

**PTA Council of Howard County General Meeting  
Homewood Center  
September 5, 2017**

**Meeting called to order:** At 7:30 p.m. by PTACHC President Vicky Cutroneo. Quorum confirmed.

**Minutes Review from June 2017**

Vicky Cutroneo, PTACHC President (president@ptachc.org).  
Meeting minutes from June 2017 General Meeting were approved.

**Superintendent's Report**

James LeMon, Executive Director of Community, Parent and School Outreach (james\_lemon@hcpss.org). Provided introduction, he will be attending future PTACHC meetings.

**Board of Education Liaison**

Mavis Ellis, Board Member, Howard County Board of Education (mavis\_ellis@hcpss.org). Ms. Mavis Ellis provided an introduction. Howard County Board of Education (BOE) has not yet made any comments. BOE will have a decision by October 3, 2017. There will be two meetings that will allow for public testimony and testimony can be submitted at BOE@hcpss.org. By November 1, 2017 BOE will have a plan regarding redistricting.

**Treasurer's Report**

Laurie Ramey (treasurer@ptachc.org), presented last year's (2016-2017) treasurer's report.  
Laurie also made a motion to pass 2017-2018 PTACHC budget; the motion was seconded and passed.

**Q/A with Howard County Public School representatives**

Topics were (fundraising, privacy, event planning, and risk management/safety: What can and can't PTA's do?

Dave Clark: david\_clark@hcpss.org

Doug Pindell: doug\_pindell@hcpss.org

Pierre Van Gruenen: pierre\_vangruenen@hcpss.org

Teddy Hartman: teddy\_hartman@hcpss.org

David Brown: david\_brown@hcpss.org

The above listed panel; responded to list of questions provided and answered audience questions.

Dave Clark mentioned to keep in mind the following regarding the Q/A:

1. Will answer if they know the answer
2. If no answer, they will get it and provide it in writing as quickly as possible.
3. The Chief Operating Officer (COO) of HCPSS will be posting some common Q&A on website to answer some questions.
4. HCPSS hears issues from parents, so please continue to ask regarding anything so they can find out and address.
5. Let us get in front of issues not wait until last minute or after the fact. Have discussions or concerns voiced early such as via this Q/A.

In the near future HCPSS will have a Q&A page. If you have any questions, reach out to PTACHC and we can help find answer or direct you to have an answer. Also, please reach out to HCPSS with any questions as early as possible to allow time to research and resolve and to address the question/ issue.

**Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance (APFO) update**

Brent Loveless: brentloveless@ptachc.org

More people are needed to testify. Our systems are over capacity. Please go to PTACHC website to learn more.

Brent Loveless talked about APFO (Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance). Handouts from PTACHC President and Brent attached) provide a very brief overview.

We need representation at meetings. Fifteen people testified recently on behalf of their schools. We need more people to testify. Our systems are over capacity.

For example, currently the open/close chart capacity utilization is at 115%, APFO task force recommended 110% but PTACHC last year voted that we would like 100%, not more.

What is currently being done to change APFO? A public hearing will be held on 9/11/2017 on two bills.

**Council Bill 61-2017** - deals with school capacity levels and when school districts are opened or closed to development. It is at 115% capacity with 5-year waiting period, after which development can continue without capacity consideration. High schools are not included in the test.

**Council Bill 62-2017** – Reallocate unit allocations within categories- Howard county manages growth by allocating specific amounts of housing units to each region of the county, these regions include rural existing, growth, and revitalization, etc. This bill wants to reallocate unit amounts from grown and revitalization to existing regions. They do not adequately address problems of overcrowding and inadequate public structure.

- See handouts that were provided at PTACHC General Membership Meeting on 9/5/2017.
- Write council Person to vote against CB-61 and CB-62 in their current forms.
- Go to the September 11 2017 meeting at 6 PM at George Howard Building Ellicott City. A rally is planned at 5 PM. Wear Yellow to the meeting and be prepared for a long night.

**PTACHC motion shown below was presented and passed with two abstentions:**

PTACHC supports the August 29, 2017 Board of Education recommendation for APFO

- PTACHC moves to add high schools to the schools test.
- Moves to maintain the current open/close designation language
- Moves that a funding trigger be included in APFO for school facilities at 95% capacity with a projection of over 110% in five years.
- Moves to define APFO Capacity consistent with the Howard County Public Schools System Policies.
- Moves that all development must pass a schools test
- Moves that the open/close chart capacity utilization be at 100%

You can learn more about APFO:

Background on APFO - go to website to learn more: <https://www.howardcountymd.gov/About-HoCo/CountyExecutive/Adequate-public-facilities-ordinance-task-force>

## **Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 PM.

Minutes taken by Matta Zeinali, VP Operations PTACHC (VPOperations@ptachc.org)