

PTSA General Membership Meeting

Tuesday, October 13, 2020 7:00pm

Committee & Liaison Reports

CAPS Committee - Daisy Zhang

The Chinese American Parents and Students committee has planned the following for this school year: (1) establish a new master email list and a new chat group for communication; (2) update our website; (3) hold parent meetings approximately every other month for school related activities, questions and concerns, feedback to administration, and committee planning; (4) hopefully host our annual Lunar New Year celebration with MHHS staff and students (if school building is open by that time).

We also have a new email address: capsa@mthebronptsa.com

IASPA Committee - Gopi Suri

The Indian American Student Parent Association is planning to host a virtual meet and greet on 10/31 for all students and parents. We are also in the process of developing a new website. We partnered with Coppin State University and one of our parents, professor Rajapandi Thavamani and his colleagues to conduct a science workshop/internship program that ran for 5 weeks from July-August. More than 60 middle and high school students participated.

KASPO Committee - Il Minn

The LAC held a virtual open house for Spanish-speaking families on Oct. 10 to introduce families to Dr. Miller, the PTSA, and to help build community.

After-Prom - Caroline Bodziak & Laura Munns

Nothing to report. Still no idea if Prom and After-Prom will happen in spring 2021.

Community Outreach - Keefe Hogan

Looking into a few food drives for Thanksgiving that have just started to appear on local FB pages. Will be meeting with the new HSES Community Outreach person to see how we can collaborate in our cluster.

Guidance Volunteers - Sринi Gorantla

Hospitality - Erin Lanthier, Robin Cohoon

Nothing new to report. Last month's update is below.

The Hospitality Committee has been busy attempting to smooth the transition back to school for our teachers and staff. With generous donations from the parents we were able to put together 150 goodie bags filled with treats including drinks, granola bars, chips and cookies. We also managed to "treat" any of the children riding along with their parents. Also when staff spent a couple days collecting and

handing out materials they received a bountiful feast of Chik-Fil-A breakfast sandwiches & Jimmy Johns subs for lunch. We can't thank the parents enough for helping out with donations to help our staff.

Membership - Mary Pearce

We have 334 members thus far. 183 parents, 114 students, 37 staff members

We are offering 3 packages:\$100, \$80, \$60. Each with 2 members and donation. We are using MemberHub, a new communication tool, for directories and PTSA member messages. Please don't forget to sign up tonight, if you haven't already!

Mental Health - Ana Nunez

On Sept. 21, Grassroots & Mt. Hebron's PTSA offered a virtual QPR training that was attended by over 30 students and parents. We will be planning another for November. Learn about all the resources Grassroots offers here: www.grassrootscrisis.org/events/. PTSA also partnered with MHHS to promote joining the Mt. Hebron team for the virtual Out of the Darkness walk to prevent suicide held by the American Foundation for the Prevention for Suicide (AFPS) happening the weekend of Oct 10/11. Any parents interested in joining the Mental Health committee should email ineedyoda@gmail.com.

Mulch Sale - Jason Bashura

While the pandemic may have "shredded" our plans for the mulch sale in the spring of 2020, we're looking to fine tune our mulch ordering & distribution plans for the 2021 mulch sale. I'm hopeful that all of our volunteers from last year will be returning this year - and we will be recruiting at least 1 new mulch committee member from the incoming freshman families. The date of the mulch sale is as of yet to be determined - stay tuned. If interested in joining the Mulch Committee, please contact Jason @ JPB27NYY@verizon.net or via text @ 203-305-1973.

Scholarships - Laura Munns

At the budget meeting it was decided that this year we will again offer seven, \$1000 scholarships to graduating seniors who are a member of the PTSA along with one parent. The deadline to apply will be April 15 and the application will be available online at our website beginning in February.

Senior Banners - VACANT

Staff Appreciation - Sandi Miller

In August we worked in conjunction with several other groups to provide encouraging notes/treats for the staff. Inside of the lunchbox that was given to the staff, we placed a package of cookies that said, "Thanks for helping to make us smart cookies." And inside a water bottle, we placed a Crystal Light packet that said, "Staff like you are so refreshing." We plan to also honor the staff in October alongside of the SGA and other groups. We will provide a "Staff Survival Kit" with small, fun treats in a bag with a cute card on it.

Volunteer Coordinator - Erin Lanthier

Nothing to report

Website - Trisha Anand, Ashmitha Julius Aravind, Jon Booth (mentor)

PTACHC Reps - Julie Kim & Jemmie Paul

Nominating committee was voted in and will be working on a slate of nominees to be voted on. Elections must be in person. Requesting the state allow us to shorten time to vote from the time slate is announced in order to vote in new officers for the start of SY, hopefully at the October meeting. Voted to partner with League of Women Voters for the November election, more details to come.

PTA Council Session w/PTACHC Board of Directors: Meeting Minutes - October 2020

- Presidents/Officers are asked to send updated information after elections to Sarah at office@PTACHC.org
- PTACHC Officer elections is scheduled for October 19 (Rain Date - 10/20)
 - Please note that elections must be in-person and will be held outside the Homewood School with all social distancing regulations.
 - MDPTA is working on suspension of standing rules for future voting - timeline unknown.
 - The state is working on a possible electronic option.
- PTA:
 - Positions, budgets and other items requiring membership votes MUST be in-person.
 - PTACHC and other boards can meet online for all other items.
 - There is no preferred platform/application for virtual meetings; please choose a platform that provides the best security.
- MDPTA - NATIONAL PTA (updates)
 - MDPTA is under reconstruction by National PTA
 - MDPTA continues to operate, however.
 - By-law updates are delayed
 - State PTA is working with their legal team while business is operating "close to usual"
 - More information will be provided as they become available.
- PTACHC Membership
 - Membership is live!
 - Replaces previous version;
 - Allows multiple payment options;
 - Collects for National, Council and local PTA;
 - As a reminder, dues pay insurance and other items in the budget.
- PTACHC - Reflections are ongoing.
 - Submissions are due by 12/18/2020
- PTACHC - Advocacy
 - The board is involved in the housing opportunity task force
 - Focusing on overcrowding and equity
 - PTAs are encouraged to monitor and participate
 - OBRC (Open Budget and Review Committee) is underway
 - Policy 6010 - School Attendance area
 - 2021 State legislative session
 - Outreach to legislature is encouraged, in support of education
- PTACHC Forum
 - Partnered with the League of Women Voters online forum on 10/2.
 - Expanded offer for candidates to reply to our questions.

- Send questions to debate@ptachc.org
- Cut-off for questions is 10/16 - Candidate replies by 10/23

- Board is looking for PTACHC reps for policies
 - If interested, send email to Meg Ricks at policy@ptachc.org
- Miscellaneous - Action Items
 - Members are encouraged to stay abreast of housing plans - consider how it could affect education.
 - Recorded PTA Board Meetings including this one will be uploaded to PTACHC website.

ESOL Parent Liaison - Tara Anderson

HC DrugFree Liaison - Jeff Li

Most recently, on August 14th, the Howard County Fire and Rescue Services hosted an online CPR training event that thoroughly explained the process of saving one's life from cardiac arrest and choking. There are no recent updates on when the upcoming meet is going to happen this September, but I will be sure to give you feedback on what we are planning for when the meet happens. Stay safe Hebron!

Patapsco MS Liaison - Keefe Hogan

We are having an internet safety presentation via Zoom on the 14th. We held elections last month and are in the process of updating our bylaws.

Ellicott Mills MS Liaison - VACANT

Special Education Liaison - Alesia Richter

- First SECAC Meeting of the school year is 9/16/20 from 7pm - 9pm
- Zoom link will be sent once registration is received. Link to register is:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYod-upqToiGtPxn-zsEo41qh3B4J3mH99z>
- Agenda items for meeting include:
 - Welcome, purpose, and vision
 - Announcements
 - HCPSS Department of Special Education Introductions and Updates
 - Board of Education Introductions and Updates
- I will be attending meeting and will share notes and information with Caroline, to send out in upcoming newsletter.

Viking Backers Liaison - Laura Munns

The Viking Backers kicked off the year with a virtual meeting on Monday, September 14. Jim Bahel will again be the President of our booster organization. Please be sure to join the Viking Backers along with the PTSA. Both work together on many projects that benefit the students and staff of MHHS. The Backers has a brand new website with a link to join with ease. The money you donate goes directly to supporting all clubs and organizations, as well

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as sports teams. With the loss of revenue in concessions and spirit wear with no sporting/drama and other events, the Backers needs your memberships more than ever!

The Backers voted and agreed to join us as partners in running four bingo nights for Hebron students. The Backers pledged \$200 in gift cards, (20 x \$10) for this event and Paula D'Alonzo has already purchased them.

Brian Rau - AAD for MHHS reported that the MPSSAA announced the winter sports season will take place Feb. 1 through March 27; the fall season March 15 through May 8; the spring season April 26 through June 19.

No decision has been made regarding state tournaments yet.

This is all of course pending the state of Covid and the opening of school buildings.