



A Branch of the American School Counselor Association

ALL IN FOR ALL STUDENTS

March 5, 2022

[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: March 5, 2022 9:05am

Location: Virtual Meeting

Attendees: N. Ham, A. Downey, J. Cheaves, M. Ponce, W. Marchione, P. Young, L. Jones, J. Harris, K. Klecan, M. Beattah, X. Medina, T. Spain, M. Hoyt, K. Rebman, R. Zollinger

Review of the past meeting minutes:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Y7pyLMk-cKdf48bBblttsZYnl91xuMBw6v04ZP2HIXI/e/dit?usp=sharing>

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

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

- a. Recognition Committee updates
 - i. April 8, 2022 6pm-10pm Doubletree Hotel Annapolis
 - ii. On track- working on marketing/advertising and having people register
 - iii. All of the Covid restrictions are currently lifted but masks will be optional as well as hand sanitizing stations all over.
 - iv. Ramadan and Lent occurring during that time. There will be a non-meat option and food will be served after 7pm.
 - v. Discount code for board members- contact Nikki or Bill.
 - vi. There is a block of room and you can contact the Doubletree directly for the room discount.
- b. Mentoring Committee Update
 - i. Met in Jan. 2022 but not Feb.
 - ii. Decided that there is no longer a requirement to meet EVERY month.
 - iii. Will be working to meet bi-monthly or quarterly.
 - iv. Looking to send another assessment to see where people are, what they need/want and collect data on how many hours are being spent mentoring.
 - v. Next meeting will be the 4th Thursday in March and then the following one will be after Spring Break.
- c. Interrupting Racism Year 2 Cohort
 - i. The participation this year has not been as consistent as last year.
 - ii. Recognize the difference between environments of this year vs last.
 - iii. New people this year rather than returning members.
 - iv. March, April, May and scheduled to present on this at the ASCA conference.

3. Past-President – pastpresident@mscaonline.org

- d. Election: Want to offer a webinar hosting each elected/appointed position stating responsibilities, etc. to peak interest board positions.
 - i. New Positions starting **Jul 1, 2022** : **Openings:** Elementary Vice President, High School Vice President, Webmaster & Membership Chair (paid positions) In addition, we should advertise the Archive committee chair position (and any other committee positions that are available).
 - ii. Grad Student rep- Kate Rebman is graduating and she is mentoring Jason Francis. Hopefully will continue to mentor a younger grad student to have them be mentored before stepping into the position.
 - iii. Treasurer, secretary, and Post Secondary were last year (odd years)
 - iv. Will be asking current members to create videos of their role & responsibilities.

- v. Will host a webinar/round table introducing the current positions and what they entail
- vi. Looking to get more people involved and more diversity among the board.
- e. [By-Laws](#): Added in dates/years for elections; no other additions.
 - i. See Section 2: Nominations and Elections
 - 1. Added odd vs even years to keep track of when elections will be.
 - 2. Marian Hoyt motions to add the years; Rose Zollinger seconds motions.
 - 3. All in favor (12); none against. Motions carries to add the year to the Nominations & Elections portion of the by-laws.
 - ii. Laura will send them to Leisl at ASCA
 - iii. Kept Archives as a committee, so we need a committee chair for this appointed position
 - 1. We are one of the oldest associations and it would be great if we could document that history.
 - 2. If you are interested in this position, please contact Laura Jones pastpresident@mscaonline.org

4. President's Report – Nikki Ham

A. [Monthly calendars](#)

B. Conference Committee

a. Provide current update

- i. March 20-21, 2022 @ the Chesapeake Hyatt in Cambridge. Two Day Conference (working with a conference planner)
- ii. Conference Committee meeting this Tuesday night at 7:30pm (virtual) contact Nikki if you are interested in joining.
- iii. Registration is currently at 173 (they anticipate closer to 300 including vendors, exhibitors, sponsors, etc).
- iv. Holding off on cost of offering it asynchronously. Not sure how many presentations will be offered (hopefully at least 15)
- v. Did get approved this week for MSDE credit hour.
- vi. Will be a grad student rep in every room (Kate is working on this).

C. Update regarding: [National School Counseling Week](#) - Feb. 7-11, 2022

a. Review of National School Counseling Week

- i. Senator Van Hollen offered a citation
- ii. Citation from Governor Hogan as well

- b. Gift o gram for every school counselor member (members email address must be accurate)
 - i. These were very much appreciated. A lot of thank you notes and comments online.
 - ii. 1074 MSCA members were sent a \$5.00 gift using GiftoGram at the total cost of \$5370.00
 - 1. 24 MSCA members Giftogram bounced back. We can work to reach out to them to identify another email to send the giftogram.
 - 2. Currently we have a credit of \$120.00
 - c. Daily mini webinars or daily advice or suggestions. Mindful moments. Also, daily social media handed down from ASCA.
 - i. Liz O'Connor was featured on a panel.
 - ii. Great way to end the week.
- D. SCA ASCA Updates
- a. ASCA is doing advocacy.
 - b. Laura, Kathleen and Liz attended the ASCA SCOY event. Was at Union Station; recognized last year and this year's winners.
- E. Advocacy Updates
- a. Meeting with Delegates to review the current legislation that is out there (opened in Jan. and closing in March).
 - i. Delegate Atterbeary - Chair of the Ways and Means Committee
 - ii. Delegate Ivey - My local Delegate to advocate for school counselor needs
 - iii. Delegate Bagnall - Sponsor of the Mental Health Commission Bill
 - iv. The Mental Health Commission looks at student mental health but counselors are not in it.
 - v. MSCA support of pending legislations
 - 1. <https://docs.google.com/document/d/19398zWupJ6h8tf1GTkDCjVpfDNa2OIskpBrIvrjf4No/edit?usp=sharing>
 - vi. Reviewing possibly employing a lobbyist to advocate for school counseling concerns in the state legislature
 - vii. Can we get someone to come tell us what they do, cost, etc so that we have a more informed vote in June. Nikki will work on scheduling this.
4. Treasurer's Report – xmedina@mscaonline.org
- a. Currently have a balance in our account of \$77,931.33
 - b. Paypal \$8,118.20 (usually moves this monthly; however, will leave the money in there until the end of the conference in case we need to do direct refunds.)

- c. Taxes will be e-filed by May 5 (filed for an extension because we were waiting on information regarding certain 1099 paperwork). Also, had to update the current elected board member information.
 - d. Xiomara has received the check from NCYI Conference planning (almost \$17,000 from them). Need to confirm that they will process refunds.
 - e. Nikki and Xiomara are working on setting up a meeting with a consultant on our business standing. Hopefully that will happen in the next week or so to make sure we are in full good standing and that that does not happen again. If you know someone who is involved in small business law, please reach out to Nikki.
5. Elementary VP – elementaryvp@mscaonline.org Tracey Spain
- A. Nothing new to report at this time.
 - B. Hoping to have something on the calendar for the spring.
6. Middle VP – middlevp@mscaonline.org Shawnta Leftwich shawnta.leftwich@pgcps.org
- A. Nothing to report at this time.
7. High VP – secondaryvp@mscaonline.org Marian Hoyt
- A. Hosted Vent and Solve sessions in January- one during lunch and another in the evening
 - a. It was not as well attended as I expected, but many were (and are) tapped out.
 - B. Arranging a webinar with MSDE official on certification and recertification
 - a. Waiting on information but hoping this will be set in the next few weeks.
 - C. Continuing to advocate in FAAC (Financial Assistance Advisory Council) about MD Senate Bill 664
 - a. Provided recommendation on change to GA Grant and general financial aid outreach
 - D. Thinking of planning a social event closer to the summer
 - a. Hopefully be able to utilize either something outdoor or rent out a location.
 - b. Maybe we could rent out a movie theater to show a movie.
10. Post-secondary VP – postsecondaryvp@mscaonline.org Dr. Atiya Smith
- A. Nikki and Atiya had a meeting with GW- they are looking to provide research/PD on all of the databases/resources out there on career & technical programs.
11. Committees:
- A. Membership/Website - wmarchione@mscaonline.org and mhoyt@mscaonline.org
 - a. [Website and Membership Report](#):
 - b. The Membership Marathon was a huge success. Carroll County and Dorchester County both paid for all counselors in the counties. They both win 15 \$20 codes to the store. Charles County was runner up with 21 registrations.

- c. Want to continue to improve membership and reach every counselor in the state (over 2,000 counselors) Considering postcards (end of the summer) or phone calls.
- B. Professional Development- ereed@mscaonline.org Ed Reed
 - a. Looking at the ideas of the needs for PD.
 - b. Please let Nikki know if you are interested in stepping in as co-chair to help Ed out.
- C. Equity and Social Justice Committee- mbeuttah@mscaonline.org Mia Beuttah
 - a. Meetings have been updates and check-ins. Now working on folding that into the greater need. Working to get additional participation.
 - b. Clothed Minds presentation had to be postponed; will be moved to the conference- Mar 21 @ 6:30pm
 - c. Upcoming dates: Mar 10, Apr 7, May 12, & June 9
 - d. Link is on the calendar.
 - e. Podcast at the end of Jan. through The Teachers Democracy Project fielding questions about School Counseling in Baltimore County.
(<https://fb.watch/bzfRcsJuYB/>)
- D. Legislative/Advocacy Committee – hkleiderlein@mscaonline.org
 - i. NBCT excludes school counselors and many others. Conversation of how can we be included in this funding. At this point, it is at the county level because the legislation is already written/passed. Met with Cheryl Boast (President of MSEA) We encourage you to work with your local union reps.
 - ii. 2021-2022 Legislative Calendar:
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1L9eKOWKrpFnCUxcdUCdQRcRXoMtt1L0N/view?usp=sharing> \
- E. Social Media/Communication – adowney@mscaonline.org Allie Downey
 - a. Facebook: Total Page Followers: Last mtg: 1,586 Currently: 1,598
 - b. Instagram: Followers- Last mtg 526; Currently 542
 - i. Feb. Insights: Accounts Reached 338; Accounts Engaged 70
 - c. Twitter -Last mtg 2,942 ; currently 2,948
 - i. If anyone is interested in taking over twitter please let Allie know.
- F. Ethics Committee- tadkinson@mscaonline.org
 - a. ASCA Ethics Committee Report Out
 - b. Continue to reach out to her during your meetings to keep her involved in review conversations that are happening to make sure we are proceeding ethically.
 - c. Important to keep track of this for the records so we know for future situations as well.

- G. Merchandise- lschnebly@mscaonline.org
 - a. Online store is updated
 - b. Conference yellow volunteer lanyards.
 - c. New MSCA shirts ordered (125) and will be sold at the conference. Board members were hoping to wear them with the lanyards.
 - d. She is also researching getting a podium sign for future conferences and galas.
 - e. Storage Space for MSCA items (needs to get out of the presidents' basements)
 - i. Looking at Annapolis.
- H. Mentoring Committee- mponce@mscaonline.org , kklecan@mscaonline.org and cjohnson@mscaonline.org
 - a. 3 committee members; Maureen, Kathleen & Connie
 - b. See Maureen's notes above.
- I. Public Relations – rscott@mscaonline.org
 - a. No update at this time.
- J. Regions
 - 1. Southern- cjohnson@mscaonline.org
 - a. Connie is stepping down at this time.
 - b. The regional representative communicates regional needs to the board. The Southern Regional Representative is representing Charles, St. Mary's, and Calvert Counties.
 - c. Need a new volunteer- Jackie Cheaves (pronounced Cha-vez) (with Bill's help)
 - 2. Eastern- rzollinger@mscaonline.org
 - a. Excited to be hosting the conference.
 - b. Working to create a tri-county association. Plan on gathering interest at the conference.
 - c. Would anyone be interested in co-rep the county with Rose?
 - Kate Rebman?
 - 3. Northern- sslater@mscaonline.org
 - a. Susan will be stepping down from this position at the end of the year.
 - b. The regional representative communicates regional needs to the board. The Northern Regional Representative is representing Baltimore City, Baltimore, Harford, and Carroll Counties.
 - c. Please let Nikki know if you are interested in this position.
 - 4. Central- apappadeas@mscaonline.org
 - a. No update at this time
 - 5. Western- kklecan@mscaonline.org

- a. Maybe we do county reps instead of regional for this area (6 regions vs 23 counties). It is difficult to make relationships with people outside of their own counties. Maybe Regional Reps are in touch with the County Reps under them.
 - b. Kathleen and Laura are in the process of trying to create a conference in that area with county money.
 - 6. Independent/Private Schools - athompson@m scaonline.org
 - a. Meeting with Lisa Calla-Russ, human resources for the Archdiocese of Washington. She had an open position for their school counselor coordinator. Used that meeting as an opportunity to speak about what MSCA is and what we do. Asked Lisa to please put new hires in contact with Alexis so that she can make sure she is keeping them involved.
- 19. MSDE-Lynne Muller
 - 1. No report at this time
 - 2. She will be at the Gala.
- 20. Unfinished business:
- 21. New Business
 - 1. Research contracting out the website management
 - a. Atiya Smith will give Nikki the name of the person who does MCA webmaster.
 - b. Nikki contact the president of the Maryland School Psychologist Association to identify how they are managing their website
 - i. They weren't thrilled with the company they used. They said they would share the contact but they wanted to have more access to the site to be able to update it whenever they wanted.
 - 2. Lobbyist
 - a. [Public Policy Interest](#)

For the Good of the Group

- MSCA Conference - March 20-21, 2022
 - <https://ncyionline.org/conferences/md-scac/>
- MSCA SCOY Gala April 8, 2022
 - <https://msca7.wildapricot.org/event-4592821>
- ASCA Conference Register - July 9 -12, 2022
 - <https://ascaconferences.org/>
- Interested in becoming an ASCA Certified School Counselor? Check out [this](#) link.
- Advocating graphics from [ASCA](#)
- Next Elected-Board Member meeting: Monday, March 7 @ 7:00pm

Next Meeting -Saturday, June 4, 2022 at 9am

Adjourned: 11:28am