

Committee Report, December 2006

Health Committee: Tracy Fox, Chair, tracyfox@comcast.net

The Citizens Advisory Committee on Family Life and Human Development (the committee) has completed its review of the revised lessons on health education being prepared for students in MCPS. In October, the committee provided Dr. Weast with a report in support of the condom use demonstration video and lesson for grade 10, with recommended changes.

In November, the committee completed its review of the revised lessons on “Respect for Differences in Human Sexuality” for grade 8 and Grade 10. In late November, the committee provided Dr. Weast with a report in support of the lessons with recommended changes. The committee spent many hours in public meetings closely reviewing, analyzing and discussing the lessons.

While most committee members supported the lessons and felt they provided essential information to help students in 8th and 10th grades in these important areas, a “Minority Report” has been submitted to the Superintendents office for his review. The Minority Report was submitted on behalf of Citizens for Responsible Curriculum and Parents and Friends of Ex-gays and Gays, and a committee member – Ms. Faustino. This report contends that the curriculum contains inaccurate information, is using a resource that they contend is one-sided, and the lessons fail to recognize the ex-gay community. The report will be analyzed and considered by the superintendent and staff in the development of the final recommendations to the Board on the revised curriculum.

MCCPTA was represented on the committee by Tracy Fox, Chair of the MCCPTA Health Committee.

The BOE will be voting on the revised lessons and video at the Jan. 9th meeting.