

MCCPTA Committee Work Plan 2010 – 2011

Committee: DCC sub-Committee

Chair(s): Mary Abe

Email: mc.abe@verizon.net

Committee Members: Cluster coordinators from Blair, Einstein, Northwood, Kennedy and Wheaton clusters, which make up the Downcounty Consortium (DCC) and the Area VP for Blair, Einstein, Northwood, and Kennedy. These clusters span two quad cluster areas and have two community superintendents.

Vision

This group monitors and coordinates the efforts of the PTAs in the DCC with special attention to the needs of the high school and middle school consortium programs and the associated choice process from elementary school to middle school to high school. We focus assessing the effectiveness of the choice process in providing families with academically strong options for all students.

Goals

As the operating budget has tightened, staff cuts in special programs and the threat of cutting transportation for consortia have raised questions about whether the cost of the consortia are justified by student performance. The Committee will focus on developing consensus about the value of special programs and school choice in our consortium area.

The Committee will continue to work with the Consortium office staff on high school choice issues and the transition from middle to high school. We will continue to work on obtaining comparable data on academic achievement levels in our high schools. This has been an issue as the high schools were not collecting the same data and comparisons were difficult.

The Committee may identify additional issues in their fall meetings.

Action Steps

The DCC Committee meets 4-5 times during the year with our Community Superintendents. Depending on the topic, the meetings also include staff from the Division of Consortia Choice and Application Program Services (DCCAPS aka the Consortia Office) and the Director of the Department of Enriched and Innovative Programs, which oversees the DCCAPS office. We will continue to work with our BOE members and County Council members on high priority issues affecting the DCC. This Committee will continue to work with and inform the MCCPTA VP of Educational Issues.

Expenses: None requested.