

PTA Council of Howard County General Meeting
Homewood Center
November 1, 2016

Meeting called to order at 7:35 p.m. by PTACHC Executive Vice President Ricardo Morales. Quorum was confirmed.

Membership Wisdom: Sarah Mugo was introduced as the Membership Chair on the Board gave words of wisdom to reiterate that anyone can join PTA.

Agenda Review: There were a few changes to the agenda that was motioned and approved unanimously.

- Review Minutes
- Treasurer's Report
- Lisa Terry (moved up to discuss Brightminds)
- New Graduation Requirements
- Superintendent's Report Q&A

Minutes Review: The motion to accept the October minutes was approved by all with corrections to typos.

Treasurer's Report: PTACHC fees are due November 1, 2016. Monies have been received from 60% of the schools. Maryland PTA dues October 31, 2016.

BrightMinds Presentation: Lisa Terry from Bright Minds provided information about the organization. PTAs were asked to partner with BrightMinds instead of looking at them as a competitor. The presentation will be posted on the website: www.brightmindsfoundation.org. There were a few takeaways for the PTAs:

- PTAs can suggest staff and teachers apply for grants for doing innovative things
- Brightminds has a program on Bridging the Digital Divide by helping provide computers to elementary and middle school. It is not offered to high school students since they have phones.
- Brightminds has an after school program named Driving Student Success. This program makes a difference for students to be able to participate in after-school activity. This program started in January 2016 at 6 or 8 schools. Some businesses, some business clubs.
- There is a Scholarship Program called the Teachers for Tomorrow program. 11 students were chosen for full scholarships to McDaniel. Must work in the school system for 3 years for more diversity. This program was developed since most children do not have teachers that look like them or are from the same socio-economic status.
- In March, there is "Strut your stuff" and all high schools have pledged to participate

New Graduation Requirements Presentation: Tim Guy (Coordinator on Assessments) and Sandra Suber All of the PowerPoints will be posted on the website. The HCPSS will be updating the testing section on the website this week. Students will need 21 credits to graduate to make them more competitive: 4 English, 3 social studies, 3 credits in math (change to have 4 credits in math). 2017 Seniors have the "participate clause" for the PARCC. All guidance counselors for seniors graduating this year should be cleared for graduation requirements. COMAR language was approved last week. In the past, students used to graduate in cohorts and all had the same set of requirements. In the future, students will not graduate as a cohort, but will graduate when you take the course.

There will be Bridge Plans in a school setting for students who do not pass. This will require that students fail an assessment initially (i.e. not a good "test taker"). These students will have more time since it is Project based learning. It is not a select option. Participation requires failure and reassessment. The World of Work, Student Hours 75 hours remains.

Superintendent's Report/Q&A: John White

HCPSS is looking at agency partnerships:

- Building an Inclusive community (law enforcement, school system and the community). Issues in school and the community. The next meeting is on technology and social media, which was updated last year.
- Responsible Use of Technology Think B4 U Post campaign to help students and employees to become familiar with the social media and applications. There will be a Conversation on Visual Safety Conversation: November 14, 6:00-8:00 p.m. at Homewood
- Voices for a Drug Free Community, January 18, 7:00-9:00 at Wilde Lake. Police, health department and HC Drug-free.

Survey forms to students – Federal Impact Aid Surveys. HCPSS can receive funds based on completed forms. Return by November 18.

Board of Education Liaison: No report

Discipline in School Disparity – Advanced Placement

There was a presentation on the Advanced Placement statistics and clarifications about the Code of Conduct, which is posted on the internet.

Requests to HCPSS:

- There are no Advanced Placement statistics broken up by race and gender.
- There were no statistics for 2015 for high school regarding Advanced Placement.
- Do not have suspension statistics after the modified Code of Conduct in 2015

APFO Update by Brent Loveless.

The PTAs representatives were asked to inform the PTAs of what is going on and communicate regularly because legislation can slip in very quick. PTAs should look at APFO April 1, 2016 report.

There was a motion last year and the question of does the motion from the Spring 2016 need to be revalidated? Columbia legislation will be introduced on Tuesday. This will be voted on November 7th.

There was a motion "PTACHC supports having 100% as the maximum capacity and include high schools in APFO testing" that was voted on by PTACHC and majority supported the motion. There was concern that what is going on regarding the student population in middle school will bubble up to high school.

APFO does not control, policy 6010 establishing the rules for which the BOE will redistrict the school attendance boundary. If the school falls below 85% or above 110% results in considerations.

Legislative Report:

Written report by Donna.

Maryland PTA is looking at 2017 legislative agenda

New Business:

The PTACHC attendees requested a new agenda item for the Chief Accountability Officer, Grace Chesney, to present information about the data warehouse that was mentioned in the paper.

Meeting Take-Away and Action Items:

Matta reviewed the take away points of the meeting and Jane will post on the website under the meeting tab.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:20

Minutes submitted by Towanda Brown, Secretary