



The Montgomery County Council of Parent-Teacher Associations

Montgomery County Council of PTAs (MCCPTA)
PRESS RELEASE January 28, 2010

One Year Maintenance of Effort Waiver

The Delegates' Assembly of the Montgomery County Council of PTAs (MCCPTA) voted Tuesday, January 26th, to support Emergency Bill MC 14-10, **Montgomery County—Maintenance of Effort Waiver** which waives the maintenance of effort (MOE) requirement for FY 2010 only. MCCPTA has sent this resolution to our legislative delegation and will assist in supporting the bill in Annapolis. MCCPTA took this step in recognition of the unique set of circumstances that led Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) to fall out of compliance with MOE in FY 2010. A request from Montgomery County for a waiver of the MOE was denied by the Maryland Board of Education, and a fine of \$46 million was imposed. If this fine is paid by MCPS, it will require significant cuts to the schools' already very lean budget for the rest of FY 2010. MCCPTA believes that further cuts during this year of very lean budgets and drastically lower tax revenues will, affect our children directly.

MCCPTA's support for the waiver of the MOE fine is based on this year's unusual school budget situation applies **only** to FY 2010. MCCPTA firmly supports the principle behind the Maintenance of Effort requirement. A top notch public education system is the driver for a top notch local economy; the schools deserve full support of the local government.

The MCCPTA Resolution in support of MC 14-10, passed by the Delegates' Assembly on January 26, 2010, is attached, along with the letter from Kay Romero, MCCPTA President to our legislative delegation.

For further information, please contact
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