



*A Branch of the American School Counselor Association*

ALL IN FOR ALL STUDENTS

June 5, 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: 6/5/21 at 9am

Location: Virtual Meeting

Attendees: Laura Jones, Nikki Ham, Allie Downey, Alexis Thompson, Xiomara Medina, Maureen Ponce, Kate Rebman, Reba Miller (rmiller-willoug@aacps.org), Mia Beauttah, Gretchen Foust, Tricia Adkinson, Tracey Spain, Marian Hoyt, Bill Marchione, Richard Scott, Ed Reed, Alicia Oglesby, Connie Johnson, Leslie Schnebly, Elizabeth O'Connor

Adjourned: 11:20am

### Agenda

1. Welcome- L. Jones

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

Reba Miller--rmiller-willoug@aacps.org

#### Goals for this year:

-Revisit By-Laws/update; reconfigure committees 3/13 Goal Met

-Host 1-2 webinars/month 3/13 Goal Met

-Elevator pitch for all school counselors ("The 5 Minute Advocate" by Chonya Johnson)

H. Kleiderlein is working on this

-Host conference (virtually in 2021) March 13- Goal Met

-Increase membership by 10%; share benefits of being member Mar 13: Goal Met

-Add 2-3 new faces to each committee March 13: Goal Met

Who is currently on what committee?

-Meet & Greet by Regions- March 13: Goal Met

2. President-Elect -N. Ham

a. [Recognition Committee updates](#)

i. HS Scholarships Winners

1. Two HS students who are graduating from a MD high school who have written an essay about a school counselor who impacted their lives. (around 90 applicants)
  - a. Takara Gibson 0 Havre de Grace High School - Hartford County Public Schools
  - b. Jordan Hyde - Urbanda High School - Frederick County Public School
2. Thank you Kate & Gretchen for all of the help! Graduate students did an initial screening. Executive Board members identified two winners.
3. Last year for HS scholarships. Transition to SC professional development scholarships.

b. Trainings

i. Lauryn's Law- June 24 & 25 and then July 26 & 27

1. Both will be virtual. Capped at 50.
2. Xiomara will be the point person for this.
3. Need to have a conversation about the next one to decide if we are going to increase the price & if we are going to do it in person or continue w/ virtual.

ii. The State of the Profession for Maryland School Counselor Association Survey

1. The purpose of this survey is to gather details on school counselor demographic data, roles and responsibilities, the challenges of virtual learning necessitated by COVID-19, efforts to combat systemic racism, day-to-day challenges, professional development needs, and their perception of school resource officers (working relationship).
2. The survey would be administered to all the members of the MSCA who have self-identified as a currently working school counselor. MSCA members would have about two weeks to complete the survey.
3. This information can be used to inform professional development needs, Maryland School Counselor Association program needs, Maryland school counselor perception of SRO, Maryland school counselor programming in the areas of racial/social justice and equity.

4. 143 people responded. Nikki is going to upload the data and run a report/ analysis to do a deeper dive into the information.
5. <https://forms.gle/kwqLAW3vs5YrkWE99>

### 3.Past-President – K. Ruby

#### c. Election Results:

- President-Elect: Dr. Maureen Ponce
  - Secretary : Allie Downey
  - Treasurer: Xiomara Medina -Green
  - Elem. VP: Tracey Spain
  - Post-Secondary VP: OPEN
- Appointed Positions:
- Grad Student Rep- Kate would like someone to work with.
  - Looking for someone to be our webmaster

Open Position as a result of elections:

-Secondary VP

#### d. By-Laws: In progress

### 4.President's Report – L. Jones

- A. Conference-March 19-20, 2021; 1st Virtual conference was a huge success!!!
- B. Platform will be open until July 21. (should we send out an email reminder??)
- C. We are already planning for the conference for next year!
- D. SAVE THE DATE: March 20-21, 2022 @ the Chesapeake Hyatt in Cambridge. Two Day Conference (working with a conference planner)
- E. THEME: Pathways to the Future: Diversity, Equity, Justice
- F. Goal is to have the website up and running soon.
- G. Please let Nikki know if you are interested in being on the conference committee
- H. Tues July 27th we are looking to have our summer meeting/retreat at the Hyatt.
- I. Harriett Tubman Museum is down the street. Look into checking it out.

B. LDI Vegas July 9-10; Xiomara, Marian, Maureen, Allie & Laura will attend in person. Nikki-virtually. MD Get Together (DATE- TBD) 15-RSVPs; don't forget to wear your MD gear for roll call

B. Introducing ASCA Monthly update, a brief that highlights news & happenings from the month preceding

<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/1/#inbox/FMfcgzGkXdBJvmBpnbHsPqrlkbVQNIzh?projector=1&messagePartId=0.1>

C. 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>)

D. "Thank you!!" from Laura.

1. No- thank you Laura!! For everything you have done!

4. Treasurer's Report – X. Medina

- a. Current Bank Account Balance- will attach.
- b. Current Paypal Balance (Maryland School Counselor Association or [xmedina@mscaonline.org](mailto:xmedina@mscaonline.org)) -
- c. **Need to discuss how merchandise is being coded.** Also need to figure out how to reimburse shipping costs to Leslie.
- d. Please send reimbursement forms to "treasurer@mscaonline.org"

5. Membership/Website - B. Marchione/M. Hoyt

- a. Website:
  - i. Membership is way up!! Thank you, Bill & Marian!
  - ii. Site was down for 24 hours on 5/18 due to malware attack. Worked with hosting company (Site5) to rectify the situation. Needed to enlist Site Lock, which is a website security company. They helped us clean up the site and now have year long contract with them
  - iii. Site is being updated w/ additional security. Within wordpress we have additional plugins and if we don't update them regularly- that's how the malware gets it's way in.
  - iv. Site is currently https (secured)

<https://www.mscaonline.org> ⓘ

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MSCA advocates for and promotes excellence in the profession of school ...

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v.

- vi. Bill would like to look into alternative hosting companies and compare costs. Board is in agreement with this.
- b. Membership:
  - i. We currently have 1,043 Active Members, which is an increase of 15 Active members since March).
  - ii. Gained over 200 members in less than a year. ASCA shared that any state with 40%+ of its counselor population holding membership is in a good spot. **We are in the high 40s!**
  - iii. Working on a color-coded “events” calendar- Marian and Allie were in contact with Mia to gain access to [calendar@mscaonline.org](mailto:calendar@mscaonline.org) (Mia’s cell is connected to that email address)
  - iv. Welcome emails- are these going out or should we rethink the way we welcome folks?
    1. Regional Reps sending vs. automatic emails being sent with regional rep information included
    2. Send an automatic email right away and then the regional rep could send something quarterly?? Marian/Bill can speak with the regional reps about this option.
  - v. Survey about roles PSCs have across the state- rate of PSCs doing non-counselor tasks such as 504 or SST coordinator, lunch or bus duty, etc. so that MSCA can help advocate that counselors don’t have these tasks. Nikki and Marian can look at this data together from the State of the Profession survey sent out this year and see about what we should add/change for next year.
  - vi. Received some requests to learn about differences between certification and licensure, what is needed to renew ability to counsel (esp. If you’re not working through the District, etc.) Can we do a webinar? Partner with MSDE- reach out to Dr. Mueller (Alexis Thompson would be happy to help coordinate with this).
  - vii. Elementary counselors wanted to know how we are advocating for adequate ratios and such. (Reach out to Holly K.)
  - viii. Membership Drive for the fall: Do we discount for all renewals or just for new members?
    1. Will this impact the current member rates?
    2. Full rate at the beginning of the year for renewing but offer a discount for NEW members (don’t advertise but reach out to districts that don’t have a large membership involvement or help people who reach out for assistance).
    3. We are putting out a lot of quality programming

4. Discount during NSCW if people do not renew.
- ix. Reach out to Bill & Marian with any suggestions for membership or the website. [mhoyt@mscaonline.org](mailto:mhoyt@mscaonline.org) and [wmarchione@mscaonline.org](mailto:wmarchione@mscaonline.org)

6. Elementary VP – T. Spain

1. As part of the SUMMER OF SELF-CARE:
  - a. June 30th- Self Care Wednesday's: [Erin Leach](#) Yoga 7pm (cost \$100)
  - b. Geared to helping everyone to rejuvenate over the summer

7. Middle VP – J. Jahries

8. Secondary VP – M. Ponce-

1. Summer Book Club Series 2021- 36 registered so far, will be two sessions, should we send out one more reminder to sign up?
2. All Students Must Thrive
3. Send out a reminder to sign up
4. Please reach out to Maureen if you would like to help run the discussion nights.

9. Post-secondary VP – G. Foust

1. April virtual Grad Seminar - "All in for All Students: Collaborating with School-Based Professionals" was a success!
2. Can we put something out on social media congratulating the members who graduated?
  - a. Marian/Bill can you get Gretchen a list of graduates?

9b. Graduate Student Rep – Kate Rebman

- i. MSCA Grad Student Council - First meeting held March 4!

Participants from Bowie, College Park, UMES, and Frostburg.

Graduate students would like opportunities to co-present with faculty at 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).

Still would like to find council members from Johns Hopkins, McDaniel, and Hood

10. Committees:

A. Professional Development-E. Reed

- a. Promote fun PD's for the summer (things like self-care, rest, recovery, etc.)
- b. Nikki is working on something related to licensure
- c. Look into how different areas of the state look re: diversity

B. Equity and Social Justice Committee-A. Oglesby/ Mia Beuttah

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

C. Legislative/Advocacy Committee – Holly Kleiderlein

- i. <https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/mgaweb/site/>
  - 1. HB0377 Commission on Behavioral Health
  - 2. HB0496 “Counselors Not Cops Act”
  - 3. Ways and Means Committee- Anne Kaiser (2/3/2021) ZOOM
  - 4. CEASOM- John oversees the organization and he wants MSCA 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.

D. Social Media/Communication –A.Downey

- a. Facebook: Total Page Followers: 1,541
- b. Instagram: Followers- 443
- c. Twitter - 2,953
- d. Text or email Allie anything you think should go out on social media ([secretary@mscaonline.org](mailto:secretary@mscaonline.org))

E. Ethics Committee-T. Adkinson

- a. Common thread among all of our committees
- b. How do we navigate the committee agendas?
  - i. We need to put together files in a shared drive where everyone can access the different committee folders.
- c. Reach out to Tricia to bounce ideas off of.

F. Merchandise-L. Schnebly

- a. Online store is up & running
  - i. \$152 in the past 12 months (5 orders)

- ii. Need to look into setting up a “shipping” account or look into a 3rd party mailer.
- iii. Close the store for the summer (Leslie and Bill will work on announcing this and making one last big push).
- iv. PUT ON THE AGENDA for SUMMER PLANNING (including NSCW swag so we can order early).

G. Mentoring Committee-

- a. 4 committee members; Maureen, Marian, 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 – R Scott

I. Regions

- 1. Southern- Connie Johnson
- 2. Eastern- R. Zollinger
- 3. Northern-S. Slater
- 4. Central- A Pappadeas
- 5. Western- Kathleen Klecan
  - a. going to send out an end of the year shout out/reminder to school counselors
- 6. Independent/Private Schools - Alexis Thompson
  - a. Sent out a reminder that the conference recordings are still live and can be accessed.

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

- e. 2021-2022 Dates:
  - i. July 27 Board Retreat
  - ii. Quarterly Board Mtgs 9-12pm
    - 1. Hosted at Bowie State University as well as a virtual option.
    - 2. Oct. 2, Jan 8, March 5, & June 4

- f. Conference Committee Meeting
  - i. Starting in Sept. they will be 2nd Tuesday at 6:30pm of the month except the next one (Wednesday June 16)
    - 1. Allie, Maureen, Leslie who else?
- g. Summer of Self-Care:
  - i. Waiver for the summer activities???
  - ii. Yoga
  - iii. Zumba
  - iv. Mindful eating
  - v. Cooking?!?!?
  - vi. HIIT Workout (Allie)?

Next Meetings - Board Retreat July 27th; Location TBD

THANK YOU LAURA for everything you have done for the association!! Leading through a pandemic! We look forward to having you as past president!

Adjourned: 11:20am