

MCCPTA Parent Involvement Committee Plan of Work 2008 - 2009

Chair: Elisia George

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

One of the missions of the PTA is: To encourage parent and public involvement in the public schools. The activities of this Parent Involvement Committee will directly support that mission as well as MCCPTA's focus on supporting student achievement. Research shows that schools that show the greatest improvement in student achievement have high levels of parent, family and community involvement.

Goals (*Give a summary of your committee's goal for this year. Consider how you will identify attainment.*):

Committee goals are to continue to:

- (1) Provide resources for parents in the county that they may be empowered to help their children achieve greatness by being more involved in their children's education in the school and on the PTA, (target parents are low income and multi-cultural families).
- (2) Identify effective practices in Montgomery County and other counties nationwide and share them with county parent and school audiences.
- (3) Provide assistance to PTA's attempting to initiate and improve parent involvement activities, by seeking out parent leadership liaisons to reach out to underserved families within the school community and partnering with the Parent Leadership Institute (PLI) and the Division for Family and Community Partnership to offer leadership training and resources for parents seeking to be more effective in the lives of their children.

Action Steps (*What does your committee plan to do to achieve these goals?*):

Our first step is to identify parents that are willing to be a part of this committee countywide, who can commit to taking this information back to their various schools and utilizing it henceforth giving us a sense of what works and what doesn't.

Offer a program targeting International parents, to educate them on the school system and in so doing offer them an opportunity to be more involved in the education process for their children.

Work with the various PTA presidents to see what the needs are and also to learn of the successful practices at their school. Form a partnership with the MCPS Division of Family and Community Partnership and Linkages To Learning and other agencies to reach out to these families especially the low-income families and multi cultural families in our community to find ways to overcome the various barriers that hinder parents from being involved in their children's lives.

Identify ways PTA leaders in the county could assess where families and educators are in adopting the parent involvement best practices recommended in the report of the State Board of Education's newly adopted Maryland Parent Advisory Council report, Shared Responsibility: Recommendations for Increasing Family and Community Involvement in Schools.

Expenses: \$150 for refreshments