

**Resolution on the
Co-Location of County Services at MCPS Schools
Adopted October 25, 2011**

WHEREAS, the county delivers a variety of services for the benefit of its citizens, including services designed to assist students and their families;

WHEREAS, certain MCPS schools have non-MCPS county programs co-located on site, such as school-based health/wellness centers, Linkages to Learning centers, and the Judy Centers;

WHEREAS, these non-MCPS county programs currently co-located on school sites provide services directly to the students at the school, or provide services to families of students in the local school community;

WHEREAS, existing policies are not adequate to address the co-location of non-MCPS programs that provide other types of services, such as services that are not directly provided to students or their families, at MCPS schools;

WHEREAS, six county agencies, including MCPS, are participating in a voluntary cost-saving committee known as the Cross-Agency Resource-Sharing (CARS) Committee;

WHEREAS, the goal of the CARS Committee, as described in May 2010, is “to share ideas/best practices, develop resource-sharing strategies to achieve operational efficiencies, reduce costs and improve the quality of services offered to our residents and businesses”;

WHEREAS, purportedly to further the CARS process, it has recently been proposed that County office services providing support and training for licensed child-care services be considered for co-location at an MCPS elementary school site;

WHEREAS, the co-location of services that are not provided directly to students or to families in the local school community raises concerns of safety, controlled access, adequate space and other issues;

WHEREAS, no policies or guidelines currently exist to address such concerns;

THEREFORE, the MCCPTA RESOLVES:

THAT it recognizes the benefit of co-location of the school-based health/wellness centers, Linkages to Learning and the Judy Centers, because these programs provide services directly to students and the families of students in the local school community;

THAT MCCPTA supports the continued co-location of such services, provided that each community is timely and fully informed of plans to provide the co-location of services provided directly to students and the families of students in the local community, and provided that the community is afforded an opportunity to provide public input on the co-location before it is authorized;

THAT MCCPTA opposes the co-location of services other than those listed above, including services that are not directly provided to students and families of students in the local school community, at this time;

THAT MCCPTA recommends that the Board of Education, in cooperation with other county agencies providing services, develop policies and procedures that would govern the provision of other services at school sites, before any such co-location is proposed; and

THAT MCCPTA further recommends that these policies and procedures fully address concerns of safety, controlled access, adequate space and other issues that arise from the co-location of other services; that these policies and procedures take into account the age of the children located at the school balanced with the nature of the county services proposed to be co-located; and these policies and procedures be presented for public input and comment before they are adopted.