



*A Branch of the American School Counselor Association*

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ALL IN FOR ALL STUDENTS

Oct 2, 2021

[Zoom Log In Information](#)

**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:

Location: Virtual Meeting

Attendees:

Adjourned:

### Agenda

#### 1. Welcome- N. Ham

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

#### Goals for this year:

- To identify two legislative efforts to support the reduction of school counselor caseload by the end of the legislative year.
- Increase professional development programming to support the development and implementation of ASCA national model
  - host in person two day conference
- To be intentional with identifying ways to improve diversity of voice, via, gender, race, cultural, religion, sexual orientation, gender identification, geographic location, human abilities, and thought in MSCA Programming
- Membership Drive Raffle (185 Members have been entered)
  - Grand Prize: Free Entry to This Year's MSCA Conference, Including Free Hotel Stay--Ann Marie Stauss
  - First Prize: Free Entry to This Year's MSCA Conference--Charles Woodward

- o Second Prize: Free Year of Membership to ASCA-Stephanie Dobbs
- o Third Prize: Free Year of Membership to MSCA-Kristen Westdorp
- o Fourth Prize: \$30.00 Credit to the MSCA Store- Diane Bryant

2. [President-Elect Report](#)- [mponce@mscaonline.org](mailto:mponce@mscaonline.org)

- a. Recognition Committee updates
  - i. Add the nominee form to the website
- b. Mentoring Committee Update
  - i. Seven Pairs; Five in cue.
  - ii. Next mtg: October 28, 2021 (4th Thursday of each month @7:30pm)
  - iii. Dec. 2nd VP's will be invited.
- c. Update from Summer Book Club
  - i. Book Title: All Students Must Thrive, Author: Tyrone C. Howard, et al.
- d. Interrupting Racism Year 2 Cohort
  - i. [Interest Form](#)

3. Past-President – [pastpresident@mscaonline.org](mailto:pastpresident@mscaonline.org)

- e. Election Results
- f. By-Laws: In progress
  - i. Reviewed in detail with Cynthia Taylor

4. President's Report – Nikki Ham

- A. Update from Summer Self-Care Series
  - a. Wednesday Wellness (multiple workshops)
  - b. Good to do a survey later to get a sense of what the counselors need/want.
  - c. Recorded sessions have been posted under “Members Only” section of the website.
- B. [Monthly calendars](#)
- C. SAVE THE DATE: March 20-21, 2022 @ the Chesapeake Hyatt in Cambridge. Two Day Conference (working with a conference planner)
  - a. Partnering with NCYS
- D. [National School Counselor Week](#)
  - a. Feb. 7-11, 2022
- E. SCA ASCA Updates
- F. [CEASOM](#) Membership

4. Treasurer's Report – [xmedina@mscaonline.org](mailto:xmedina@mscaonline.org)

- a. Current Bank Account Balance- \$71,055.88
- b. Current Paypal Balance - 20,804.11 (Maryland School Counselor Association or [xmedina@mscaonline.org](mailto:xmedina@mscaonline.org))

- c. Have not been in communication with SCL financial company, will need some assistance if last few attempts don't work (need to discuss tax status with them as well as missing codes that were requested , etc)
  - d. Need to vote on approving 2021-2022 budget proposal
    - i. Allie Downey motions to approve the budget; Tracey Spain seconds it.
    - ii. 24 members voted to approve; zero voted no.
5. Membership/Website - [wmarchione@mscaonline.org](mailto:wmarchione@mscaonline.org) and [mhoyt@mscaonline.org](mailto:mhoyt@mscaonline.org)
- a. Website and Membership Report:
    - i. [https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1Gy4sKw-bWJ7EidHjgQXBfkLDWjwqmb6LXm7uKC\\_d7IU/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1Gy4sKw-bWJ7EidHjgQXBfkLDWjwqmb6LXm7uKC_d7IU/edit?usp=sharing)
6. Elementary VP – [elementaryvp@mscaonline.org](mailto:elementaryvp@mscaonline.org) Tracey
- A. Professional Learning Nov 10, Jan 12, March 9, and May 11
  - B. Nov. 10 Tips & Tricks for School Counselors (classroom management, best practices, etc) Will most likely be a two-parter
  - C. March & May topics TBD
7. Middle VP – [middlevp@mscaonline.org](mailto:middlevp@mscaonline.org) Jill
8. Secondary VP – [secondaryvp@mscaonline.org](mailto:secondaryvp@mscaonline.org) Marian
- Reached out to all Secondary counselors to introduce myself (do you want to share that with the other VP's? It was great!)
  - Sent a needs assessment to inform my work
    - Includes what counselors want to see from me, if they would be interested in me advocating for the reduction (or if possible, elimination) of 504, SST, and other non-ASCA aligned roles
    - Plan to collaborate with the Mentoring Committee to host a PLC
  - Surprised that there are only 231 HS counselors who are MSCA members
    - I plan to look into this and see what I can do to recruit more counselors
  - Working with the Mentoring Committee
  - Also serve as FAAC member through MHEC
    - MD SB664 passed, which mandates that each county have a plan for financial aid outreach
    - Currently working on a subcommittee to write the formal recommendation to present to MHEC, as many of these recommendations would be implemented by School Counselors
9. Post-secondary VP – [postsecondaryvp@mscaonline.org](mailto:postsecondaryvp@mscaonline.org)
- 1. Grad Hiring Event- Sat. Nov 13 (virtual)

2. Look into accessing the School Counseling Department Heads for the state and their contact info
3. Plan ahead to put something out on social media congratulating the members who graduated (midyear and end of the year).

9b. Graduate Student Rep – [krebman@mscaonline.org](mailto:krebman@mscaonline.org) and [@jfrancis@mscaonline.org](mailto:@jfrancis@mscaonline.org)

- I. MSCA Grad Student Council
- II. MSCA events. There was interest in a graduate student intern presenting to graduate students who have not yet started their internships (Sharing tips, ideas, experiences).
- III. Still would like to find council members from Johns Hopkins, McDaniel, and Hood

10. Committees:

A. Professional Development- [ereed@mscaonline.org](mailto:ereed@mscaonline.org)

a.

B. Equity and Social Justice Committee- [mbeauttah@mscaonline.org](mailto:mbeauttah@mscaonline.org)

- a. Upcoming dates: Oct. 14, Nov. 11, Dec. 9, Jan 13, Feb. 10, Mar 10, Apr 7, May 12, & June 9
- b. Went through the ASCA sessions and pulled the ones related to equity & social justice.
- c. Looking for ways to offer support during this time in our country.
- d. Creating GSA in elementary schools as well as the upper levels. (looking into getting a professional in for a PD event)
- e. Laura encourages the committee members to apply to present at our conference & ASCA's conference
- f. <https://www.mscaonline.org/resources/resources-to-encourage-courageous-conversations-about-race>
- g. <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1-bFUF-q5EA0R0ptDcZn5UT8AZyZa3X4q-gHhDIcK668/edit>
- h. GLSEN or PFLAG- can we partner with them for year-round programming?

C. Legislative/Advocacy Committee – [hkleiderlein@mscaonline.org](mailto:hkleiderlein@mscaonline.org)

i. 2021-2022 Legislative Calendar:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1L9eKOWKrpFnCUxcdUCdQRcRXoMtt1L0N/view?usp=sharing>

ii. <https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/mgawebsite/>

1. HB0377 Commission on Behavioral Health sponsored by Delegate Bagnall:

<https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/mgawebsite/Legislation/Details/HB0>

[377](#) As of the end of the last session it was “Referred to Committee” which is the Ways and Means Committee. As currently written, there are no School Counselors included in the Commission to discuss student mental health.

2. HB0496 “Counselors Not Cops Act” sponsored by Delegate Wilkins:

<https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/mgawebsite/Legislation/Details/HB0496> still in original house side of the chamber, so early on in the process. There was a lot of testimony last session on this bill. The only bill I’ve seen that actually includes “School Counselor.”

3. Blueprint for Maryland’s Future update: the oversight board has been approved, counselors should see additional “community schools” and additional pre-K classes. Next school year should include a financial bonus for National Board Certified Teachers including School Counselors who are NBCTs. National Board Certification through NBPTS will become a requirement across Maryland under this law.

- a. ASCA has a [similar program](#)/designation

4. Update on CEASOM? John oversees the organization and he wants MSCA to be a member. <http://ceasom.org/> There is a fee involved. We would then be a part of their board. What are the benefits of joining? It is alliance building, they share ideas, big legislative pieces with their lobbying.

iii. Advocacy:

1. I’ll add a committee meeting to October calendar and the purpose would be to help members know how to follow their local Board of Education budget cycle and see any proposals for adding school counseling positions.
2. I’ll be connecting to state delegates and their staffers who sponsor education and student mental health bills to make sure they’re thinking about school counselors as they write their bills.
3. Would love to do a recorded session on creating or strengthening local SCAs, which will be a great way to boost advocacy at the local level.
4. Legislation Day--figuring out how this would happen
5. Inviting delegates to the Recognition Gala

D. Social Media/Communication – [adowney@m scaonline.org](mailto:adowney@m scaonline.org)

- a. Facebook: Total Page Followers: Last mtg 1,541; currently 1,574
- b. Instagram: Followers- Last mtg 443; Currently 501
- c. Twitter - Last mtg 2,953; currently 2,936
- d. Instagram Takeover Events:
  - i. Thank you to [Alexis Pappadeas](#) for doing Sept.

- ii. Coming up- Oct 11-15th will be Kathleen Klecan
    - iii. Nov 8th will be Tracey Spain
  - e. Text or email Allie anything you think should go out on social media ([secretary@mscaonline.org](mailto:secretary@mscaonline.org))
- E. Ethics Committee- [tadkinson@mscaonline.org](mailto:tadkinson@mscaonline.org)
- a. ASCA Ethic Committee Report Out
- F. Merchandise- [lschnebly@mscaonline.org](mailto:lschnebly@mscaonline.org)
- a. Online store is updated
  - b. Conference volunteer t-shirt
    - i. Looking at different vendors and prices
  - c. Board Members Badge
- G. Mentoring Committee- [mponce@mscaonline.org](mailto:mponce@mscaonline.org) , [kklecan@mscaonline.org](mailto:kklecan@mscaonline.org) and [cjohnson@mscaonline.org](mailto:cjohnson@mscaonline.org)
- a. 3 committee members; Maureen, Kathleen & Connie
  - b. Mentor-mentee Matches: 7 Matches with 3 returned mentor/mentee agreements
  - c. PLC Mentoring Groups: Info Night in May, about 15+ folks, group consensus to start in i late summer, looks like two groups will be implemented in the fall (Elementary group and Secondary Group)
  - d. [Handbook](#)- always open to feedback
  - e. Our committee is now listed on the website
- H. Public Relations – [rscott@mscaonline.org](mailto:rscott@mscaonline.org)
- I. Regions
- 1. Southern- [cjohnson@mscaonline.org](mailto:cjohnson@mscaonline.org)
  - 2. Eastern- [rzollinger@mscaonline.org](mailto:rzollinger@mscaonline.org)
    - a. Hoping to get a tri-county counselors group together
    - b. Dorchester County has paid for all of their members to be MSCA members
  - 3. Northern- [sslater@mscaonline.org](mailto:sslater@mscaonline.org)
    - a. Special thanks for introducing Nikki and Holly to Special Counsel to the Governor
  - 4. Central- [apappadeas@mscaonline.org](mailto:apappadeas@mscaonline.org)
  - 5. Western- [kklecan@mscaonline.org](mailto:kklecan@mscaonline.org)
    - a. Looking to make something happen in the region to connect folks
  - 6. Independent/Private Schools - [athompson@mscaonline.org](mailto:athompson@mscaonline.org)
19. MSDE-Lyne Muller
- We are working on a mental health program for the State that would provide more clinical support for schools. Six regional teams, staffed

with clinicians to provide direct services and crisis response as needed.

20. For the Good of the Group

- Interested in becoming an ASCA Certified School Counselor? Check out [this](#) link.
- Advocating graphics from [ASCA](#)

Next Meeting -[Saturday, January 8, 2022 at 9am](#)

Adjourned: Marian Hoyt motioned to adjourn the meeting. Maureen Ponce seconded.  
No debate or discussion. Adjourned at 11:52 am.