



Student Affairs Office

Rock Terrace School
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Student Member of the Board of Education A Brief History

A proposal to create a student seat on the Montgomery County Board of Education first surfaced in 1975. In 1977, the Maryland General Assembly amended Section 3-701 of the Education Article of the Annotated Code of the Public General laws of Maryland to create a nonvoting student seat on the Board of Education. Blair Lee, the Acting Governor, signed the legislation in the spring of that year and the first student was elected in the spring of 1978; David Naimon assumed his duties on July 1, 1978.

The first four student members were selected in convention. Each of our secondary schools elected delegates who attended a one-day convention. The candidates made presentations and participated in a series of question and answer sessions. Sequential balloting resulted in the identification of the student who would serve the one-year term.

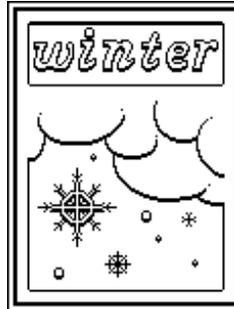
In 1982, the Board of Education and MCR agreed on a modified direct election procedure. The process that was initiated with the election of the fifth student Board member provides that if more than two eligible students file for the office, there will be a convention convened for the purpose of reducing the field candidates to two.

During the 1989 session of the Maryland General assembly, Section 3-701 was again amended and established a limited vote for the student member. The twelfth student member (Alison Serino, now a teacher and SGA advisor at Springbrook High school) was the first one to exercise the limited vote.

SMOB Nominating Convention

It is now time for secondary schools to select their delegates for the Nominating Convention for the Student Member of the Board of Education. Attached is a detailed, step by step instruction packet for advisors and schools to follow. Thanks to Ms. Lockard and the SGA at Blake High School for hosting the convention this year. The deadline to turn in the names of school delegates is Thursday, February 24, 2000.

FYI: Student Member on Board (of Education) = SMOB



Winter Weather Watch

It's the season for snow and ice. If schools are delayed in opening due to foul weather, all MCR and MCJC activities will be canceled. If schools close early due to bad weather, evening meetings for MCR and MCJC will be canceled. Major

functions will have snow

dates listed on the calendar (such as the SMOB nominating convention in early March). Upcoming MASC events will have a phone number included in their registration packets to call for information or cancellation.



Special Elections Committee for the Student Member of the Board of Education

There is still time to join the Special Elections Committee for the Student Member of the Board of Education election. MCR would really like to have representation from every secondary school. Many of the jobs associated with this committee only require the students to be present for one or two events or meetings (such as preparing materials for distribution to schools is one afternoon, collecting and preparing ballots for counting is the afternoon of the May 4th election, etc.) I want to especially encourage



middle schools to get some students involved in this process. It is an excellent leadership training opportunity! Don't forget, students can earn Student Service Learning hours for their extra-curricular work with Student Government!

The Coordinator for Student Service Learning, Kris Leary, (301-517-8225) is adding SGA advisors to her newsletter mailing list. Remember, SGA provides a perfect environment for students to work on community projects and earn their service learning hours. See the attached flyer for the opportunity to participate in the State-wide Student Service Learning Conference.

Middle School News

- **MCJC Executive Board** meeting is Tuesday, February 8th from 7:00-8:30 PM in the cafeteria of Rock Terrace School (behind CESC). At this meeting, we will be setting the election rules for the April elections of MCJC officers. In addition, we will be finalizing plans for the March 23rd General Assembly meeting. There are three pieces of legislation being discussed for presentation at the March meeting and we will be finishing planning of the election workshops to be presented.
- Due to the limited space at our MCJC meetings, the March and April meetings will be limited to voting delegates only (no observers). The next newsletter will have an attachment indicating the number of delegates each school will be able to send.

MASC News

Advisor of the Year & Principal of the Year



In November, all schools received information and applications to nominate an advisor and/or principal for special recognition. Each region may submit one name for advisor and one name for principal of the year. High school applications must be received in the Student Affairs Office by February 1st so the MCR Executive Board can select an application to represent MCR. The middle school applications are due by February 8th so the MCJC Executive Board may select a nominee. If your school is nominating an advisor and/or principal, I would strongly recommend that the SGA president attend the executive board meeting where the applications will be discussed and selected ([see attached detailed flyer](#)).

Legislative Bus CHANGE OF TIME



The bus for the MASC Legislative Session will be at the CESC flagpole at 7:20 AM on February 5th. We will leave at 7:35 AM. The Legislative Session ends at 4:30 PM and students should have their rides at CESC by 5:30 PM. The bus fee is \$5.00 per student (and advisors, who must ride with their students, can ride for free!). Schools can bring checks (payable to Student Affairs Office) with them the morning of February 5th. Schools should have registered with the Student Affairs office last month (January 21st).

High School News



- **MCR Executive Board** meeting - Tuesday, February 1st is an important meeting. The election rules will be set for the April officer elections. All MCR staff and SGA presidents (or their appointees) should attend. It will be held in the cafeteria at CESC from 7:30-9:00 PM.
- **SMOB candidates meeting** - for all candidates who received a confirmation letter and invitation to attend, there is an introductory meeting on Monday, February 7th at 7:00 PM in the cafeteria at Rock Terrace School (behind CESC). If you have a student in your school who thinks he/she is a candidate (submitted an application), but did not receive confirmation, please have him/her call the Student Affairs Office immediately!
- **MCR General Assembly** - The February 24th General Assembly will be hosted by Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School. B-CC currently is housed at the Northwood Center at the corner of University and Arcola Avenue. Please be sure to send in your attendance lists (via First Class to Karen Crawford) by noon the day before so attendance lists can be prepared. Almost all of our high schools have joined MCR - if your school hasn't joined, send in your dues today so your students may attend.
- **Voter Registration** - If a student will be at least 18 on or before November 7, 2000, he/she may register to vote in the primary elections. ([See attached detailed flyer](#).)



MASC Convention

Registration materials for the March 29, 30, 31 MASC convention were only sent to MASC member schools. MCPS will again provide bus transportation for this event (at the usual \$5.00 per student, advisors ride free rate). MASC does not allow students to drive to convention. Look for more detailed information in the March Newsletter.

February Calendar

Please check the **attached February calendar** carefully. If you have any questions about events, please call the Student Affairs Office.



Send your questions, comments and concerns to:

Karen Crawford
Coordinator for Student Affairs
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or karenra@umd5.umd.edu



MCR = Montgomery County Region of the Maryland Association of Student Councils...county level SGA comprised of delegates from our high schools.

MCJC = Montgomery County Junior Council...county level SGA comprised of delegates from our middle schools.

MASC = Maryland Association of Student Councils...state level SGA comprised of delegates from our middle and high schools.