**Moms for Liberty**

**Chapter Meeting Minutes**

**January 19, 2022**

**E.W. Beck’s Pub**

6:45pm – Welcome

* **Introduction to Organization** – founded in Florida by 2 former BOE Mom’s. M4L is for anyone (Moms, Dads, Aunts, Friends, Uncles and Grandparents) that has a desire to stand up for parental rights at all levels of government.
* **Chair Members**
	+ Chair – Kit
	+ Vice Chair – Mercedes
	+ Secretary – Jessica
	+ Social Coordinator – Kara
* **Prayer –** Kara
* **Pledge of Allegiance**
* **Madison Moment**
	+ “*The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at
	times of challenge and controversy*.” MLK Jr.

Upcoming Events

* **Defeat the Mandates March in D.C**. –January 23, 2022
	+ Still seats available on the bus
* **Children’s Health Initiative**
	+ Handouts available to help get the information out there
	+ It is difficult these days to find reliable information online with “Big tech” censorship
	+ For more information or literature go to [www.askhealthyquestions.com/parents](http://www.askhealthyquestions.com/parents)
* **Carroll County BOE meeting 02/09/2022 at 5pm**
	+ ALWAYS THE SECOND WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH
	+ We need representation at the meetings.
		- M4L is getting a lot of push back from the community
		- Our organization has been named and not painted in a favorable light at the BOE meetings and on social media.
		- For every 1 community member at the meetings, there are 2-3 that support the other side.
		- You are not being asked to speak unless you feel comfortable. Just being present is support.
		- Public Comment is at the beginning of the meeting and wraps up in about 1 hour.
* **Next Moms for Liberty Chapter meeting**
	+ 02/24/2022 – Location TBD
* **Republican Women’s Club forum**
	+ 04/21/2022
	+ Confirmed speakers for the event – Haven Shoemaker, David Ellin, Dan Cox, Jim Miller, Tara Battaglia, Steve Whisler
	+ Location
		- Best Western 451 WMC Drive, Westminster, MD 21158
* **Bus Driver Partnership**
	+ There have been several bus drivers speak at recent BOE meetings.
	+ Their pleas have tugged at our heart strings and we are looking for any contact information for bus drivers in CCPS.
	+ Moms for Liberty would like to discuss with the bus drivers a possible partnership. How can we help their cause?
	+ If anyone knows someone that drives a bus for CCPS, please reach out to Jessica Garland if they are willing to speak with her about their requests.

Review of this month’s BOE Meeting

1. **New Quarantine Policy**
	1. CCPS no longer contact tracing
	2. Students will no longer have to quarantine for close contacts regardless of vaccination status and mask situation
	3. BOE used the Dashboard and found that for every 1 postive COVID case, CCPS was quarantining 50 healthy students.
	4. STUDENTS DO NOT NEED A NEGATIVE TEST TO RETURN TO SCHOOL
	5. This analysis of the dashboard and subsequent overturning of the quarantine policy was due to the hard work of one of Moms for Liberty members. She made phone calls and emailed the BOE persistently to push for a deeper look in to the dashboard data.
2. **Political Neutrality Policy Passed!!!**
	1. Moms for Liberty did not support this policy because we wish to stifle teachers or learning. Despite what our opposition has posted or stated about this policy, it was not written to be a “witch hunt.”
	2. The policy ensures that our children are being taught, “How to think,” NOT “what to think.”
	3. This policy does not prohibit political discussions in the classroom. It does however prohibit teachers from taking sides of the political argument or allowing students to know their political affiliation. STUDENTS SHOULD NOT KNOW THEIR TEACHERS POLITICAL AFFILIATION. This does not mean that politics and current affairs are prohibited in the classroom.
	4. The form was very controversial at the BOE meeting, however there needed to be a system for parents being able to report concerns about teachers and classroom activities that could violate the policy.
3. Misinformation regarding Moms for Liberty at BOE meeting in January
	1. Moms for Liberty DID NOT ban any books
	2. Moms for Liberty (in Carroll County) has not even tackled issues regarding literature in our schools.
	3. Moms for Liberty DOES feel that it is important to have a say in the books that are available in our schools. Especially with regards to age appropriateness of the content.

Guest Speaker – Nicoleta Ghisas

 I would not do any justice by trying to sum up her speech but Mrs. Ghisas spoke about growing up in Communist Romania. I chose not to take notes during her speech. I wanted to concentrate on her experiences and understand how they can relate to the issues facing our country today. I will just say that I will never eat a banana again without appreciating that it is a delicacy in some countries. If you missed her speak and have the opportunity to hear her story, please make the time. One thing that stuck out to me was that Nicoleta understands that we are tired as a society, however this is what the government wants. It is easier to push an agenda on a society that is too tired NOT to comply. Nicoleta had some great advise though….”Go read the news in other countries.” Even if you do not speak the language, use online translation and read how the news is being reported in other countries!!!!

 David Ellin (Nicoleta’s husband)

* Running for State’s Attorney (head prosecutor)
* Former felony and narcotics prosecutor (attorney for over 25 years)
* “I do not defend criminals because I do not like criminals.”
* His track record directly contradicts anything that Marilyn Mosby ran for or enforced while in office
* #1 topic on his list – Veteran’s Court
	+ Costs nothing for the state
	+ These are gaining popularity in this country to address the co-morbidities that face our veterans (PTSD, addiction, suicide)
* Other topics of interest – Opioid epidemic (Not getting any better) and Domestic Violence (women need to feel comfortable coming forward to get support)
* Schools – students should have the opportunity to take field trips to the courts. Students can talk with the judges and attorneys about what happens once you enter the criminal justice system. Hopefully this can prevent students from becoming criminals…keep kids straight.
* REPUBLICAN PRIMARIES 🡪 JUNE 28, 2022

Susan Taylor – House Delegate District 5

* 40 years of experience working with Bartlett and Cox
* The last 40 years, Mrs. Taylor has been on the receiving end of calls and concerns from constituents. All those years of listening has been eye opening!!!
* Mrs. Taylor wants to be pro-active and NOT wait until people are angry. Mrs. Taylor worked with Cox in 03/2020 and he DID not wait. Cox and Taylor have been taking on fights since the beginning of the pandemic in 03/2020.
* Haven Shoemaker is NOT running and this can be a problem if we do not fill his seat with someone that protects Liberty and Freedom!!!

Kyle Sefcik– Candidate for Governor (unaffiliated candidate)

* Running to work for the public…not politicians.
* Small business owner with 2 gyms in Montgomery County
* Refused to shut down in 03/2020 🡪 there were no repercussions
* Moved to Carroll County during pandemic due to restrictions
* Does not enjoy politics but in order to protect community and way of life, you have to be an elected member with the power to enact changes.
* Kyle has “tunnel” vision 🡪 Kyle is determined to get to a position of power in order to get thing done.
* Feel free to reach out to him on social media… he will respond personally and promptly
* Has 2 brothers that are teachers and values education
* Check his bio out online 🡪 He has done a lot of cool things for the community and especially the kids!!!

Tara Battaglia – Candidate for Re-election for CC BOE

* Spearheaded the fight to keep masks optional for parents/students in Carroll County schools in 09/2021.
* Tara fought against the closing of schools (Charles Carroll, North Carroll ) The repercussions are being seen now – Runnymeade and Manchester Valley are over capacity.
* Tara fought for the building of the new East Middle School
* Tara fought for Nalaxone training in ALL schools to prevent the devastating effects of opioid epidemic.
* Tara believes in consistency in Education – COVID ruined that but Tara fought hard to get schools reopened “in person.”
* Tara wants to fight for equity in education
	+ Example: Manchester Valley High School offers ONLY Spanish and French. Westminster High School offers Spanish, French, German, Latin, Sign Language, Mandarin, etc.
	+ Students will now have the opportunity to attend some of these classes virtually when not offered at your designated school. The one good thing that came out of virtual learning…it can be done and used for these instances.
* Tara values the Agriculture lifestyle that characterizes much of Carroll County
* “Kids come first.”
* Teachers are the backbone of schools
* Follow her on Facebook: Tara Battaglia for Education

**Code of Conduct Discussion**

* Moms for Liberty is growing which has gained attention in Carroll County and unfortunately also negativity from the opposition
* Code of Conduct establishes a set of principles for conduct and decision making
1. Accountability
	1. Abide by laws and policies
	2. Fully disclose any conflict of interest
	3. Do not enter into agreements or contracts on behalf of Moms for Liberty
2. Excellence
	1. Professional level of courtesy and respect
	2. Create a positive and enjoyable experience within organization and community
	3. BE MINDFUL OF ALL COMMUNICATION
		1. Assume that you will ALWAYS be identified as a Moms for Liberty member
		2. Keep communications informational or encouraging
		3. DO NOT BE BAITED BY THE OPPOSITION (easier said than done)
3. Personal Gain
	1. Exercise powers for the good of all members or organization NOT personal benefit
4. Confidentiality
	1. Protect membership information

Review and Vote on bylaws

 Motion – Mercedes

 Second – Kit

 Passed unanimously

Meeting Concluded with personal discussions among the 63 attendees!!!