

BCRSPA
Membership Fall Luncheon Meeting
October 15, 2013

The Fall Luncheon Meeting of the BCRSPA was called to order at 10:02 a.m. by President Edna Harris-Kurre at Columbus Gardens.

President Edna Harris-Kurre introduced the Director of the Patapsco High School Chamber Chorus followed by the Patapsco High School Great Expectations Ensemble. The members were treated to outstanding musical performances from both groups.

President Edna Harris-Kurre led the group in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. She introduced guests who were in attendance and those expected to arrive later.

President Edna Harris-Kurre introduced the Baltimore County Teacher of the Year and the newly selected Maryland Teacher of the Year, Sean McComb, English teacher from Patapsco High School. After giving the members some family background information, Mr. McComb spoke of school needing to be a safe place for students. He spoke of the influence his high school teachers in Philadelphia who championed him into an education career. Every child needs a champion. He presented the AVID Program, a college preparatory program. Forty percent of the week in the skill areas, forty percent in tutorial cross subject areas and twenty percent in college knowledge and motivational activities. Students of the program also do community activities working on weekends and holidays. Individuals spent Spring Break touring college campuses. Media and social internet are important in communicating with teachers and fellow classmates on Twitter and Facebook. Students design APP programs and participate in the China Cultural Exchange. Mr. McComb believes in developing life long memories.

Ed Viet, Editor of the UPDATE requested members to submit articles for publication on their activities, hobbies and interest.

Stuart Tucker, President of MRSPA, recognized Past President Parker Koons, for stepping up to fill the remaining term as Area Director. He announced the MRSPA incentive being initiated by the state organization for recruiting new members. Membership is a priority in both organizations.

President Harris-Kurre introduced and welcomed a new member to our organization.

President Harris-Kurre introduced Jim Aldon who spoke on impending changes which will affect the newly retirees. Changes will not affect those members already retired. The new retirees will have medical premiums rations for thirty years of more of service change to 85% Board pay and 15% retiree cost gradually changing to 80%/20% by 2020. Our present contract ends in 2019. Dental, Medicare, and Vision plans have

not changed. He spoke of problems resulting from Express Script merger and believes all have been corrected for members. He answered questions about premium cost and the use of the Wellness Office web site regarding flu shots.

Cigna representative announced their 100% preventive care incentives, use of smart phones, on line and telephone information is available 24/7. There are no changes in their plans. Individuals with concerns should check with the representatives at their table.

Kaiser-Permanente representative announced no additional premium cost for retirees with more than twenty years of service and on Medicare.

Baltimore County Public Schools Retiree Benefit Guide has been mailed to all retirees.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert L. Kane, Secretary

Senator Kathy Klausmeier spoke briefly during the luncheon. She promised to do all she could in Annapolis to help protect our pensions, the pension fund trust, and our benefits. She commented that her daughter is also a teacher.

The next Executive Board meeting is November 19, 2013 at 10:00 A.M. at St. Isaac Jogues Cronin Center, Room 4.