Maryland Career and Technology Administrators (MCTA)
Spring Meeting
Anne Arundel County Public Schools
975 Indian Landing Road, Millersville, MD  21108
Arlington Echo Outdoor Education Center
Wednesday March 29, 2017
MINUTES

MCTA Attendees and School Systems Represented:
Deb Albert, CTE Director, Anne Arundel and MCTA Treasurer
Bryan Ashby, CTE Director, Wicomico
Traci Chappelear, CTE Director, Charles
Sue Garrett, former CTE Director, Harford representing Rob Limpert
Sharon Kramer, CTE Director, Howard and MCTA President-elect
Kristine Pearl, CTE Director, Frederick and MCTA President
Tina Thomas, CTE Director, Queen Anne’s
Marjorie Lohnes, MCTA Executive Director

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8:30 a.m.—Registration and morning refreshments

9:00 a.m. – 9:05 a.m.
Greetings and Introductions

Kristine Pearl, MCTA President opened the meeting and welcomed members and guests.

Deb Albert welcomed the group to the Arlington Echo Outdoor Education Center, a facility of Anne Arundel County Public Schools. She provided a brief history of the program and facility.

Following the welcome to Arlington Echo, each person present introduced themselves.

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CURRENT TOPICS AND ISSUES

9:05 a.m. – 9:55 a.m.

Presentation on Student Computer Science Competition—Presenters Dr. Robert Wack and George Perkins, Directors, MAGIC, Mid-Atlantic Gigabit Innovation Collaboratory

Dr. Wack explained the goals of their non-profit group that focused on economic development through developing skill in computer science and coding among high school and college students. The aim is to develop a robust and viable technological workforce. Currently MAGIC is focusing on student competitions, innovation labs and business start-ups. The purpose of their presentation was to see if there was interest within MCTA to partner with MAGIC and other entities (such as local public libraries) to host student competitions across the state. The 3 hour “Capture the Flag” contest was described as a team scavenger hunt that is structured as a beginning level competition where students learn through a collaborative, discovery process. The technical requirements for such
a competition include good broadband capability and video connectivity. The competition is hosted on a special set of servers. There was discussion about whether our group would like to host a professional development strand within our 2017 Summer Institute for staff who would coordinate such efforts and computer science teachers. MCTA members asked about fees. Currently there is no cost to be a part of currently planned competitions, but as there are more competitions, fees may range from $65 - $100 per team. Attached is a flyer on the upcoming competition in April. The fall competition will be on November 4th with a tie-in to the STEM festival.

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BUSINESS MEETING

9:55 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Approval of Minutes

Kristine asked if there were questions, clarifications, additions or corrections to the minutes of the Fall Meeting.

Marjorie stated that minutes of the Fall meeting of MCTA held on October 28, 2016 at Western School of Technology and Environmental Science in Baltimore County were distributed to all CTE directors on December 21, 2016 and again with the invitation and reminder of today’s meeting. Deb Albert moved for approval of the minutes as distributed. Sue Garrett made a second to the motion which passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Deb Albert distributed the MCTA balance sheet that lists the debits and credits since the October meeting. The treasury balance, as of March 27, 2017 is $ 14,151.17. The accounts that comprise this total are:

- PNC checking account- $ 3556.44
- Howard Bank CD - $ 10,594.73 (there has been no updated statement since the Fall Meeting)

Total credits - $ 1,343.00 in payment for dues and money collected for lunch at the Fall Meeting.

Total debits- $ 2,440.97 paid for lunch at the Fall Meeting, deposit to Hunt Valley Inn and for the services of the Executive Director.

Kristine asked for approval of the treasurer’s report. Bryan Ashby moved for the report to be approved. Traci Chappellear made a second to the motion which passed unanimously.

Deb distributed a summary chart of the history of MCTA dues payment for all school systems from 2005 to present.

Executive Director’s Report

Marjorie reported the following:

“I continue to complete all the expected tasks of the job such as maintaining communication with MCTA members and working with the Collaborative Team to plan meaningful meetings and a summer institute. I keep current with CTE issues through attendance at the MSDE meetings and I am available to work with new CTE directors.”
General Responsibilities

- Consultation with Dr. Peggy Pugh, Assistant Superintendent and Cody Pine, CTE Resource Teacher in Washington County in the absence of a CTE Director.
- Consultation with directors of MAGIC related to student computer science competition and presentation to MCTA.

2017 Summer Institute

- This year the 2017 Summer Institute will be held at the Hunt Valley Inn on July 24 – 26. The 2017 Summer Institute is MCTA’s 14th consecutive professional development institute.
- In addition to preliminary planning of the program with the collaborative team, I have worked to develop overnight and commuter packages to attract greater attendance to the Institute, including school system teams.
- Fees for the Institute have been structured so that MCTA will break even on the costs of the Institute. All directors are encouraged to attend and encourage the participation of other CTE colleagues.
- A preliminary agenda and registration materials will be distributed by the first week of April. Registrations and payment are due by May 15th.
- The annual dinner will be held on Tuesday July 25th. At that time, any 2017 retirees will be honored. Please notify me if you are aware of any CTE Director who is retiring at the end of the school year.

There was some discussion about the fiscal year(s) from which money could be used given the timing of conferences. Traci provided information about the timing of the use of Perkins money that she received from MSDE. She shared the document that is attached.

Proposal for MCTA to serve as liaison to ACTE

Sharon Kramer provided the background for the inquiry as to whether MCTA would serve as the liaison to ACTE. Lynne Gilli had inquired whether MCTA would like to serve as the liaison to ACTE for Maryland. The ACTE representative for Region 1 is Michael Woods. This is of interest now because the 2018 ACTE Regional meeting will be held in Baltimore.

Kristine asked the group if we wanted to take on this role. There is currently some money that is still in a treasury with Tom Hawthorne, Frederick Co. from when Maryland had an active MVA group. An important consideration is whether this would change our current tax status. This would need to be verified. Sharon will try to be in touch with Michael Woods and Kristine will contact Tom Hawthorne for information. We may bring this back for discussion and a decision at the 2017 Summer Institute.

Old Business—Subcommittee on Teacher Certification

Kristine asked if there was any update from the subcommittee on teacher certification. There was some further discussion about the use of the MCCTES and paying fees to that group. MCTA will continue to hold the position that this is the decision of each local school system.
11:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

Open Forum

Kristine facilitated an open forum of successes, questions, challenges and concerns brought by CTE Directors. The following items were discussed:

- Application/admission criteria for CTE programs including how this is viewed as a part of the Civil Rights reviews;
- P-Tech and other early college access programs—Carver was suggested as a model with IBM providing one-on-one mentorships;
- Practice of requiring students to take and pay for end of course tests that provide no added value for the student, such as certification or college credit;
- Dual enrollment sites for TAM;
- Professional development for computer science teachers—csmatters vs. code.org. Traci Chappelear has a good understanding of both.
- CRD; and
- Need for specific auto tech training from Dave White.

11:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Planning Session for 2017 Summer Institute

Kristine facilitated a discussion on the proposed agenda for the Summer Institute. The discussion included the list of sessions distributed to the membership prior to the meeting and the workshops proposed by MAGIC at the beginning of this meeting. The group determined to:

- Not include a separate strand in the Summer Institute on student computer science competitions;
- Ask Lynne Gilli to specifically address CCR and the connection with TSAs during her remarks and discussion with MCTA; and
- Bryan Ashby agreed to conduct a session on attracting non-traditional students to CTE programs and keeping them in the program through its completion.

Because many of the discussions exceeded the time allotted, the professional development session on instructional practices that support student engagement was cancelled.

12:15 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Lunch

Participants enjoyed lunch and the beauty of the facility at Arlington Echo.

1:00 p.m. – 1:10

Next Steps and Adjourn

Kristine invited any interested members to stay for the follow-up meeting to finalize the agenda for the Summer Institute. The Spring meeting of MCTA was adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

Submitted by: Marjorie R. Lohnes
April 2, 2017