



February 3, 2008

Dear PTA/PTSA Presidents:

Attached is a survey that we would like you to copy for your members and other parents to fill out and return to the MCCPTA office. You could do this several ways, and we will leave it up to you to determine how to do this. Several suggestions are:

- Make copies and ask people to fill out at the next PTA meeting. Collect and return to our office.
- Make copies and send home as flyer, ask people to return them to school, collect them and send them to our office.
- Post on your website or list serve with instructions to either return to your PTA or directly to us.
- At the very least, please fill this out yourself and return to us.

Please note that per BOE policy, MCCPTA has open access to backpack mail so that you do not need the principal's or central office permission to distribute this survey.

MCCPTA is on the pony route so the surveys can be returned to us addressed: MCCPTA, 2096 Gaither Road, Suite 204. Drop them in the pony bin at your school, no postage required. If parents want to mail them directly to us, the address is: MCCPTA, 2096 Gaither Road, Ste 204, Rockville, MD 20850. They can be returned electronically to office@mccpta.com. MCCPTA will also post the survey on its website, www.mccpta.com so that parents can directly access it.

The survey is adapted from the book "Beyond the Bake Sale: The Essential Guide to Family-School Partnerships". MCPS is using many of the ideas from this book to guide new efforts to build relationships between home and school through the Division of Family and Community Partners. The book defines four types of schools:

- Partnership School,
- Open-Door School,
- Come if-We-Call School, and
- Fortress School.

The survey's responses are elements of each type of school and, overall, the response pattern will help determine which category your school falls into. We will tabulate the results and produce a report, which will be sent to local PTAs.

MCCPTA believes the results of this survey will be useful in guiding our efforts to build stronger PTAs and family-school partnerships. Thank you very much for your assistance. Please try to return the surveys by March 19, 2008.

Sincerely,

Jane de Winter
MCCPTA President