

CTL Newsletter

October 2024

CTL's Future

The Labor Management Restructuring Transition Team has the task of re-imagining the organizational structure of MCEA's many committees. We received an update about the progress of the committee which indicated that there is a possibility that CTL will continue to exist after this school year (with some significant changes, including the name). Once we have all of the details, we will share them with you. We are hopeful that we will continue to be a voice for teachers, but we will not know for certain what is happening until the LMRTT has completed its task.



Upcoming Events

11/4 - Quarter 1 Grades Due

11/5 - Election Day

11/7 - Board of Ed Meeting

12/13 - Quarter 2 Interims Due

272's

We feel this pain! If you are overwhelmed, explore options in your building:

- Maybe your RT could cover a class or two while you complete them.
- Does your admin support professional leave?
- We are checking the contract for additional supports.

Blueprint for Maryland's Future

We met with members from the MCPS Division of the Blueprint for Maryland's Future, and they presented [this slideshow](#).

We raised a number of questions. The Blueprint goals are admirable, but the action items for achieving them need further clarity.

In our discussion of Pillar 3, we pointed out that the current grading policy, attendance policy, and lack of final exams do not support the goals for College and Career Readiness.

We are hoping for additional dialogue regarding the Blueprint.

Where Do We Go from Here?

Responses on our Feedback Forms continue to focus on the same concerns, with the top issues being: student attendance and the lack of an attendance policy, the grading policy, curriculum rigor, final exams, and cell phones. Some of us are seeing progress with the cell phone problem due to new school policies. Keep us informed regarding your school's approach and its success.

Last year, CTL met with many individuals from Central Office to share these concerns. This year, we are raising the bar and hope to meet with Dr. Taylor to see if he will truly take something "off our plate," and to raise our concerns and yours with him.

Send us your thoughts: [FEEDBACK FORM](#)

If you requested a reply last month, please give us a little more time.

Our CTL Charge

The MCEA Council on Teaching and Learning:

1. Provide a vehicle for teacher discussion of, reaction to, and then communication about MCPS initiatives related to curriculum, assessment, instruction, and staff development.
2. Represent the perspective of teachers at each grade level and in each subject discipline on matters of curriculum, assessment, instruction and staff development.
3. Participate with MCPS representatives in collaborative problem-solving regarding matters germane to curriculum, assessment, instruction and staff development.

Your English Reps

Lisa Hawkins (CTL Co-Chair) - This is my third year as your CTL representative and I enjoy being your voice. I am looking forward to another year of bringing your concerns and celebrations to MCEA and Central Office in 2024-2025. I have taught grades 10 and 12 at Wheaton hs for five years. Prior to that, I taught at Poolesville HS for thirteen years and Shady Grove MS for three. My husband and I live outside of Laytonsville, where we are the only people whose fur babies consist solely of dogs.

Elizabeth Keating - This is my second year as your CTL representative. I am learning a lot about how CTL functions and interacts with MCEA leadership, curriculum specialists, and the MCPS community to support teachers and students. I have taught grades 9, 10, and 12 as well as yearbook at Whitman for 24 years, and my family and I are members of the Quince Orchard cluster.