



*A Branch of the American School Counselor Association*

ALL IN FOR ALL STUDENTS

January 9, 2021

**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: 1/9/21 at 9am

Location: Virtual Meeting

Attendees: Laura Jones, Nikki Ham, Alexis Pappadeas, Kelly Ruby, Gretchen Foust, Kathleen Klecan, Maureen Ponce, Miyah Ford, Dianne Bryant, Xiomara Medina, Marian Hoyt, Rose Zollinger, Kate Rebman, Theresa Elam, Leslie Schnebly, Tracey Spain, Holly Kleiderlein, Connie Johnson, Edward Reed, Nicole Amoako, Nicole Beard, Richard Scott, Alexis Thompson

Adjourned:

#### Agenda

1. Welcome- L. Jones

-Introductions (if this is first time here, please drop your email address in the chat)

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 (virtually in 2021)
- 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 (Marian completed this goal!).

-Add 2-3 new faces to each committee (Who was contacted with interested members?)

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

## 2. President-Elect -N. Ham

### a. [Recognition Committee updates](#)

i. For the first time, will be in conjunction with the Spring Conference (Friday evening)

ii. Award Information

1. ES-16 nominations/6 completed applications

2. MS-12 nominations/7 completed applications

3. HS-20 nominations/ 8 completed applications

4. MSCA Administrator of the Year-11

5. Dr. Vivian Lee-Advocate of the Year - 2

6. School Counseling Student Year - 4

7. School Counseling Educator Year -7

8. HS Scholarships - 29 applications as of 1/8/2021 deadline is Feb. 22, 2021 (Nikki will send this out to members again to advertise).

a. Need to discuss at the Jun 5 board meeting what we want to do with this scholarship next year. (graduate student, school counselor, student and counselor, etc?)

b. Lauryn's Law Approve for CPD for online course offering (due to COVID-19 had to move to online course offering)

i. Should we offer a spring session? Need to identify dates for spring and summer.

ii. [Interest form](#):

interest of about 28 school counselors from an interest form sent out in November

c. Local Chapters

i. [Google form affiliate application](#)

ii. [Google document affiliate application](#)

iii. Howard, Frederick, Baltimore City & Baltimore County (does anyone know of any others?)

## 3. Past-President – K. Ruby

a. Elections

i. For next year, when is the best time to get the highest engagement?

May need to start the process sooner so that the positions are filled by July 1. Consider doing it in March (near conference time). Should we look at a new process so that we are ready for the spring?

- ii. Should we consider hosting a webinar about “How to Get Involved in MSCA” Schedule something for Feb. (put together talking points to hit for each position) and then put out the call for nominations after that.
- iii. Make it a duty for the Regional Reps to look for a county rep in their location from each location and then have regular meetings for their region.
- iv. Elected positions:
  - President-Elect
  - Secretary
  - Treasurer
  - Elem. VP
  - Post-Secondary VP
 -Appointed Positions:
  - Grad Student Rep
- v. After Feb. Webinar, will put out a call for nominations in late Feb/early March.

b. By-Laws

- i. Maureen Ponce volunteered to help Kelly review by-laws
- ii. Include something about Virtual voting
- iii. Add local chapters to by-laws
- iv. Add duties of regional rep (recruiting county reps)
- v. Statement on when we approve the budget and a statement on how we amend it during the year

4. President’s Report – L. Jones

- a. Conference-March 19-20, 2021; [Dec. minutes](#)
  - i. [Call for proposals](#) due Jan. 30, 2021
  - ii. Vote on [logo](#)
    - 1. Four options; vote tabulation: #3 received 8 votes; #4 received 7 votes; **WINNER: #3**
- b. Mid Year Leadership Development Institute (LDI) in Feb.
  - On demand launches Feb. 1 [submit proposals here](#)
  - Live sessions and discussions are scheduled daily February 25-26, 1:00-6:00pm
  - o No cost to attend. Participants must hold a volunteer leadership role within your SCA (board officer, committee member or chair, etc.) and be an active ASCA member to participate.

- Full schedule and registration details forthcoming by January 1!

C. Our executive board will meet with Jill Cook, ASCA's Executive Director, on Monday, Jan. 11 at 10am. She's looking to hear what you're working on, talk through your needs as an organization, and understand what challenges you're facing in your state.

1. Submit questions you have for Jill to Laura before Monday at 9am.

D. Please check [20-21 Board member list](#) for correct contact information and update as appropriate

F. ASCA U: **Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Specialist Training**. The Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Specialist training is **FREE** to all and allows you to earn five CEUs (equal to 50 contact hours), all from the comfort of your own home or office. (<https://www.schoolcounselor.org/school-counselors/professional-development/asca-u-specialist-trainings/diversity,-equity-and-inclusion-specialist>)

G. NCSW: ALL In for ALL Students

- logo contest-post picture on social media -10 winners/\$10 Amazon gc (Allie)
- gift for all members? Need to come up with ideas soon. BRAINSTORM and reach out to Laura/Nikki. Something Printable/editable? Look at something that would be created and only available to MSCA members.
  - Backgrounds for computers
  - Email signatures
  - High Pixel picture that can be used electronically
  - Allie & Kathleen will speak with their husbands

## 2021 School Counselor of the Year and National School Counseling Week Events

### Monday, Feb. 1:

Webinar - TeacherTalk: School Counselors Collaborating for Student Success

4pm EST

(Link made available in January)

### Tuesday, Feb. 2:

Webinar - State of the Profession: Protecting the School Counselor Role

2pm EST

Viewed at [ASCA on Air](#) and Facebook Live (this will be archived to be watched on demand)

### **Wednesday, Feb. 3**

Webinar - State of the Profession: School Counselors Respond to COVID-19

2pm EST

Viewed at [ASCA on Air](#) and Facebook Live (this will be archived to be watched on demand)

### **Thursday, Feb. 4**

Webinar - State of the Profession: School Counselor Demographics and DEI

2pm EST

Viewed at [ASCA on Air](#) and Facebook Live (this will be archived to be watched on demand)

### **2021 SCOY Gala**

The 2021 Virtual Gala will be streamed live on the ASCA FB page.

<https://www.facebook.com/AmericanSchoolCounselorAssociation>

We encourage everyone to dress up for the event, take selfies and use the #SCOY21

### **Friday, Feb. 5**

Webinar - State of the Profession: Q/A

This LIVE webinar will include all of the panelists from the week's state of the Profession webinars.

2pm EST

Registration link for this webinar will be sent in January.

This is an opportunity to ask questions and have a discussion about the content. The previous webinars will be available free and on-demand at ASCA on Air.

### **H. Feb.-School Counselor Awareness Month (focus on self-care)**



- Paint Night (Tues. Feb. 2, 6-8pm)
- Friday raffles
- Lunches/support (VP levels)-Wellness check ins
- Regional Reps host social (Scavenger Hunt, Game night)
- Mindfulness/yoga, journaling (confirmed-Alexis P)
- Acupressure virtual session
- Self-Care calendar
- DIY essential oils

- Mid-Day Movement breaks (1x/week from 12-12:30pm)
- Virtual Recess w/ breakout rooms (Connie has some games)- Reg reps\*
- SlideShow with winners to celebrate.

I. MSCA members Anniversary (we don't ask for birthdays)-

- A. Need a list from Bill/Marian
- B. Send it out monthly
- C. Marian volunteered to put something together

J. [MSCA Calendar](#)

- send everything to Mia at [calendar@mscaonline.org](mailto:calendar@mscaonline.org)
- On left hand menu you will add/subscribe to this email address to your calendars
- she will add to calendar and send invite

4. Treasurer's Report – X. Medina

- a. Current Bank Account Balance - \$53, 074.11
- b. Current Paypal Balance (Maryland School Counselor Association or [xmedina@mscaonline.org](mailto:xmedina@mscaonline.org)) - \$1,758.76
- c. Purchasing for MSCA- no one should be using the MSCA account except Laura, Nikki, & Xiomara. If Xiomara is looking at the monthly statements and she does not have an explanation behind the purchase it makes her life VERY difficult.
- d. Reimbursement Forms- updated annual reimbursement form. Xiomara will send this out to the board members so that they have it. (make yourself a copy before you send it to her if you are mailing it).
- e. 2020-2021 Budget  
<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/19mKGPO6eUpsP9mOXOD7UrZhs8FRMzQYDyw9-z9hGBGI/edit>
- f. Discuss adding a budget for the Diversity Committee (\$500) and Private/Charter Schools. Need clarify with the by-laws to be sure we are able to make these changes now.
  - i. “Budget information referenced in the By-Laws: The treasurer shall submit current financial statements at all board meetings and a complete financial report at the end of the fiscal year, and shall perform other duties as directed by the president with the approval of the Executive Board. The May report shall be emailed to all members of the MSCA Executive Committee. The treasurer will present the approved budget at that general meeting to occur at the Annual Conference.” Here is the link <http://www.mscaonline.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/04/MSCA-By-Laws-Revised-2015.pdf>

- g. Need to change Legislative Committee from \$5,000 to \$500
  - h. Will pay for Tricia's Ethics course cost out of the Legislative budget
  - i. Still need to locate the Articles of Incorporation (Ed and Xiomara will talk offline- Nikki would like to join as well)
  - j. International Fee is because Wild Apricot is located in Canada
5. Post-secondary VP – G. Foust
- a. Kate Rebman is the Graduate Student Representative.
  - b. Grad Student Seminar:
    - i. Nov. 14, 2021. Went very well. (24 students) Focused on job search
    - ii. Spring seminar: Sat., April 10, 2021 (looking at broader topics)
      - 1. Theme of “Collaboration” (tying in the theme of “All in for All Students” theme)
      - 2. Include professionals such as administrators, school psych, Spec. Ed, health professionals/nurse, teachers, media center specialist, etc) need to have a diverse representation of the state.
      - 3. To do: list of questions to address to make sure we cover the right material
      - 4. Tentative time: 9 to 12pm.
  - c. MSCA Grad Student Council (one representative from each campus?)
    - i. Grad student from Hood Ann Redman; [amr14@hood.edu](mailto:amr14@hood.edu)
    - ii. Bowie State University: James Harris
    - iii. Working to get a rep from everyone school in the state.
    - iv. Would it be possible to try for a first AND second year rep so they would do it for two years?

5b. Graduate Student Rep – Kate Rebman

- d. See notes above regarding Post-secondary VP

6. Secondary VP – M. Ponce

- a. Mentoring program- has a grad student who would like to have a mentor. Please reach out if you are willing to be a mentor.
- b. Interrupting Racism Monthly Book Cohort - Update
  - i. 4th session happened this week (Jan 4)
  - ii. Wrote a proposal and were accepted for the ASCA conference this summer. (Ponce, Ham, Medina)
  - iii. Working to schedule a webinar for members with guest speaker regarding trauma (looking to compensate speaker \$200- can we use the regional rep budget/Connie & Jill Jahries or professional dev budget?) thinking an afternoon (2hrs) at the end of Feb. or early March

7. Middle VP – J. Jahries

- a. Not present today
- 8. Elementary VP – T. Spain
  - a. Elementary Member List
  - b. Top needs trauma, tech tools and group counseling
  - c. Lunch and Learn went well
  - d. They have a contact for a yoga instructor if we are interested in scheduling a session.
- 9. Membership/Website - B. Marchione/M. Hoyt
  - a. We are currently at 1,286 members (938 active members). This means we achieved our earlier goal of increasing membership by at least 80 people (almost 100!).
  - b. I don't believe this has been a thing in the past, but what are thoughts on creating or growing this into a Welcome Committee? Currently, the regional reps and I welcome members with an email. Is this something to grow, especially with recent suggestions? Could be a simple tweaking of the committee description to get more interest.
  - c. We are switching to PayPal format for Wild Apricot.
  - d. Registration page for the conference is partially done. It will be live when we get instructions on how to link it to the conference portal. We are connecting with Leisl for assistance.
  - e. Gifts for NSCW? We would love to do something especially nice this year, like stress balls, essential oil rollers, etc., but it depends on how much money we have to spend. Just \$2 would be \$1,876. (*see notes above*)
- 10. Legislative/Advocacy Committee – Holly Kleiderlein
  - a. Legislative Session: begins 1/13, propose 3 phases of advocacy
    - i. Prior to Blueprint override vote (~mid-Feb): “override the veto” [Flyer](#)
      - 1. Strong Schools MD is a great resource.
      - 2. Requires 2/3 to override Gov. veto
      - 3. Asking for everyone to reach out to their legislators to override the veto
      - 4. Would we be able to send a sample email and a list of legislators by district to all members?
    - ii. Following Blueprint vote: thank you to affirm relationship
    - iii. Late Feb: make the ask (practicing the elevator pitch of the importance of school counselors)
  - b. Spreadsheet of members' legislative district for constituents (Membership?)
  - c. Strong Schools Maryland Toolkit
    - i. Blueprint Cheat Sheet: [Flyer](#)
    - ii. Legislator Virtual Meetings: [Tips for Meetings](#)
  - d. School Counselor representation on MSDE committees (ERTs?)
  - e. Holly will monitor website for prefiled bills on counselor topics to provide input
  - f. Get in contact with Ed Reed for contact information



11. Social Media/Communication –A.Downey

- a. Tyshawn McGee joined the committee
- b. Updated the logo on social media (very specifics on what we can & cannot have)
- c. Please reach out if there is something you would like shared or if you see any concerns- [secretary@mscaonline.org](mailto:secretary@mscaonline.org) Always need perspective. It's the association's page and I want to make sure the posts reflect that.
- d. IG- 347 Followers; FB followers: 1,459; Twitter followers: 2,945
- e. This summer we can do a weekly piece on the different committees and how to join. Can work with the “Welcoming Committee” on how to get people involved.

12. Equity and Social Justice Committee-A. Oglesby

- a. Budget- approved
- b. Contact Alicia if you would like to join ([alicia.oglesby@bmhs.org](mailto:alicia.oglesby@bmhs.org))
- c. Meetings held second Thurs. Every month. Next meeting: Jan. 14th at 5pm (need to add this to the calendar@mscaonline.org)
- d. Focus is going to be on:
  - i. Self-care (what that means in participating in equity work)
  - ii. Resources (actively editing the website)
    - 1. Resource: [School Counselor Response to the outbreak of violence and attack of the U.S Capitol](#)
  - iii. Professional Development (hopeful racial equity and social justice is the foundation of all presentations at annual conference)

13. Ethics Committee-T. Adkinson

- a. Officially registered for the training through ASCA
- b. One committee member (grad student)
- c. If you would like to join please reach out to Tricia ([tricia\\_adkinson@hcpss.org](mailto:tricia_adkinson@hcpss.org))

14. Public Relations – R Scott

- i. Laura will reach; on earlier but logged off.

15. Professional Development-E. Reed

-Tues., Jan. 19 @6pm-Celebrating Diversity: School Counselor Making a Difference Across Maryland-We will have a panel of school counselors, counselor educators and the like from across the state to talk about their regions, the challenges they face, the programs/strategies that have been successful and some helpful tips for others when working with diverse populations.

-Play Therapy-Laura Morlok (Feb. ) need to solidify a date

16. Merchandise-L. Schnebly

- a. No new purchases at this time.
- b. Still working on how to get the merchandise into the hands of the members
- c. Will revisit the idea of selling items online (still need to figure out shipping & handling and taxes) Laura asked ASCA but they said that we would have to do it on our own. Connect with Xiomara regarding budget.
- d. Maybe we could do regional pop-up shops when it gets warmer/safer (meet the board members/pick up some swag/ network)?

17. Regions

- a. ASCA Cultivating Connections w/Legislators; host a virtual forum and ask legislators to speak
  - Southern- Connie Johnson
    - Gotten some collaboration ideas and will put together some ideas
  - Eastern- R. Zollinger
    - Looking to collaborate with the other reps and put together some ideas.
  - Northern-S. Slater
  - Central- A Pappadeas  
Journaling and wellness. In addition, she infuses some meditation/mindfulness/stretching in the class too (weeknight/evenings)  
Once a date is selected- be sure to put it on the calendar and send stuff to Allie to promote on social media
  - Western- Kathleen Klecan  
-PL on Tues. Jan. 26 at 7pm. Dr. Alison Bomba; Child and Adolescent Anxiety: Complicated by a COVID-19 World (don't forget to put it on the calendar)  
-Would you like this promoted on social media?
  - Independent/Private Schools - Alexis Thompson
    - Working on membership (gotten about 18 new members!)
    - Be sure to incorporate the independent schools when doing regional things.

19. MSDE-Lyne Muller

- nothing new to report

18. For the Good of the Group

- a. Thank you for the energy, collaboration, and positive attitudes! We've got a great group of people!

19. Next Meetings - Saturday, March 13, 2021 via Zoom

- a. Future Meetings: June 5, 2021
- b. Everyone that is here, please join us in March and bring two friends (you can invite them to the event on Facebook)

20. Adjourned: 12:00PM