

PTACHC Legislative Committee Report, April 4, 2017
Submitted by Donna Sudbrook, PTACHC Legislative Chair, legislative@ptachc.org

1. 2017 Maryland PTA 102nd Annual Convention ,July 27 - 29, 2017, Sheraton Columbia Town Center, Columbia, Maryland. Registration information is available at www.mdpta.org Guest Speakers will include Maryland’s 2016 Teacher of the Year Athanasia Kyriakakos and University of Maryland Baltimore County President Freeman A. Hrabowski, III.

Attending the 102nd Maryland PTA Annual Convention is an excellent way to gain and share information with other members from across the state, to participate in the business of the association, and to reaffirm your commitment to the Purposes and Mission of PTA. Convention fees are a legitimate expense for your local PTA unit. You can save money when you register early. **Early Bird registration ends May 31, 2017.**

Consider Becoming a Voting Member; According to the Maryland PTA bylaws, the local PTA President or alternate, two (2) other officers or their alternates, and one (1) delegate for each 50 members of a local PTA Unit having **met the standards of affiliation as of March 31, 2017**, are entitled to attend as voting delegates to the Convention. Contact your local unit president if you would like to attend as a voting delegate. Credential card packets will be sent to all PTAs that have met the standards of affiliation.

Can only voting delegates attend the Convention?; NO! All PTA members may attend the workshops and the General Sessions (non-delegates sit in the nonvoting area), visit the exhibit hall, the PTA Store and participate in all other convention activities that do not include voting privileges. You must still register and receive a badge that allows you access to these events.

Complete the Registration Form; Complete the registration form found on the website www.mdpta.org or included in the packet sent to each local PTA. You may duplicate this form for additional delegates. Each delegate must complete a separate form. Send the completed forms and registration fees to the Maryland PTA office **no later than July 3, 2017**. Please make a copy of the form as a receipt for your records.

2. Maryland State Legislation - Bill to change how Howard County Board of Education members are elected. Currently, 7 BOE members are elected county wide.

Detailed information on the bill at <https://www.howardcountymd.gov/About-HoCo/State-Delegation> (or go to that website, select “About HoCo” at top of home page, then select “State Delegation” on drop down box, then select “Proposed Local Legislation”).

Howard County Board of Education – Elected School Board, Ho. Co. 11–17 – PASSED BY THE DELEGATION WITH AMENDMENTS (HB1299, CLARIFYING AMENDMENT 2/15/17, hearing scheduled, AMENDMENT 3/1/17)

By: Delegate Atterbeary

To follow HB 1299 through the State Legislature, go to the General Assembly of Maryland’s website www.mgaleg.maryland.gov and search on **HB 1299 / 2017 Session** for hearing dates, Name of Committee currently considering the bill, Committee members, contact information, etc.

To voice your opinion on this matter, see contact info of Howard County State Senators and Delegates, select “State and Federal Representatives” on that same drop down box.

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3. Howard County Council / Planning Board -- APFO, Update provided by Brent Loveless, Forest Ridge ES / Patuxent Valley MS.

Please Note: Wednesday, April 5, 7pm, APFO 101 for parents – Q/A on APFO, at the Terra Maria Community Center. All are welcome.

PTACHC APFO (Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance) Update 4/3/2017

The Howard County APFO controls the rate of growth for Howard County. Development is assessed some mitigation fees and can face **temporary** delays of up to 4 years if it is planned to be built during a period of overcrowding projected by HCPSS. These thresholds currently are 115% for Middle School and Elementary School districts. There are no thresholds for overcrowding of High Schools.

CURRENT STATUS A March 29th Baltimore Sun article indicated that the County administration will only approve an update to the school overcrowding thresholds if it includes a APFO task force provision to allow development to proceed in school districts exceeding 110% and 115% capacity for a specific fee. This fee requires approval from the State, which will be submitted for next year's legislative session. The article did not indicate if the additional provision to require a 10% reduction in capital expenses over a 5-year period would be part of the package.

While the school overcrowding provision is the most important and relevant APFO items for the PTAHC to follow, there are many additional provisions of APFO that will be considered that have a contributing effect to school capacity.

APRIL 5th APFO 101 for parents – Q/A on APFO 7pm at the Terra Maria Community Center

APRIL 6th The County Council will hold a Public hearing on the FY 2018 Capital Budget which includes school construction projects related to growth.

APRIL 20th The Planning board will hold a rescheduled public hearing on a APFO change to the General Plan at the George Howard Building. This will change the amount of development allocations that can be carried over from year to year and the amount that can be applied to "established neighborhoods" and "growth

Spring-Summer 2017 Other pieces of APFO are expected to be submitted to the Council for approval. Many have some effect on growth in school districts. The legislation brought forward will probably closely match the DPZ recommendations that can be found at the Howard County planning board website under "**PAST Meetings**" **February 16th 2017** *Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance (APFO) Task Force Recommendations and Proposed Legislation Changes*

July 2017 – APFO Open-Closed or "Projection" chart approval – Official yearly school enrolment and capacity projection chart that all new development is tested against for APFO compliance.

Spring 2017 – Summer 2017 – HCPSS will conduct redistricting committees to accommodate opening of a new middle school in Elkridge. Redistricting directly affects capacity in individual school districts, which in turn affects growth and development rates allowed by the version of APFO that is in effect at the time.

Winter 2017-Spring 2018 – Possible change of APFO School Overcrowding Threshold to State/Council