valuable work in the community with the Weed and Seed Program. Stacy Menendez came forward to fill a vacancy and livened things up with her sense of humor. Stacy has a lot of energy and passion for PTA and luckily for us, will have children in school for many more years.

Now down to business—PTA presidents should have received their registration packets for the Maryland Summer Leadership Conference in the mail. The forms are not on the Maryland PTA web site yet, but should be soon. This leadership conference will have sessions that appeal to many local board members so please make sure to encourage your officers and committee chairs to attend. It will take place on Saturday, July 26, at Anne Arundel Community College. There will also be an exhibit hall with many fundraising companies and sessions on the new insurance program. If you register by July 11, registration is \$75. Register by July 18, for \$100, and onsite registration is \$125. I strongly encourage you to attend this and bring your board.

MCCPTA will hold its Spring Training on Wednesday, June 4, at Blake HS beginning at 6:30pm. We

will distribute a packet of training and reference material to each PTA. If your PTA is not represented, we will pony the packet to your school. Refer to the flyer for the individual sessions. We can't say often enough that taking the time to attend training saves hours and hours of time over the course of the year and prevents many little problems from becoming big problems. Training is free and we provide food if you are coming straight from work. MCCPTA Board members are expected to attend this training.

The new officers are busy planning the summer area meetings. These meetings were started five years ago by Cindy Kerr and have become a valuable tool in MCCPTA advocacy efforts. The MCCPTA officers hold a meeting in each of the six areas of the county in June/early July. All PTA leaders (officers, delegates, committee chairs) and MCCPTA board members are invited to attend their area meeting and share their priorities with the MCCPTA Executive Committee. These meetings are very powerful—when MCCPTA tells decision makers that the MCCPTA advocacy priorities are developed at the grass roots of the area meetings, people listen. Make sure you are part of this process and watch for the dates and locations to be announced soon.

Any cluster that still has openings for cluster coordinators may still select up to three for the 08-09 year. The first step is for the cluster to meet and vote for (a) coordinator(s). Then the name(s) should be forwarded to Liz Wheeler who will bring the names before the MCCPTA Board of Directors for approval. Cluster Coordinators are members of the MCCPTA Board and represent their cluster to the Board and to elected officials.

Most PTAs will have had elections in May. As soon as the new officers are elected, please send names and contact information to our office. Each PTA was sent Blue Book Information Request forms in April and this information can also be filled out online at <http://www.mccpta.com/bluebookForm.html>. It is very important that we receive this information as soon as possible so we can update our records and forward this information to the State PTA. Make sure that new officers know about our various

listservs and join MCCPTA_Bulletin to stay informed. We also need Blue Book information for the AVPs and cluster coordinators elected in April.

PTAs should be working on their annual CIP letters which are due to MCPS on June 1. Each PTA should work with their principal to develop a list of facility needs. More information, including the format of the letter is found on our home page under Cluster Comments Packet. These letters should be submitted to the cluster coordinators who compile them into a packet and send them to MCPS. These letters form the basis of the MCPS capital budget. If you have not heard from your cluster coordinator about this letter, contact him/her today. Last year four clusters never submitted comments—don't have this be yours!

Don't forget that UnionBanc will be sending each local PTA an invoice for an insurance payment over the summer. This will be due on August 1st. Please make sure you have someone checking the PTA mail and submit payment on time. More information about the Red Light, Yellow Light, Green Light Program can be found at <http://www.mdpta.org/documents/LossControlGuideBook-2008Maryland.pdf>.

It is not too early to begin thinking about your fall membership campaign. PTA membership fell across the nation, state, and county this year. MCCPTA had a much smaller decline than the nation or the state but it is important to stay a strong voice in the county and to build your own ranks so your PTA can grow and thrive. Please spend some time thinking about the many ways you can recruit members and watch for tips and resources from MCCPTA.

Maryland PTA is still looking for members who are willing to serve on the Nominating and Board Development Committee as well as a President Elect. To be eligible to serve as President Elect, you must have served as president at a local PTA. Nomination forms and information can be found at <http://www.mdpta.org/documents/2008NominatingPacketpdf.pdf>.

MCCPTA has been invited to meet with the Department of Shared Accountability to discuss

the Surveys of School Environment. This meeting will likely take place in June. MCCPTA will also be meeting with Nancy Navarro and Shirley Brandman to discuss the format of the quadrennial BOE visits to clusters.

It has been my honor and privilege to serve as MCCPTA president for the past two years. I have thoroughly enjoyed meeting many of you

at the delegate assembly and through phone calls and emails. Thank you for all the support you have given me and this organization.

Jane

Linkages to Learning Looking for Partner PTAs

Linkages to Learning is a program which provides mental health services to students and families at many schools in our county. Many of the programs could use support beyond which their local PTA and school community are able to offer. Some of the PTAs at Linkages schools could benefit from a partner PTA to mentor and assist them. If you are interested in exploring a partnership with a Linkages program and PTA, contact Haifa Peter at 240-777-1291 or Mary Wilson at 240-777-1661. If you are not ready to become a full partner with another PTA but would be willing to assist the Linkages program by conducting seasonal projects such as coat drives, holiday gifts, back to school supplies, and food drives in your own school community, your help would still be appreciated.

Linkages to Learning Program Sites

School

Broad Acres ES**

Fox Chapel ES

Harmony Hills ES**

Highland ES

Gaithersburg ES**

Greencastle ES

Kemp Mill ES*

Maryvale ES

Montgomery Knolls/Pine Crest ES

New Hampshire Estates/Oak View ES

Sally K. Ride ES

Rolling Terrace ES

Rosemont ES

Sargent Shriver ES

Summit Hall ES

Viers Mill ES

Washington Grove ES

Weller Road ES

Wheaton Woods ES

Argyle MS*

Benjamin Banneker MS

Eastern MS

Forest Oak MS

Gaithersburg MS

Col. E. Brooke Lee MS*

A. Mario Loiederman MS

Parkland MS

Silver Spring International MS

White Oak MS

*The team at Kemp Mill ES also serves Argyle and E. Brooke Lee middle schools for the John F. Kennedy cluster.

**These schools also have a school-based health center.

Maryland PTA Summer Leadership Conference

Empowering PTA Leaders for Today, Tomorrow, and the Future

Saturday, July 26, 2008
Anne Arundel Community College
Arnold, Maryland

7:30-12:00 Registration

7:30-8:30 Breakfast and Networking

12:15-1:15 Lunch

8:30-10:00 Workshop #1

1:30-2:30 Workshop #3

10:30-12:00 Workshop #2

2:45-3:45 Workshop #4

Workshop Topics:

Effective Leadership for Presidents

Fundraising/Exhibitors Workshop

Bylaws, Why are they so Important?

Parent Involvement—

What does this really mean?

Maintaining your 501 c 3 Status

What's in it for me? Benefits of PTA

Advocacy—Our True Purpose

Audits and Budgets

PTA Pitfalls—Audits—Problem Solving

Grow your PTA Board and Committees

Non-Profit Status—What does it mean?

Help, How do I handle this?

Engaging the Male in PTA

National PTA Programs

Advanced Treasurer Wrap-up

Effective Communication with International Families

Nominating Committees

Diversity: What is it?

You and Your Insurance

Duties of a Board Member

Planning for a Successful Year

Treasurer 101

Membership—Recruit and Retain

Secretary

Putting the “T” in PTA

Reflections Program

IRS and the PTA

Know Your Bylaws

Conference Wrap-up

Insurance Wrap-up

Treasurer Wrap-up

Advanced Wrap-up

Summer Meals Program

The federal government funds a program to provide free summer meals to students who attend programs in school districts with FARMS rates above 50%. The list of schools below will have some type of summer program and will provide free lunch to all enrolled children during that program. Many other programs such as rec department programs will also participate in this free summer meals program. If you represent one of these schools, please make sure that you let parents and families know that if they enroll their child in the program at this school, their child will receive a free lunch. To obtain information on additional sites and this program, contact MSDE as detailed below.

Stephen Knolls Pre-K

Broad Acres ES

Harmony Hills ES

Highland ES

Oak View ES

Wheaton Woods ES

New Hampshire Estates ES

Summit Hall ES

Sargent Shriver ES

Arcola ES

Viers Mill ES

Kemp Mill ES

Weller Road ES

South Lake ES

Georgian Forest ES

East Silver Spring ES

Gaithersburg ES

Roscoe Nix ES

Clopper Mill ES

Montgomery Knolls ES

Glen Haven ES

Cresthaven ES

Burnt Mills ES

Brookhaven ES

Washington Grove ES

Jackson Road ES

Twinbrook ES

Rolling Terrace ES

Watkins Mill ES

Capt. James E. Daly ES

Bel Pre ES

Strathmore ES

Greencastle ES

Glenallen ES

Brown Station ES

Rosemont ES Argyle MS

Lee MS

Eastern MS

Montgomery Village MS (to include Neelsville MS)

Silver Spring International

Takoma Park MS

Parkland

Kennedy HS



Maryland Free Summer Meals Program for Children and Teens

Programa de Maryland para comidas de verano gratis para niños y adolescentes

1-877-731-9300

www.MDSUMMERMEALS.org

Maryland State Department of Education

MCCPTA Spring Training

Wednesday, June 4, 2008

6:30 - 9:00 PM

J. H. Blake High School
300 Norwood Road
Silver Spring, MD 20905

SCHEDULE

6:30 - 7:00PM	Registration and Refreshments
7:00 - 7:30PM	Introduction to MCCPTA and New Officers
7:30 - 7:45PM	Move to Sessions
7:45-9:00PM	Training Sessions for Specific Positions

New & Returning Presidents

Treasurers

Secretaries

MCCPTA Delegates

Area Vice Presidents/Cluster Coordinators

Reflections

Bylaws

HOS/FLES Coordinators

DIRECTIONS TO JAMES H. BLAKE HIGH SCHOOL

From the South
495 to New Hampshire Ave.(Rte 650)
Exit North toward White Oak
Pass Randolph Rd. and Bonifant Rd.
Turn left onto Norwood Rd
School will be on the left

From the North
270 South to Shady Grove Rd. (East)
Right onto Route 355 South
Left onto East Gude Dr
Left onto MD-28E (Norbeck Rd.)
Right onto Norwood Rd

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

MD PTA Summer Leadership Conference July 26, 2008 at Anne Arundel Community College

QUESTIONS/RSVP

RSVP appreciated but not required by May 30, 2008

Contact: MCCPTA office at (301) 208-0111 or office@mccpta.com

2008 MONTGOMERY COUNTY

WHAT: CULTURAL ARTS SHOWCASES

WHEN: October 1, October 2, October 6, & October 7

WHERE: CARVER EDUCATIONAL CENTER AUDITORIUM
850 HUNGERFORD DRIVE
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND 20850

TIME: 9:00 am – 2:30 pm
A DIFFERENT PERFORMER IS PRESENTED EVERY 15 MINUTES.
THERE IS NO LUNCH BREAK. PLEASE BE PROMPT. EVERY DAY
HAS DIFFERENT PERFORMERS. NEW PERFORMERS ON OCT 7.

WHO ATTENDS: EVERYONE INTERESTED, IS INVITED AND ENCOURAGED
TO ATTEND. PLEASE SIGN IN EACH DAY THAT YOU
ATTEND. ADMISSION IS FREE!

SPONSOR: MCCPTA/EPI (MONTGOMERY COUNTY COUNCIL OF PARENT TEACHER
ASSOCIATIONS / EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS, INC.)

INFORMATION: SEDA GELENIAN – PRODUCER / COORDINATOR
CALL –301/540-4180 (h), sedagelenian@starpower.net
(PLEASE DO NOT CALL MCPS)

DIRECTIONS: From the North, Frederick Rd. becomes Hungerford Dr, becomes
Rockville Pike (Rt 355). Pass Gude Dr, as you pass Montgomery College,
turn right at the traffic light (MANAKEE). Carver Educational Center is
on your left. Park in the lot on your left before the building. Proceed to
the NORTH ENTRANCE. The Auditorium is immediately to your left as
you enter.

OR
FROM 95, Take 495, EXIT to 270, Take EXIT 6 (RT.28) TO
ROCKVILLE. Go up the ramp, through the light/cross Rt. 28. Turn left on
MANAKEE at traffic light. Carver will be on your right. Park in the front
of the building and use the NORTH ENTRANCE.

**(ALL PERFORMERS PRESENTED AT THE SHOWCASES HAVE BEEN APPROVED BY THE
SUPERINTENDENT’S COMMITTEE FOR PERFORMANCES IN MCPS)**

PRESIDENT'S LETTER
MCCPTA
2096 Gaither Road
Suite 204
Rockville, MD 20850

Pony Mailing

MAY 2008

MCCPTA Calendar 2007-2008

**Unless otherwise specified all meetings take place at the
Carver Educational Services Center (850 Hungerford Drive, Rockville, MD 20850).**

May

21		Presidents/Principals Dinner-Bethesda North Marriott Conference Ctr.
	6:00pm	Cocktails
	7:00pm	Dinner/Program

June

3	10:00am	Guidance & Counseling Committee – Room 120
4	6:30pm	MCCPTA Spring Training, Blake HS
5	7:30pm	MCCPTA Board of Directors Meeting – Auditorium
12	7:00pm	Parent Involvement Committee – Room 127

July

26	7:30am	Maryland PTA Summer Leadership Conference Anne Arundel Community College, Arnold Maryland
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August

7	6:30pm	MCCPTA Committee Chair Orientation--Auditorium
7	7:30pm	MCCPTA Board of Directors Meeting-Auditorium
9	all day	Tentative Date of Maryland PTA Regional Training in Montgomery County