

PTACHC Meeting
Homewood Center
October 4, 2016

Meeting called to order at 7:33 p.m. by PTACHC President Reg Avery. Quorum was confirmed. There is a BOE meeting tonight so there will be no Superintendent's Report/Q&A or Board of Education Liaison report or Brightminds presentation

Minutes Review: The motion to accept the minutes was approved by all with no changes

Treasurer's Report: Every school is expected to pay \$170 by November 1st. State/National convention is the biggest expense and should be put into the budget.

Superintendent's Report/Q&A: Joan Fox

- FAFSA, first year that it is opening October.
- Transition Fair tomorrow evening for young adults receiving Special Education services beyond high school. Wilde Lake high 10/5/16. 6-8 pm
- G/T Parent Academy – Monday, October 10 – 7-8:30 at Howard High
- JROTC (Junior Reserve Officer Training Corp). Must apply to have an interview between November 29 and January 13.
- There is a new web area on Section 504 for services with students with disabilities.
- Congratulations Stephen Forest for National PTA School of excellence. One of 4 schools in Maryland.

Board of Education Liaison: No report

Change to agenda to move with the APFO Update by Brent Loveless.

First public testimony last week, first changes in a decade. Whatever is decided will freeze APFO rules for 40 years. The PTSA recommendation is to talk with Council people to request that we have 45 days notice so we can take it back to our PTA/PTSA. We would like to determine thresholds for new growth. For two or three years, any development will be frozen.

Canvas Presentation:

There was a Canvas presentation by Justin Benedict and Joe Allen. There have been a lot of changes for students that have more than one child. There are help/guides and feedback support available. A video has been created under "Guides". Tell parents what's new with the applications. A new application came out last week named "Canvas Parent" which will benefit all parents; however, the student's login is needed to log into the application.

- Elementary level, all teachers are asked to create a Home Page.
- Secondary level, includes gradebook, assignments scores, projects, tests and quizzes. Some expectations have been set for the teachers each year and the teachers work towards this and training was provided.

Discipline in School Disparity:

Presented the information for the PowerPoint presentation regarding disparity at the Elementary, Middle and High School levels by race and gender. Asked the PTA/PTSA units to get feedback about additional data needed/requested. There were suggestions provided about working collaboratively with the principal to find how the PTSA can support the school.

PTAs discussion for the year:

The top priorities for next year were discussed. They are the following:

- Technology
- Disparity
- Late Buses/After School
- How to welcome in new families across all grades
- How to expand membership and PTAs look more like the community they serve. Schools who have been successful were asked to share their methods.

PTAs Requests of PTACHC:

- A presentation on School/Start time options was requested. This was presented by CAC because there is a CAC policy representative.
- Find out more information about coordinating Yearbook operations and comply. It has been stated that there is a policy that yearbooks cannot be worked on off of school premises. PTA presidents groups have discussed this. Joan Fox will try and find out more information about this.
- Can PTA do anything to address the larger class sizes? Is this the new trend? Class with 28/29 students (APFO – how are the school designated with the population).

Report from State and National PTA convention:

A summary of State and National PTA Convention in August 2016 was discussed. The conventions are held every summer. \$225 registration for two days. Discount of \$50 for early registration. PTAs have a line item for leadership (\$175 per school if early registration. Vendors discussed options for fundraising, how the PTA is run. Information can be found on: pta.org/resolutions.

Next year in June will be in Las Vegas. Meet people from other states.

New Business:

Discussion committee representatives and open positions, which will be posted.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:16

Minutes taken by Towanda Brown, Secretary