



A Branch of the American School Counselor Association

BUILDING BETTER HUMANS

August 30, 2020

Mission Statement: The Maryland School Counselor Association (MSCA) advocates for and promotes excellence in the profession of school counseling to support current and future school counselors in fostering the full potential of all students' academic, career, and social/emotional development across all regions of the state.

Vision Statement: The Maryland School Counselor Association (MSCA) creates a network of support for current and future school counselors by providing professional development, leadership, outreach, and advocacy through ethical practices. MSCA, in association with the American School Counselor Association (ASCA), empowers all Maryland school counselors to promote every aspect of student success through implementation of the National Model.

Date and Time: 8/30/2020 at 12pm

Location: Virtual Meeting

Attendees: L. Jones, N. Ham, A. Downey, A. Thompson, M. Hoyt, G. Foust, L. Schnebly, A. Oglesby, H. Kleiderlein, X. Medina, T. Adkinson, J. Jahries, R. Scott, E. Reed

Adjourned: 2:20pm

Agenda

1. Welcome- L. Jones

Goals for this year:

- Revisit By-Laws/update; reconfigure committees
- Host 1-2 webinars/month
- Elevator pitch for all school counselors ("The 5 Minute Advocate" by Chonya Johnson)
- Host conference (in person or virtually)
- Increase membership by 10%; share benefits of being member (840 active members; looking to add at least 80) *Need to become more intentional about including/reaching out to those who say they are interested in becoming part of a committee- Marian is looking to make this her goal.
- Add 2-3 new faces to each committee

-Meet & Greet by Regions by the end of Oct.

2. President-Elect -N. Ham

- a. Racial Equity and Social Justice Committee (Alica Oglesby has agreed to chair this committee) Will be having a meeting this upcoming Thursday @ 5pm
- b. Lauryn's Law-
 - i. 120 participants. Everyone loved Scott (Mental Health coordinator at PG County) He is interested in doing it again in October. Nikki needs more people to help coordinate this in order to give a great experience to participants. Nikki is still sending out CPD's. *Xiomara and Marian are both open to helping on the next one.
 - ii. If a counselor is up for certification they need the Lauryn's Law Certification (essentially within 5 years depending on when your certification is). Every certification period. Best recommendation is to talk with individual HR office.
- c. Emerging Leaders- Dr. Atiya Smith has agreed to stay on to continue with the current class. Goal is for these leaders to eventually run for board positions or committee chairs. ***Need to reach out to previous EL to see if they are still interested in continuing and extend the opportunity to some 2020 Graduates.** (Xiomara would like to work with an emerging leader).
- d. Recognition Committee updates
 - i. The call for Nomination will begin in September
 1. The SCOY Celebration will be moved from [February to March](#) in collaboration with the MSCA Spring Conference
 2. The night before the conference we would do a recognition event.
 3. Review and approve the awards ([list of awards](#))
 - a. [Dr. Vivian Lee](#)
 - b. The committee will discuss the restructuring of the High School Scholarship application (should it go towards a student who is looking to study a "helping" profession.
 - c. We don't want to lose the piece about a student recognizing their counselor. Maybe have the SCOY application include a recommendation from a student/family?
 - d. Consider a stipend/monetary award for SCOY recipients
 4. Discussion of hosting a webinar on "Help with Completing the Application/Understanding the Process" in hopes of getting more people to complete the application.
 5. Also, a webinar on collecting data throughout the year.

3. Past-President – K. Ruby

a. Election Update-

- i. Email was sent out to see who was interested in submitting an application.
- ii. No application for **MS VP- Jill Jahries is interested**, one for Western REg Rep, 1 Southern Reg Rep, 1 Secondary VP, 1 Grad Student Rep
- iii. Ed Reed will help finish the election process
- iv. Add Equity Committee & Support for Dev. of local chapters to ballot

b. By-Laws

- i. Up for review and due to Leisl by June 8
- ii. New vision/mission statements were submitted last year.
- iii. Changed that the president/president-elect will be elected bi-annually.
- iv. As of right now, the by-laws says that the president-elect shall serve as the “Chair of the Program Committee”. We will have to change that to say “Recognition Committee”
- v. Currently says no officers will be compensated, but we need to change that to say that the membership chair and treasurer will be.
- vi. Kelly Ruby is the chair of the committee to look at the by-laws. Please reach out to Kelly if you would like to be a part of that committee (Maureen Ponce volunteered)
- vii. Virtual voting

4. President’s Report – L. Jones

a. Conference-March 21-22, 2021; Will be 1 ½ days and will host SCOY gala

- i. Hyatt Regency in Cambridge (limited to 350 but will be using the full facility to utilize social distancing.
- ii. We received a contract; however, we are hesitant to sign because we could lose our (substantial) deposit if we end up doing it virtually. (it says if we cancel “without cause”). Question- even if we are “able” to have it, are people going to be comfortable with going.
- iii. Conversation about going virtual so that we do not have to worry about a plan A vs B. We could start planning now to do the virtual route (this would also give us the opportunity to have speakers who are out of the state- aka our keynote speaker will not be live) ; could consider doing a smaller portion in person if it is safe (happy hour?) Virtual would also allow us to increase the numbers we reach.
- iv. ASCA, Liesl Moriarty, said she would/could help.

- b. MSCA Google Calendar-Xiomara will set up
 - Board Meetings for 20-21 school year
 - webinars
 - socials
 - conference
 - book club meetings

G. History of MSCA (WayBack Machine)

- a. Possible interview previous presidents example:
 - i. Jennifer Dunn Reed
 - ii. Jeremy Goldman
 - iii. Michelle Gilliam
 - iv. Dan Peabody
 - v. Dr. Eunice Humphrey
 - vi. Ed Reed
 - vii. Gretchen Foust said she would research historical materials once she is back on campus.

4. Treasurer's Report – X. Medina

- c. Full report at October meeting.
- d. Other money making opportunities?

5. Post-secondary VP – G. Foust

- a. Grad Student Seminar: Nov. 14 Coordinator Panel (virtually). Cost? Start with expenses. \$20 for non-members and that includes a membership.
- b. James Harris applied for Graduate Student Representative. The Board has accepted his application and he is now appointed.
- c. Should we try to have a rep at each campus? This could be helpful in getting the information out to everyone. This was tried in the past and was not successful but definitely think it's worth trying again. (Check with Alexis- she worked on this in the past). MSCA Grad Student Council

6. Secondary VP – M. Ponce

- a. Mentoring Guide
- b. Summer Book Club
 - i. Alicia Oglesby: Co-Author of Interrupting Racism
 - ii. Looking to continue to present equity challenges monthly and then to present that information at ASCA next year.

7. Middle VP – **J. Jahries is interested!**
8. Elementary VP – T. Spain

9. Membership/Website - B. Marchione
 - a. Membership drive under way until Oct. 1
 - b. Up to 840 members, 28 as of the last 30 days
 - c. Allie put it on social media today (8/30) and Laura and Nikki will push out to district supervisors. We have directions on the website.
 - d. Anyone talk to their district and think they will do a big membership pull? Makes it difficult for Xiomara when they go through the county so it is better if they go directly through MSCA.
 - e. Bill and Marian need updates on any positions like board members, regional reps, events, meetings, etc. (for website and Members Packet) DEADLINE- Sept 5 (end of this week).
 - f. What do people think about helping others to establish a Bitmoji virtual office or perhaps putting an example on the website? It might be too late to host an event and could be kind of difficult to coordinate, but Marian has been (just FYI- some counties are not allowed to use them for accessibility reasons. Might need to put a disclaimer to check with their county if it is allowed) Maybe Marian can record a “How-To” lesson so members can watch when they have the time.
 - g. 230 who want to be on a committee- Need to figure out what to do with this information.
 - h. Marian will disaggregate the data on what our members have said about what kind of professional development they want (perhaps to help with future webinars?)

10. Legislative/Advocacy Committee – Holly Kleiderlein
 - a. Quiet on legislative end this summer. Legislator Holly was working with retired; New legislator seems confused about the role of a school counselor. She was pushing for more Social Workers but Holly tried to explain that if she is looking for prevention she needs to push for School Counselors.
 - b. Plan for the year is to reach out to legislators and get information to those who need to hear about it. Wants to work on a user friendly site for people to visit regarding advocacy for the profession.
 - c. [The 5 Minute Advocate](#)
 - d. Jill Jahries will put Holly in contact with her person in Baltimore.

11. Social Media/Communication –A.Downey

- a. Instagram: 310 Followers
- b. Twitter: 2,940 Followers
- c. Facebook- 1,287 Followers- Followers up this month but page views and new posts are down. The data shows that the “Events” page does reach people (4.2K reached in the last year).

12. Graduate Student Rep – James Harris (newly appointed)

13. Public Relations – R Scott

14. Professional Development-E. Reed

15. Merchandise-L. Schnebly

- a. How do we deal with S&H (can we make a separate charge or do we just include it in the actual price of the product)
- b. Marian knows of a way to print the name/address directly on the shipping label
- c. Would like to do a test run for a period of time.
- d. Xiomara will get in contact with Leslie about budget

New merchandise already purchased for the Conference:

- Black t-shirt (w/ MD counselor logo--similar to red and white t-shirts) 12
- Thin, long sleeve pull over (w/ MD counselor logo) 30
- Car magnets (w/ MSCA logo) 100

16. Regions

- Southern- Connie Johnson

- Eastern- R. Zollinger
 - .
- Northern-J. Jaharies
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- Central- A Pappadeas
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- Western- Kathleen Klecan
 -

- Independent/Private Schools - Alexis Thompson

17. For the Good of the Group

- a. Consider paying to have Tricia certified as the Ethics Committee Chair so that we can do this the right way. *Xiomara motions that the board covers the cost of Tricia becoming certified through ASCA; Gretchen seconds. All in agreement; no one opposed or abstained.

-Is there a rep for retired school counselors? Need to find a volunteer.

- If anyone has an AMEX card, I think you can get a year's worth of Calm app for free

18. Next Meetings - Saturday, Oct. 3 9-12pm via Zoom

- a. Future Meetings: Oct 3, Jan 9, March 13, June 5

19. Adjournment: The executive board really appreciates the leadership from everyone!
Thanks for joining us!