



**CCPTA November 2020 General Meeting  
November 16, 2020 at 7:00 pm  
Virtually on Zoom**

**DATE: Monday, November 16, 2020**

**PLACE: Virtually from 7:00 – 9:00 PM**

**7:00 PM Meeting Opening and Introductions--Emily Vincent, CCPTA President**

- Ms. Vincent welcomed the attendees and provided a brief overview of meeting agenda
- Ms. Vincent explained CCPTA's collection of pre-submitted questions for APS and County Leadership

**7:10PM APS and County Leadership Address Presubmitted Questions from Membership  
Dr. Francisco Durán, APS Superintendent,  
Tannia Talento, Arlington School Board Member, and  
Katie Cristol, Arlington County Board Member**

- Dr. Duran addressed issues involved with distance learning
  - Department of Teaching and Learning is coordinating focus groups on virtual learning
  - APS acknowledges that some students are struggling with virtual learning
  - In January APS will begin a task force to identify ways to address these issues that students have identified and focusing on getting more students back to school.
- Dr. Duran addressed the need for potential HVAC improvements in APS schools in response to the pandemic and the potential impact on the budget.
  - There is no federal funding for these improvements from the CARES Act or otherwise although it is possible.
  - APS is currently funding it out of its own resources.
  - There may be a need to revise fiscal year budget to address it. But APS will make the air quality improvements under either scenario.
  - APS is prioritizing units where issues were identified. APS will post information on ongoing reports on HVAC capabilities.
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- Dr. Duran explained that APS is still developing protocols for testing students.

- Ms. Cristol addressed questions about the FY2021 budget. She noted that Arlington has received \$10.1 million in CARES Act funding and \$1.5 million in food assistance. \$8 million in unused funds is still allocated to APS.
- The County Board is still looking to close gap in the County's funding and is prioritizing funding for eviction avoidance and food assistance.
- Ms. Talento noted that in partnership with County, the Arlington School Board has also been focused on food security programs. Although some CARES Act funding has been allocated to APS, there is still a projected shortfall.
- Currently APS is not analyzing specific cuts yet given uncertainties with respect to potential cost savings. They will be looking at that closely in January 2021.
  - Dr. Duran stressed that budget data is changing each day given the uncertainties. Shortly after the beginning of December, APS will conclude its "close-out" and expects that some savings will have been realized from the FY2020 budget.
  - Because of similar savings Dr. Duran believes APS may avoid additional cuts during FY2021 budget. Identifying areas of savings will also be a focus in the FY2022 budget.
- However, APS anticipate a deficit for FY2022 that will require substantial work to address.
- Dr. Duran noted that APS had provided written answers to CCPTA questions on boundaries
  - Vote on boundary process will take place on December 3, and the final plan will be available publicly on November 25th.

**7:30 PM: Presentation by Arron Gregory and Isabel Messmore on "Inclusion & Representation in PTA Membership."**

- Ms. Vincent introduced Aaron Gregory and Isabel Messmore and described background for her request to present information on race and inclusion to the CCPTA
- Presentation and group exercise on diversity and inclusion
  - A copy of the presentation is included with these minutes

**8:15 PM: CCPTA Business, Updates, and Action Items**

- **Approval of Minutes**
  - Mike O'Leary, CCPTA Secretary moved to approve the October Minutes
  - With a quorum, motion passed unanimously by electronic vote (*poll erroneously indicated "August minutes" but vote was on October minutes*).
- **Treasurer's report – Kendra Anderson, CCPTA Treasurer**
  - Ms. Anderson provided an update on the current CCPTA budget

- Discussion of the Gifts that Give Hope Fundraiser for the CCPTA Grant Fund
- **Advocacy and Policy Updates – Claire Noakes, CCPTA VP of Advocacy**
  - Ms. Noakes provided updates on proposed revisions to school accreditation policies
  - Ms. Noakes provided an overview of the new internet use policy (M-8)
    - Policy raises concerns about the level of responsibility and obligations placed on students and families.
- **Partnerships Committee Report – Christa Mansur**
  - Ms. Mansur briefly discussed Partnerships efforts
  - Ms. Mansur introduced the MS Teams site for CCPTA collaboration
    - Overview of the functionality of the site and intention of CCPTA to use as a primary means of collaboration among members.
- **Grant Fund Committee Report – Kate Merrill**
  - Kate Merrill reported on the current status of CCPTA Grant Fund
    - Only one application was received (for keyboards) and could not be funded because of the cost and APS policy
    - Approximately \$20,000 is still available
    - There will be two additional windows for application
      - Applications due January 11, awarded by February 8
      - Applications due March 15, awarded by April 19 (but may be announced earlier).
- **SEPTA Update – Kathleen Clark**
  - Ms. Clark noted that SEPTA website provides a continuous feedback portal for parents to provide feedback on Level 1 return
    - SEPTA is pressing hard to get additional students who require it to get back to in-person learning
  - Ms. Clark reported on presentation by National Center for Missing and Exploited Children on Internet Safety which is available on their YouTube channel ([https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9UqImM\\_MKqc&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9UqImM_MKqc&feature=youtu.be))
  - Ms. Clark provided a reminder of SEPTA’s Super Chat December 9
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**8:40 PM: CCPTA INTERNAL QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION**

- Ms Vincent reported on the CCPTA’s intention to provide Clarification of when/how CCPTA delegates will be asked to vote on things.

- CCPTA will circulate a resolution thanking social workers, etc.
- CCPTA intends to develop broader boundary process recommendations over the winter.
  - Council will continue to work on boundary proposals to be voted on as a body
- FY22 budget feedback
  - CCPTA is open to hearing feedback on how to make recommendations to APS
- Plan to have separate discussions on specific topics. Please feel free to provide suggestions.

**Next CCPTA meeting: Monday, December 14, 2020 7 – 9 pm**

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