



## The Montgomery County Council of Parent-Teacher Associations

May 2010

As I wind down my time in MCCPTA, I want to take this opportunity to personally thank the many PTA members who have taken the time to personally thank me for my leadership in MCCPTA and give me their well wishes as I continue my role as President Elect of Maryland PTA.

Your continued support over the years has been greatly appreciated. It has made difficult times better times. It has made good times great times. It has also highlighted that our organization is filled with many committed PTA advocates serving children and school communities.

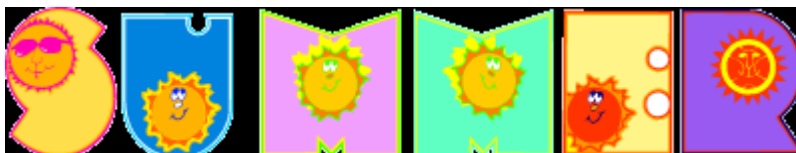
I have served in many different PTA/MCCPTA capacities since 1986 and have enjoyed the service to children and school communities. I have met and worked with many great PTA advocates over these many years. It truly takes a PTA village to move inaction to productive action. I want to take the time to say thank you for your advocacy to and for children. It is appreciated. I appreciate it.

Over the next few weeks I will wrap up items under my term to make sure the MCCPTA office is in continued good shape for the new leadership coming in. I want to personally thank our great MCCPTA Office Manager, Pam Loebach. Many of you already know Pam. Many of you met her at the last MCCPTA Delegates Assembly and many will come to know her over the incoming year. She is a hidden jewel in the MCCPTA office that keeps our organization on track for administrative obligations.

With that being said, May 19 at the Presidents and Principals Dinner will be my goodbye to the Montgomery County Council of PTAs as your president and moving on to Maryland PTA.

I wish the best of luck to you all!!!

*Kay Romero*  
MCCPTA



## Goodbyes Lead to Later Hellos

As local PTAs make new transitions after their recent elections, so will the Montgomery County Council of PTAs (MCCPTA.). On May 19, 2010, the MCCPTA officers for 2010-2011 will be installed at the MCCPTA Presidents and Principals dinner. On May 19, 2010, the MCCPTA Presidents and Principals dinner will be held at the Bethesda North Marriott Hotel & Conference Center.

Kristin Tribble, President - [president@mccpta.com](mailto:president@mccpta.com)

Laurie Halverson, VP Educational Issues - [vpedissues@mccpta.com](mailto:vpedissues@mccpta.com)

DeBora King, VP Programs – [vpprograms@mccpta.org](mailto:vpprograms@mccpta.org)

Rebecca Smondrowski, VP Legislation - [vplegislation@mccpta.com](mailto:vplegislation@mccpta.com)

Jaimie Jacobson, Treasurer - [treasurer@mccpta.com](mailto:treasurer@mccpta.com)

Deb Lang, Secretary, Board of Directors - [secretaries@mccpta.com](mailto:secretaries@mccpta.com)

Sonya Leaman, Secretary, Delegates Assembly - [secretaries@mccpta.com](mailto:secretaries@mccpta.com)

Also installed will be MCCPTA Area Vice Presidents and Cluster Coordinators. The contact information for all MCCPTA officers is located on the MCCPTA website. Event attendees will join us for dinner and the installation of MCCPTA officers and the honoring of individuals and organizations that have given extraordinary service to the students of Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) through their PTAs.

MCCPTA has over 50,000 members and represents 190 local PTAs. The dinner will be attended by many state and county officials including Ike Leggett, Montgomery County Executive and a number of senators and delegates from the Maryland General Assembly, County Council members, Board of Education members and MCPS officials.

National PTA Lifetime and Maryland PTA Lifetime Memberships will be presented to individuals that evening. These awards are given to members who have shown themselves to be strong advocates for our children within the school system. We honor their commitment and dedication by presenting them with a certificate and pin that officially makes them lifetime members of the Maryland state PTA.

The Partnership in Education Award will be presented that evening as well. The purpose of this award, given annually by the Montgomery County Council of PTAs, is to recognize programs formed by local PTA/PTSA chapters, local schools and local businesses or community groups which demonstrate outstanding support for the education of Montgomery County children.



# MCCPTA Spring Training

Monday, June 7, 2010  
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

<i>New &amp; Returning Presidents</i>	<i>Treasurers</i>
<i>Secretaries</i>	<i>MCCPTA Delegates</i>
<i>Area Vice Presidents/Cluster Coord</i>	<i>Reflections</i>
<i>Bylaws Procedure</i>	<i>Painless Fundraising</i>
<i>FLES</i>	<i>Hands on Science</i>

## 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 17, 2010 at the Conference Center at the Maritime Institute in Linthicum, Maryland

## QUESTIONS/RSVP

RSVP appreciated but not required by May 30, 2010  
Contact: MCCPTA office at (301) 208-0111 or [office@mccpta.com](mailto:office@mccpta.com)

## **Training**

Training is a time to get down to PTA business while meeting other local PTA leaders who give of their time to volunteer on behalf of children in our school communities. Make it a point to get to know some of our PTA leaders and put faces to email addresses. Training material packets are available at the MCCPTA Spring Training. Those not picked up that night will be ponied to each school. When the materials are received at your schools, please distribute to your officers as soon as possible. All guidebooks are available on the MCCPTA website to be reviewed or downloaded for your use. You will find them under the PTA Resources tab.

For local PTAs, please make sure that you forward to the MCCPTA office the names and contact information for your new officers. MCCPTA will be putting together its yearly Blue Book. We need you to complete the Blue Book information request that was included in your Spring Training packets. The form is also online at <http://www.mccpta.com/bluebookForm.html>.

## **Membership**

As PTAs change leadership, it is important to remember that PTA membership runs year round and PTAs may accept new memberships at any time of the year. Remember to challenge your PTA to see how many new members you can add during the summer months. Then carry that over into the school year and challenge your PTA to increase your membership.

## **Continuing PTA Activities**

Remember that PTA business goes on year round. Local PTA officers should be meeting over the summer to plan your budgets as well as identifying goals for your PTAs in the upcoming school year. Local units are reminded to change your bank signature cards if your officers have changed. While planning your individual PTA budgets remember to include money for the Presidents and Principals dinner, MD PTA trainings and fall convention. Committee positions should be filled and plans for their work should be discussed. Local PTAs should be addressing their ICB paperwork to be submitted by August 15. Please refer to:

<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/cuptmpl.asp?url=/content/cupf/index.asp>

*Welcome to Community Use of Public Facilities and to a wide array of opportunities for places to hold your next event. For more than three decades, the Interagency Coordinating Board for Community Use of Public Facilities (ICB) has helped to make public facilities accessible and affordable year round for community activities. Before and after school and throughout the weekends, these activities continue in public schools, libraries, regional service centers and other county facilities. Private and public organizations, businesses, and individuals are all welcome to use these facilities for their meetings and activities (but no private celebrations, please). Let us help plan your next event.*

## **PTA INFORMATION**

- **Overview**
- **PTA Use Guidelines**
- **Memo to PTA Presidents**

## **Listservs**

PTA members and leaders should become familiar with MCCPTA Listservs. In order to foster communication, MCCPTA maintains six primary listservs. Two of them are currently open to all who wish to subscribe. These two lists are called MCCPTA\_Bulletin and MCCPTA\_Delegates. The other four lists, which have restricted membership, are MCCPTA\_Board, MCCPTA\_Treasurers, MCCPTA\_Presidents and MCCPTA\_Presidents\_Discussion. A detailed description of, and subscription information for all six lists, can be found in documents listed below. These listservs are a way to pass along important information to our local PTAs, and to facilitate communication between the PTA/PTSAs of public schools in our county. Some MCCPTA Committees also maintain specialized listservs of their own. A list of committees that have listservs can be found in one of the documents below, or you can contact the chair of a committee you are interested in to see if one is maintained by them:

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

Many people are confused by the name of the MCCPTA\_Delegates listserv – its name is historical, and thus has been retained, but it is meant for discussion, and other items detailed in the MCCPTA website document: [http://mccpta.com/listservs\\_dir/listservsSummaryTable.pdf](http://mccpta.com/listservs_dir/listservsSummaryTable.pdf)

It is highly recommended that every PTA has someone on their BOD who is subscribed to MCCPTA\_Bulletin, where all meetings and official MCCPTA documents are posted.

### **MCCPTA Listservs Documents:**

- Annual Transition of Listserv Membership and Settings
- Listservs Summary Table
- To Join
- General Information
- Etiquette
- MCCPTA Committees Listservs and Liaisons
- A Beginners Guide to the MCCPTA Listservs

## **Calendar**

MCCPTA will be setting a schedule of calendar dates for our Summer Area Meetings. These meetings are held during the summer in each quad or quint cluster with MCCPTA leadership and local PTA leadership. These meetings are designed to build the framework for MCCPTA's advocacy for the coming school year and to gather input for the budget process. MCCPTA uses the input gathered at these meetings to formulate the MCCPTA Budget Priorities and MCCPTA Budget Compact. This helps to shape upcoming budget testimonies and advocacy efforts on behalf of our organization and its members in the upcoming year. All meetings are open to anyone who wishes to attend.

MCCPTA leadership will also be meeting with the Board of Education (BOE) leadership and board staff to discuss the format and content of the Cluster meetings with BOE. BOE holds these meetings with different clusters each year on a rotating basis to discuss local school issues with cluster leadership.

## **MCCPTA OFFICE NEWS - SUMMER HOURS FOR THE MCCPTA OFFICE**

Summer hours begin the week of June 21. The hours will be Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 am - 12 pm.

The MCCPTA office will resume regular 10 am - 2 pm Monday through Friday hours the week of August 30<sup>th</sup>.

### **CALENDAR DATES**

#### **Maryland PTA Training Offered**

**July 17, 2010 Summer Leadership Conference**

**November 12-13, 2010 95th MDPTA Convention**

Maryland PTA offers training in many forms to our officers, councils and local units. This is accomplished thru Summer Leadership Conference, Regional Trainings, Maryland PTA Convention, Local Unit training, Council Officer training, National PTA events, BSP Training and more. If you are interested in any of our training programs, please contact the state office at [office@mdpta.org](mailto:office@mdpta.org) or call 410-760-6221.

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#### **2010 Regional Trainings**

**May 22 Prince George's County 9 -1:30 pm**

#### **2010 Financial Workshops 9-3pm**

**August 7 and October 2 in the Maryland PTA Office**

### **MARYLAND PTA REGIONAL TRAINING INFORMATION**

Training is free to all PTA members. Breakfast and Lunch are provided. If you register and do not show, you will be charged \$15.00 to cover the cost of meals ordered for you. You **MUST** preregister. Send an email to [office@mdpta.org](mailto:office@mdpta.org) or fax to 410-760-6344 with your name, address, phone and choice of workshop(s). All workshops are full day events.

**Who Should Attend?** PTA Officers, Chairman, Treasurers, Up and Coming Leaders from All Counties

Workshops Include: Treasurer; Basic duties of Officers: President/Vice-President, Secretary, Committee Chairs; Board responsibilities and Bylaws.

**What will we learn?** You will gain in-depth training for all especially for treasurers and officers. There will be work sessions and networking to raise the level of performance in each local.

**Registration is FREE but a must. Contact the state office to register at 410-760-6221 or [office@mdpta.org](mailto:office@mdpta.org).**

If you would like to host a regional training or have any suggestions for needed regional training topics, please contact the state office at [office@mdpta.org](mailto:office@mdpta.org)

**AVAILABLE -- MARYLAND PTA RESOURCE TRAINING LIBRARY**  
(members only section)

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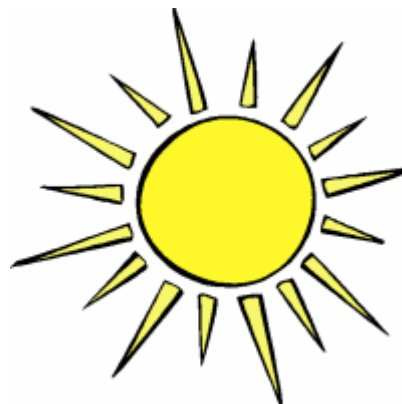
Want to learn more?

At a time when PTA budgets are tight and schedules are even tighter, e-learning is a solution for members looking to expand their skills cost-effectively and without the need to travel. This e-learning initiative is a step toward achieving PTA's goal of making all members informed advocates by 2020.

Choose from the following courses, and look for new courses to be added throughout the year. Each course takes 30 minutes to an hour to complete and can be revisited repeatedly for more practice.

- PTA Basics
- Grant Writing
- Conflict Management
- Planning Your New PTA Year
- Parliamentary Procedure
- Running a Successful PTA Program
- Effective Advocacy for Your Child
- Writing and Proposing PTA Resolutions

Log onto [www.pta.org/e-learning](http://www.pta.org/e-learning). You will need the user name and password on the back of your membership card.



## **THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED ADVOCACY FOR CHILDREN**

I want to THANK everyone who testified at the County Council FY2011 Operating Budget hearings on April 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup>. Your time and commitment to advocate on behalf of all children in MCPS are to be commended. Just as PTA displays advocacy as *everychild.onevoice* so does MCCPTA. All of you make that happen. It takes a lot of time/work to gather the input for your testimonies. It is noticed because of your dedication and commitment to children in being there to speak on their behalf.

### **Input Sought on How Schools are Assessed for Modernization**

If PTAs have any questions please contact Steve Augustino, MCCPTA CIP Chair-  
sauggiedog@comcast.net

#### From MCPS

A committee charged with updating the methodology used to assess schools for future modernization has released its report and is seeking public comment on its recommendations.

The Facilities Assessment with Criteria and Testing (FACT) Review Committee included a diverse group of stakeholders whose expertise led to the development of a list of school characteristics—termed FACT assessment parameters—that should be assessed when a school is being evaluated for future modernizations. The committee conducted their work at the request of the Montgomery County Board of Education.

An update on the methodology is needed because Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) is nearing the end of the list of elementary schools in the queue for modernization. A new round of 47 facilities will be assessed in FY 2011 for future modernization, including 29 elementary schools, 11 middle schools, and one high school.

Members of the public who wish to provide comments on the recommendations are asked to submit them by May 28, 2010, to Bruce Crispell, director of Long-range Planning, Montgomery County Public Schools, 2096 Gaither Road, Suite 201, Rockville, Maryland 20850, or via email to [Bruce\\_Crispell@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Bruce_Crispell@mcpsmd.org). The Board of Education is scheduled to hold a work session on modernization and FACT methodology on June 22, 2010, and take final action on the FACT assessment parameters on July 8, 2010.

#### The FACT Review Committee Report

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/press/index.aspx?page=showrelease&id=2751>





**Capital Improvements  
MCCPTA Area Vice Presidents and Cluster Coordinators-REMINDER**

**From MCPS:**

It is that time again to begin compiling cluster comments for the FY 2012 Capital Budget and Amendments to the FY 2011-2016 Capital Improvements Program (CIP). Since FY 2012 is an even-numbered fiscal year, only amendments are considered where changes are needed in the second year of the six-year CIP. The deadline for submitting the cluster comments is June 1, 2010. Should you have any questions, contact Steve Augustino, MCCPTA CIP Chair - sauggiedog@comcast.net.

**CELEBRATIONS**

**The MCCPTA Special Education Sub-Committee Recognition Ceremony was held on Monday, May 10, 2010 at 7:30 p.m. in the Rockville HS auditorium**

*The MCCPTA Special Education Sub-Committee announced the 2009-2010 winners.*

**MCCPTA Special Recognition Ceremony - May 2010**

**Outstanding Parents**

Alice Kirkman  
Staci Daddona  
Susan Healy

United to Save Special Education  
Partnership for Extraordinary Minds  
Learning Disabilities Assn. of MC

**Honorable Mention Parents**

Kathy Ryan  
Robert Monsheimer

Learning Disabilities Assn. of MC  
Eastern MC Special Needs Info

**Outstanding Educators**

Ann Leonard  
Christy Miller  
David Yarborough  
Donna Cohen  
Elizabeth Smith  
Eric Kuhn  
Gary Day  
Julie Gaebe  
Katarina Letina  
Margo Maier  
Martha Chess  
Michelle Mach  
Ronda Braden  
Susie Cooper  
Workabeba Feleke

Wood Acres ES  
Rockwell ES  
Kennedy HS  
Redland MS  
Sally K. Ride ES  
Lakelands Park MS  
Forest Knolls ES  
Bethesda-Chevy Chase HS  
Cashell ES  
Briggs Chaney MS  
Lakelands Park MS  
Longview School  
Physical Disabilities Program  
Lakelands Park MS  
Westover ES

**Honorable Mention Educators**

Charlotte Abella  
Julie Ziegler

Waters Landing ES  
Garrett Park ES

**Outstanding Programs**

Cold Spring Team  
Gifted/Talented Learning Disabilities  
Learning & Academic Disabilities  
Redland Team  
McNair Team  
Special Education Department

Cold Spring ES  
E. Brooke Lee MS  
Rosa Parks MS  
Redland MS  
Ronald McNair ES  
Blake HS

**Honorable Mention Program**

Fourth Grade Team

Burning Tree ES

**Outstanding Student**

Lara Coombs

Rosa Parks MS

**Honorable Mention Student**

Jordan Jackson

Rosa Parks MS

**Special Award**

Patti Twigg

Montgomery County Council of PTAs

**Champions for Children Award Winner Was Celebrated on April 28**

Congratulations to the Springbrook HS PTSA for being chosen as a winner of the Montgomery County Business Roundtable for Education (MCBRE) Champions for Children Award. The PTSA is being recognized for their volunteer program called PALA - Padres y Alumnos Latinos en Acción. This award recognizes and celebrates an outstanding local PTA/PTSA program or individual volunteer who is a role model for parent involvement. The PTSA will receive a check for 1,000 dollars and a plaque to display as an accomplishment of the PTSA and their volunteer work.



**Draft Minutes MCCPTA Delegates Assembly  
April 27, 2010  
Carver Educational Service Center**

**Call to Order:**

President Kay Romero called the meeting to order at 7:40 pm.

While Delegates were continuing to check in for voting, Kay introduced Dale Ryan, Presidents and Principals Dinner Point of Contact, to discuss and explain the dinner and tickets.

Kay next introduced Pam Loebach, the MCCPTA Office Manager, so that Delegates could see the person they talked to when they phoned the office.

**Mission Statement:**

Juan Johnson, VP for Administration, read the PTA Mission Statement.

**Approval of Agenda and March 23, 2010 Minutes:**

The agenda was amended to add under Unfinished Business “May Delegates Assembly.” It was approved as amended by a voice vote.

The minutes from March 23, 2010 were reviewed and amended to correct a typographical error in the 4<sup>th</sup> paragraph under Reports: Operating Budget – the word “redactions” was changed to “reductions.” The minutes were approved as amended on a voice vote.

**Treasurer’s Report:**

MCCPTA Treasurer, Jaimie Jacobson, reviewed the treasurer’s report. He noted that sponsorship for the Presidents and Principals dinner was off a little, but he was hopeful that any shortfall would be made up by paid tickets. He is hopeful that we would not need to use any reserves. He noted that dues are still coming in, and he asked the Delegates to remind their PTAs to send in their dues. He also noted that the MCCPTA committees had spent money carefully this year.

The audit of the MCCPTA books is done. It will be available in the MCCPTA office for review by anyone that is interested. He reminded the Delegates to tell their PTAs that a financial review must be done of their books every year, and a copy needs to be sent to MCCPTA and MD PTA. He also reminded them that 990s need to be filed annually with the IRS and a copy sent to MD PTA.

In his review of the Profit and Loss statement, he noted that for a not for profit organization, we are doing very well.

A Delegate asked him about the items on the statement under the CDs, and Jaimie replied that there was a change of banks, and that is why some have zero dollars.

There being no further questions, Kay Romero stated that the treasurer's report would be filed.

At this point, Kay introduced Vicki Rafel, Parliamentarian, who reviews the election process. She explained that if there were any nominations from the floor, they would be set aside and each candidate would be given 2 minutes to explain their qualifications. Non contested positions could be decided by a voice vote, but any contested positions would require a paper ballot. She further explained that after we voted on officers, which everyone voted for, we would then proceed to vote by Areas for Area Vice Presidents and by Cluster for Cluster Coordinators.

Kay noted that if we should need to use paper ballots, the talliers would be Liz Wheeler, Laura Wibeto and Lee Ann Doerflinger.

### **Elections of 2010-2011 MCCPTA Officers, AVPs and Cluster Coordinators:**

#### **Officer Elections:**

Kay asked the Delegates if they wanted to vote the officers in as a slate if there were no nominations from the floor. This passed on a voice vote. She then read each office and the name of the nominee and asked if there were any nominations from the floor. Ted Willard nominated DeBora King for VP for Programs. DeBora accepted the nomination. Since there were no contested positions, a vote was taken for the slate, which passed on voice vote.

#### **Area Vice President Elections:**

Kay read the nominee for each Area Vice President and then asked for nominees from the floor. Sally Taber nominated Jennifer Chambers from the floor for AVP for the DCC, which had no previous nominee. None of the AVP positions were contested, and all were voted in by voice vote.

#### **Cluster Coordinator Elections:**

Kay read the nominees for one cluster at a time, asking for nominees from the floor. The following nominations were made from the floor:

Sally Taber nominated Susan Fleck for Blair Cluster Coordinator.

Kelly Giblin nominated Kelly Giblin and Jean Claude Zenklusen for Einstein Cluster Coordinator.

Liz Wheeler nominated Cheryl Moss Herman, Christopher Kelly and Cheryl Peirce for Richard Montgomery Cluster Coordinators.

Frances Frost nominated Frances Frost for Kennedy Cluster Coordinator.

Aissa Sires nominated Aissa Sires for Rockville Cluster Coordinator.

Mary Abe and Stephanie Mizwa were nominated for Northwood Cluster Coordinators.

Ted Willard nominated Todd Powell, Janet Sanchez and Marcia Tivoli for Clarksburg Cluster Coordinators, Dawn Lee for Damascus Cluster Coordinator, Patrick Dunn, Beatrice Hanson and Annie Ahmed for Magruder Cluster Coordinators and Sumbal Sheldon for Watkins Mill Cluster Coordinator.

Within each cluster, there were no more than three cluster coordinators nominated, so each cluster voted by voice vote and all nominees were voted into office.

The complete list of elected Officers, Area Vice Presidents and Cluster Coordinators is:

<b>NOMINATIONS FOR MCCPTA OFFICERS 2010-2011</b>
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<b>President</b>	Kristin Tribble
<b>Vice President for Educational Issues</b>	Laurie Halverson
<b>Vice President for Administration</b>	Paul Morrison
<b>Vice President for Programs</b>	DeBora King
<b>Vice President for Legislation</b>	Rebecca Smondrowski
<b>Treasurer</b>	Jaimie Jacobson
<b>Recording Secretary, Board of Directors</b>	Debra Lang
<b>Recording Secretary, Delegates Assembly</b>	Sonya Leaman

<b>NOMINATIONS FOR AREA VICE PRESIDENTS &amp; CLUSTER COORDINATORS 2010 - 2011</b>
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**Bethesda-Chevy Chase/  
Walter Johnson/  
Wheaton/Whitman**

**Area Vice President:** Therese Salus

**Bethesda-Chevy Chase  
Cluster Coordinator:**

Craig Brown  
Joy White  
Mary Cobbett

**Walter Johnson  
Cluster Coordinator:**

Jennifer Cope  
Barbara Ferry

**Wheaton Cluster Coordinator:  
OPEN**

**Whitman Cluster Coordinators:**

Deborah Goldman  
Keith Parsky  
Jean Schlesinger

**Down County Consortium:  
Blair/Einstein/  
Kennedy/Northwood**

**Area Vice President:** Jennifer Chambers

**Montgomery Blair  
Cluster Coordinator:**

Susan Fleck

**Einstein Cluster Coordinator:**

Kelly Giblin  
Jean Claude Zenklusen

**Kennedy Cluster Coordinator:  
Frances Frost**

**Northwood Cluster Coordinator:**

Mary Abe  
Stephanie Nizwa

**Churchill/  
Richard Montgomery/  
Rockville/Wootton**

**Area Vice President:** Andrea Q. Bernardo

**Churchill Cluster Coordinator:  
OPEN**

**Richard Montgomery  
Cluster Coordinator:**

Cheryl Moss Herman  
Christopher Kelly  
Cheryl Peirce

**Rockville Cluster Coordinator:  
Aissa Sires**

**Wootton Cluster Coordinators:**

Karen Collishaw  
Rich Edelman  
Jennifer Pories

**Clarksburg/Damascus/  
Gaithersburg/Magruder/  
Watkins Mill**

Area Vice President: Ted Willard

**Clarksburg Cluster Coordinator:**

Todd Powell  
Janet Sanchez  
Marcia Tivoli

**Damascus Cluster Coordinator:**

Dawn Lee

**Gaithersburg Cluster Coordinators:**

Laurie Augustino  
Valerie Rivers

**Magruder Cluster Coordinators:**

Patrick Dunn  
Beatrice Hanson  
Annie Ahmed

**Watkins Mill Cluster Coordinator:**

Martha Crews  
Sumbal Sheldon

**Northeast Consortium:  
Blake/Paint Branch/  
Springbrook/Sherwood**

Area Vice President: Patti Twigg

**Blake Cluster Coordinator:**

Jonathan Arias  
DeBora King

**Paint Branch**

**Cluster Coordinator:**

Patti Twigg

**Springbrook Cluster Coordinator:**

OPEN

**Sherwood Cluster Coordinator:**

Virginia Twombly

**Northwest/Poolesville/  
Quince Orchard/  
Seneca Valley**

Area Vice President: Juan Johnson

**Northwest Cluster Coordinator:**

Susan Burkinshaw  
Beth Kennington  
Bob Murphy

**Poolesville Cluster Coordinator:**

OPEN

**Quince Orchard Cluster  
Coordinators:**

Kevin Farragher  
Jim Keenan  
Rebecca Smondrowski

**Seneca Valley Cluster**

**Coordinator:**

Scott Bogren  
Kevin David  
Ed Vigezzi

**Unfinished Business:**

Carol Salsbury, VP for Programs, read a tribute to Kay and presented her with flowers, since this was her last DA.

**Proposed MCCPTA Resolution on Middle School Advanced Courses:**

Ted Willard, Curriculum Committee Co-Chair, introduced the resolution presented to the Delegates at the March DA. He explained why the committee felt it was necessary. Coming from committee, it did not need to be seconded.

Lynn Hemphill, Parkland MS Delegate, introduced a motion to replace under Resolved, letter E with:

*At the start of each middle school course that can yield high school credit, MCPS should provide students and parents with clear information on how the student's grade will affect the high school GPA. Rules concerning such decisions as repeating a class later, or declining to take a final exam, as well as the impact of these decisions on the GPA, should be clearly stated in a uniform, county-wide policy. Families should be permitted to accept or reject high school credits earned in middle school through the first month of ninth grade;*

Her motion was seconded.

She spoke to her motion, saying that at Parkland, a lot of these advanced classes are already being offered, and that her child has taken these classes, and there is a lot of confusion among the parents of these students. Many do not realize they will affect the student's high school transcript. She feels that clear guidelines are needed.

Beth Kennington, Northwest Cluster Coordinator, opposed the amendment. She felt it was in opposition to established procedures for receiving credit.

Andrea Bernardo, AVP for Churchill, Richard Montgomery, Rockville, Wootton clusters, supported the amendment. She has served on the Math Workgroup, and feels the current push for all students to complete Algebra by 8<sup>th</sup> grade is unrealistic, and the consequences will not be good and wants MCPS to take responsibility for MS classes that give HS credit.

Therese Salus, AVP for Bethesda-Chevy Chase, Walter Johnson, Wheaton and Whitman clusters, supported the amendment. She pointed out that this also affected students that took foreign language in 6<sup>th</sup> grade.

Robert Ostlund, Twinbrook ES Delegate, spoke in favor of the amendment, stating that parents do not always understand these issues and their consequences for their students.

Robyn Solomon, Hoover MS President, spoke in favor of the amendment, but questioned why we were doing this at all. She felt we needed to tell MCPS to stop pushing middle school kids into high school classes.

The motion to amend passed on a voice vote.

Laurie Halverson, Churchill Cluster Coordinator, asked what would happen if a school only had a small number of students for a class section? Ted responded that MCPS does want classes as full as possible, but the point of the resolution was to always have at least one section of each class and level.

Dawn Trahern, Redland MS Delegate, questioned if we should be doing this at all, since at her school they are only offering a handful of these classes.

Frances Frost, Bel Pre/Strathmore ES President, spoke in support of the overall resolution, and noted that it was necessary to offer on level as well as advanced classes.

Barbara Zellers, Damascus HS Delegate, stated that MCPS needed to continue to offer on level classes.

Ted Willard offered a motion to:

*In A, B and D, change "offer" to provide."*

The motion was seconded.

Beth Kennington, Northwest Cluster Coordinator, asked if we would be voting on this resolution tonight? Kay responded yes.

Sheryl Friedlander, Garrett Park ES, asked for a clarification, wanting to know why so many above level classes were needed, and if all the students in MCPS were above level?

The motion to amend passed on a voice vote.

Dinitri Dantley, Farquhar MS Delegate, spoke in favor of the resolution, but asked why B and D were both necessary, since they seemed redundant. Ted responded that they were both necessary to make sure on level classes were available to students.

Dawn Trahern, Redland MS Delegate, moved to:

*Delete D.*

The motion was seconded.

She was concerned that with the current economic climate, and the limited resources available to schools at the moment, that it was counterproductive.

Frances Frost, Bel Pre/Strathmore ES President, spoke against the motion, stating that if there were only 10 students for a class they still deserve to have a class offered on the appropriate level for them.

Barbara Zellers, Damascus HS Delegate, spoke against the motion, stating that she felt it guaranteed options and other wise all kinds might end up in the same class.

Steve Augustino, Gaithersburg Cluster Coordinator, spoke in favor of the amendment, because he was concerned that leaving it in would cause MCPS to refuse the entire resolution due to limited resources.

Laura Wibeto, Darnestown ES Delegate, spoke in favor of the amendment, agreeing with Steve that it would turn MCPS off.

Ted Willard offered a substitute motion:

*In D, replace the first line with "On level courses should be provided even if the number"*

The motion was seconded.



Richard Hart, Ritchie Park ES President, spoke against the substitute amendment, stating that it seemed to convolute the intent.

Steve Augustino, Gaithersburg Cluster Coordinator, spoke against the motion.

Robert Ostlund, Twinbrook ES Delegate, spoke in favor of deleting D.

Margaret Mahoney, Chevy Chase ES Delegate, spoke in favor of the amendment, stating that we needed to push for both on level and advanced classes even if MCPS will not give them to us, we need to tell them we want them.

The substitute motion passed on a voice vote.

Discussion was now returned to the motion to delete D.

Ted Willard spoke in opposition to deleting D.

The motion failed on a voice vote.

Elizabeth Torrey, Bethesda ES Delegate, asked what the intent of F was? She is concerned that there is already too much testing going on. Ted replied that the data from testing is very valuable.

Aissa Sires, Maryvale ES Delegate, asked why in part E, only certain classes are mentioned. Ted explained that some schools offer only certain classes, and the classes mentioned in E are offered by all schools.

A vote was taken on the entire resolution as amended, and passed on a voice vote.

### **Resolution on Middle School Advanced Courses**

#### **Whereas:**

1. Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) is currently developing and piloting advanced courses in English, Social Studies, and Science for middle schools with a goal of improving the level of instruction and program offerings in middle school;
2. The school system already provides options for students to take high school mathematics courses and foreign language courses and a few schools also offer some electives for high school credit;
3. The school system has been encouraging students to take high school mathematics classes in middle schools with a target of eventually having at least eighty percent of students to have taken Algebra I before entering high school. However there have been a number of reports that students who successfully completed Algebra I in middle school have then struggled with more advanced mathematics in high school. There have been sufficient concerns about the current strategy in mathematics that a work group has been formed to reevaluate it;
4. At some of the schools that have been piloting the English, Social Studies, and Science courses, nearly all of the students in the school have been expected to take the advanced course;

5. MCPS has made plans to allow students who get an A or a B in the eighth grade Advanced English class to get a high school elective credit and students who pass the eighth grade Honors Earth Systems Science class to get a high school science credit;
6. The proposed Honors Earth Systems Science would be a new course which covers in a single year the majority of middle school and high school ideas about Earth Science as described in the Maryland Voluntary State Curriculum, which is more than is currently required in either the existing middle school curriculum or existing High School non-honors Earth Systems Science course;
7. MCPS considered offering Honors English 9 to eighth graders, but decided instead to create an Advanced English class that is intended to prepare students for Honors English 9. Students getting an A or B in the course would receive a high school elective credit. Since there is no high school course that corresponds to Advanced English, it would be the only High School course that is available solely at Middle Schools;
8. A great deal of data on student achievement in Mathematics and Reading in middle school is collected and analyzed every year. For example, students take the Maryland State Assessments (MSAs) in Reading and Math in sixth, seventh, and eighth grade. MCPS also analyzes the end of unit assessments in Mathematics. However, other than a Maryland State Assessment in Science for eighth graders, there is little data collected and analyzed on the achievement of middle school students in English, Social Studies, and Science;
9. Not all students are ready to work at an advanced level and would be better served by having on-level course options in middle school;
10. Receiving high school credit for a course may not always be in a student's best interest.

**Therefore be it Resolved:**

- A. MCPS should provide Advanced Level English, Social Studies, and Science at each of its thirty-eight middle schools so that students who would like the challenge they provide have the opportunity to take them;
- B. MCPS should also continue to provide on-level sections of its English, Social Studies, and Science courses at each of its thirty-eight schools so that students and their families have an option of courses to take;
- C. MCPS should provide more information about Advanced Level English, Social Studies, and Science that clearly describes what the differences are between them and the existing on-level courses;
- D. On level courses should be provided in each school even if the number of students who wish to take it is fewer than would normally be necessary to offer a class;
- E. At the start of each middle school course that can yield high school credit, MCPS should provide students and parents with clear information on how the student's grade will affect the high school GPA. Rules concerning such decisions as repeating a class later, or declining to take a final exam, as well as the impact of these decisions on the GPA, should be clearly stated in a uniform, county-wide policy. Families should be permitted to accept or reject high school credits earned in middle school through the first month of ninth grade;
- F. MCPS should develop better mechanisms for monitoring how much students are learning in English, Social Studies, and Science at all grade levels, but particularly at the middle school level.

**May DA:**

Paul Morrison, Quince Orchard Cluster Coordinator, offered a motion:

*Eliminate the May 25, 2010 DA from the schedule.*

The motion was seconded and passed on a voice vote.

## **Reports:**

### **Operating Budget:**

Pam Moomau, Operating Budget Committee Chair, gave an update on the operating budget. She stated that the County Executive is proposing more cuts to the budget proposed by the Superintendent, due to decreased revenue. MCPS had found a way to lessen the impact to classrooms with previous cuts, but with these new proposed cuts, it may be difficult to maintain that goal. The entire County budget is facing further cuts.

She told the Delegates that it is important for us to continue our advocacy, and in particular, each community needs to look at the suggested cuts and find any that may of particular importance to them and advocate to the BOE for those items.

A Delegate asked where the list of possible cuts was located? Pam responded that it could be found on the MCPS website. On the Operating Budget page there is a link to the summary of potential budget reductions.

Pam also noted there are also possible revenue enhancements being discussed by the County Council, so again, each community should look at those and see if there is anything they might want to support.

The timeline for decisions is within the next couple of weeks.

### **CIP Committee**

Steve Augustino, CIP Committee Chair, said that Montgomery County had recently received a warning that its debt service may be too much which could jeopardize the bond rating. Bonds fund our school construction. He reminded the Delegates that the summer CIP requests are due by June 1, and he would be posting to the BOD listserv information to assist Cluster Coordinators in preparing those submissions. He also discussed the upcoming new round of FACT score assessments. The new assessments will be done in the CIP Budget after this upcoming one, but first they need to hire a consultant and establish the criteria to use. It is important to note that the current list of modernizations will not be affected by this. Those projects will be completed first, and the new schools to be assessed will be appended to the current list.

A report on this will be released Friday, April 30, 2010, and Steve said he would put something out on the BOD listserv related to the report and to help Cluster Coordinators gather information.

### **Spring Training:**

Kay reminded the Delegates about the upcoming Spring Training, on June 7, 2010 at Blake HS. A flyer was among the handouts, and is also available on the MCCPTA website on the homepage.

## **Officer Reports:**

Kay reminded the Delegates that July 17, 2010 will be the MD PTA Summer Leadership Training. It is a full day, and more information will be forthcoming. It will be held at the same location as last year. She read a list of the Montgomery County PTAs that won a free registration for the training: Fairland Elementary School, Gaithersburg Elementary School, Newport Mill Middle School, and Westland Middle School. Finally, MSDE has asked MD PTA to complete a survey regarding Suspension and Expulsion. The survey is on our website, and also a link to the online survey was sent out via the Bulletin listserv. The final report on the findings will be available in early July, and she encouraged the Delegates to remind their PTA members to please fill out the survey.

**Adjourn:** There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:26 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Patti Twigg, MCCPTA secretary for DA

## **The Official PTA Kit Online-Registration for the 2010–2011 Official PTA Kit is now open!**

All local, council, district, and region PTAs must register to receive their *Official PTA*<sup>®</sup> *Kit*. The incoming 2010–2011 PTA president or other authorized PTA leader must fill out the registration form to select the preferred shipping address and date for the kit. The order form will be available through September 17, and kits will start shipping weekly in late June.

**The *Official PTA Kit* is available exclusively to PTAs in good standing.**

<http://www.pta.org/3104.asp>

## **Frequently Asked Questions About the Official PTA Kit**

<http://www.pta.org/2911.htm>



## Summer Food Program

Interested in receiving meals for your summer program?

### **Facts:**

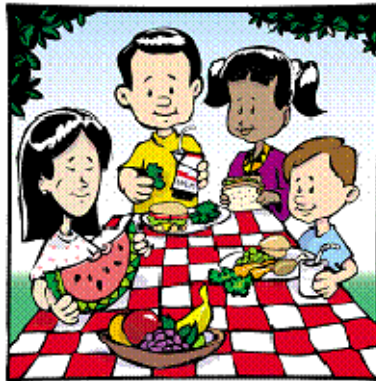
The Summer Food Service Program provides nutritious meals to children when school closes and is designed to bridge the summer vacation "nutrition gap."

Approximately 27% of children in Montgomery County or 37, 640 students are eligible for free or reduced meals during the school year. The Summer Food Service Program feeds an average of 6,000 – 7,000 children each day at 105 sites throughout the county.

**Increasing the number of sites providing the summer food program would help to reach more eligible children in Montgomery County!**

### **Background:**

The Summer Food Service Program was created in 1976 to ensure that children in lower income areas could continue to receive nutritious meals during the summer months when school breakfast and lunches are not available. The program provides breakfast and lunch to eligible children and teenagers, 18 years and younger, at approved sites. Persons over 18 years of age who have been determined mentally or physically handicapped and who participate in a public or private non-profit school program for the handicapped during the school year are eligible to receive meal benefits.



### **FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:**

**Division of Food & Nutrition Services  
301-840-8170**

**E-mail:  
SummerFoodProgram@mcpsmd.org**

***PRESIDENT'S LETTER***

**MCCPTA  
2096 Gaither Road  
Suite 204  
Rockville, MD 20850**

**PONY MAIL to PTA  
Presidents to be shared  
with School PTA Delegates  
and PTA members**

**May 2010**