

March 20, 2008

Dr. Jane de Winter, President
Montgomery County Council of Parent-Teacher Associations
2096 Gaither Road, Suite 204
Rockville, Maryland 20850

Dear Dr. de Winter:

Your letter of March 4, 2008, to Dr. Jerry D. Weast, superintendent of schools, was referred to me for a response. In your letter, you shared the Montgomery County Council of Parent-Teacher Associations (MCCPTA) Board of Directors' motion regarding senior class calculations as it relates to graduation venues. I always appreciate hearing the perspective of our stakeholders.

The comments and requests from MCCPTA will be taken into account as we begin planning for the 2008-2009 graduation ceremonies. The addition of the Comcast Center as a commencement site, and the related expenses and questions that occurred this year related to high school commencement ceremonies, have provided us with much to consider. It is entirely possible that the method used for identification of large schools, as well as the amount available for financial support, will change.

Thank you for your continued support of the Montgomery County Public Schools.

Respectfully,

Stephen L. Bedford
Chief School Performance Officer

SLB:cdp

Copy to:

Dr. Weast

Dr. Lacey

Office of School Performance

850 Hungerford Drive ,Room 100 * Rockville, Maryland 20850 * 301-315-7377