

## MCCPTA Committee Work Plan 2007-08

### **Committee: Counseling and Guidance**

**Chair(s):** Ann Gallagher

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### **Committee Members (use reverse side if more space is needed):**

Lizbeth Moses, Dana Purcell, Risa Sandler, Hollie Taylor, Susan Fleck, Sherri Mohebbi, Debbie Fink, Jackie Confrey, Kathy Kitts, Heidi Mirviss, Jo Bacas, Eric Norman, Angela Edwards

### **Vision**

*How does the work of your committee support the objects and mission of PTA and the focus of MCCPTA?*

The committee's aim is to strengthen ties between parents and counselors for the benefit of all county school children.

### **Goals**

*Give a summary statement of your committee's goals for this year. Consider how you will identify attainment.*

The Counseling and Guidance Committee's goals for 2007-08 are as follows:

- A) To understand how MCPS counselors, PPWs (pupil personnel worker) and school psychologists operate. (e.g., How do they network? How do they decide what to address? How do they answer to the community?)
- B) To explore the need for, and possible production of, a reference / resource booklet, listing available programs linking counselors with programs.
- C) To identify counselor/student ratios. (Are counselors able to address the needs of students? How do other comparable public school systems/counties, such as Fairfax County, address the counselor/student ratio?)

### **Action Steps**

*What does your committee plan to do to achieve these goals? Include plans for meetings, mailings, etc., interaction with other MCCPTA committees, MCPS staff you may work with and in what capacity, other county, state or federal agencies, organizations you may contact as part of your action plan.*

- A & B) We plan to meet with Kent Weaver, of MCPS's School Counseling Services, who has agreed to help our committee meet its goals – explaining operation, as well as with production and distribution of a reference / resource booklet for counselors.
- C) We plan to review local PTA testimony and research counselor/student ratios in order to determine if MCCPTA should lobby for more counselors. We plan to identify comparable counties and gather data on how they determine their ratios. We plan to interview counselors, in an effort to (among other information) determine what grades counselors are most needed. We will identify if counselors have background or training in wellness and/or mental health and ability to do referrals. We will identify what counselors do at each level (elementary, middle school and high school.)

Meeting Dates - Tuesdays: September 25th 10-11 am, October 16 7-8 pm, November 27 10-11 am, January 15 7-8 pm, February 26 10-11 am, April 1 7-8 pm, June 3 10-11 am.

### **Expenses**

\$50 to purchase snacks and drinks in order to encourage attendance of MCPS staff at our meetings