

Montgomery County School Health Council

May 9, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Gail Warner	Community Member, SHC Co-Chair	Daniel Russ	Community Member, SHC Co-chair
Catie Russ	Student Member	Hannah Donart	MCCPTA Health & Wellness
Peter Park	MCPS Systemwide Safety	Stephanie Iszard	MCPS Stu & Family Engagement
Jessica Hasson	Community Member	Deborah Merke	Community Member
Alana Aronin	Commission on Health	Sandy Salsberg	Community Member
Mark Hodge	MCDHHS School Health Services		
Kelly Jonas	SHS administrative support		

- The meeting was called to order by Gail Warner. Minutes from the March 2022 meeting were approved.
- Stephanie Iszard shared an update on month 7 of COVID vaccinations in schools. MCPS has partnered with the MCCPTA; over 31,000 students and others from school communities have been vaccinated. MCPS appreciates partnership with School Health Services staff and MCDHHS staff to support students in crisis. Plans are underway to provide space for high school-based wellness centers to support mental health needs in high schools. The group discussed the MCPS and Montgomery County COVID dashboard, and about masking guidance in schools.
- Mark Hodge shared information on upcoming meetings with MCPS and DHHS focused on COVID outbreaks and masking guidance. Contact tracing is no longer routinely being done in schools; additional steps are taken in the case of an outbreak in a cohort or classroom. Students with a positive test need to stay home and isolate for 5 days; students can return to school; masking is required for days 6-10.
- Mark Hodge additionally shared that School Health Services continues to recruit to fill vacant staff positions; additional orientation sessions are scheduled. School Health Services staffing for summer school needs is being planned as staffing resources allow. Discussion is underway at County Council to approve increases in High School Wellness Center budgets to support mental health needs in all high schools. This would be in addition to the existing 6 School Based Health and Wellness Centers, is planned for the upcoming School Year. Discussion about the mental health impact of COVID and of masking; SHC members interested in learning about additional social workers to be onboarded through MCPS to support student's mental health needs.
- Safety – Peter Park shared that AED installation in all elementary schools is in process and will be completed by the end of the next school year. AEDs have been used 5 times this school year. In addition to School Health Services staff, there are an additional 2-3 MCPS staff members trained in each school building.
- Membership & nomination: Discussion by members about the vacant co-chair role; the nominating committee did not identify a candidate. The group will identify an in-coming co-chair in the fall; interested members should reach out to Liz Elliott by e-mail.
- Bylaw Committee – SHC bylaws were last reviewed in 2014; interested members to review and update the bylaws should e-mail Liz Elliott over the summer. Guidance that the co-chair should not be employed by MCPS or by DHHS will remain to assure the advisory role of the SHC and the two co-chairs.
- Discussion topics of interest to members for upcoming SHC meetings include a briefing from Crisis Center staff; mental health challenges resulting from the impact COVID; indoor air quality testing and CO2 monitoring capacity; and food insecurity considerations.
- School Health Council Meetings for SY 2022-2023, all on Monday evenings:
 - Sept 19, 2022; Dec 5, 2022; March 13, 2023; May 8, 2023.
- Meeting adjourned.