Takoma Park ES

NAACP Parent Council

November 17, 2022

Agenda

1. Welcome and introductions
2. NAACP Parent Council Background
   1. A place for parents of Black and brown children to come together to discuss the educational needs of their children.
3. Invitation to join Montco NAACP Parent Council meetings. Open to all: <https://naacppc-md.org/>
   1. Meet monthly via Zoom
   2. Anyone who wants to receive notes email Sharon at [naacprep@tpespta.net](mailto:naacprep@tpespta.net)
   3. Recent topics:
      1. School System Medical Officer update (Dr Patricia Kapunan, MCPS): 1) COVID information on every school’s homepage on the top banner 2) Booster update—availability at school-based clinics and county clinics
      2. Case notification in schools
         1. Families and staff are notified if a case occurs in a shared elementary classroom or high-risk activity (e.g., chorus or athletics
         2. Families and staff are notified about outbreak exposures (3 or more cases) and also given additional information about precautions in these circumstances to prevent further spread
      3. Anti-racist audit: MCPS [slides](https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1L2Ug9QSCO-eSoIP3VCWIlfeEzz3ljXOCj_LYH3Ga7oc/edit#slide=id.g16efdaeff3d_0_181)
      4. MCPS Anti-racist audit website: https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/antiracist/
         1. MCPS contracted with the Mid-Atlantic Equity Consortium, Inc. (MAEC) to conduct a systemwide antiracist audit of MCPS’s practices, policies, and system. The intent of the audit was to identify ways to increase access, opportunities, and equitable outcomes for every student’s academic and social-emotional wellbeing.
         2. Overall findings (portion of overall findings)

Race based bullying is prevalent in MCPS

Staff treat students of color with harsher punishments

Staff of color are underrepresented throughout the system, from the hiring pool, to staff, to administration.

There is mistrust with MCPS related to communications—information about enrichment and gifted programs, scheduled events, expectations of parents,

Students and family members perceive that staff are not trained to teach different racial groups’ histories with nuance and cultural sensitivity.

* + - 1. Next steps
         1. Development of the Antiracist System Audit Steering Committee, an inclusive group of students, staff, families, and community partners to provide input and feedback throughout all stages of the Antiracist System Audit.
         2. Development of the Antiracist Districtwide Implementation Team to expand the number of people in MCPS who have the experience to support action through training, facilitating, and coaching.
         3. Plan to be developed by March 2023.
      2. Open Discussion: How can we make sure parents are aware of the enrichment/acceleration opportunities for children?

1. Importance of engaging with school administrators, making sure your child is challenged in school, 3rd and 4th grade is where this begins.
2. Dr. Gadsden Update
   1. Schedule a virtual parent teacher conference if needed
   2. If your child is sick, keep them home. Lots of respiratory viruses going around
   3. Kids need coats—and they will be asked to wear them all at times
   4. Head lice is going around—as those of us with kids of color, be sure to oil their hair so that lice has a harder time coming home to your house
3. Q&A
4. If you desire for your child to opt-out of books on gender diversity, parents should connect with their child’s teacher
5. MCPS has spent time reviewing their Benchmark books and ensuring that they are appropriate and reflective of racial diversity
6. Tutoring is available (online tutors)
7. Saturday school – Dr. G will send out information about Saturday school
8. Close
   1. Upcoming meeting in the new year. Possible collaboration with Piney Branch Parent Council.