

**PTA Council of Howard County General Meeting
Homewood School
October 2, 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
Minutes from September 2017 General Meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Laurie Ramey, Treasurer

- September's report was presented.

Superintendent's Report - Mr. James LeMon, Executive Director of Community, Parent and School Outreach.

- October is bullying prevention month
- Redistricting Meeting will be held on 10/3/2017

There will be no high school redistricting for 2018–19 under Martirano's proposal. The next high school redistricting process will begin during the 2020–21 school year to prepare for opening High School #13 in fall 2022. The recommendations include JumpStart HCPSS, an initiative to expand dual enrollment options for students at Centennial, Howard and Long Reach high schools.

The proposal includes redistricting 1,922 elementary students to fill Elementary School #42 and bring 37 schools at or below target utilization, providing relief to schools in Columbia and in the eastern and northern parts of the county. Redistricting at the middle school level is proposed to move approximately 300 students to align feeder patterns with the realigned elementary attendance areas.

- HCPSS Celebrates Community Partners

Interim Superintendent Michael J. Martirano, members of the Board of Education, system leadership and school system staff recently joined approximately 250 community partners for the annual Howard County Public School System Educational Partnerships Celebration at the Sheraton Columbia.

- Manor Woods is a Blue Ribbon School

Manor Woods Elementary School Named 2016–2017 Maryland Blue Ribbon School

The Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) named Manor Woods Elementary School as one of only six Maryland public schools to receive the State's Blue Ribbon award this year. New Blue Ribbon Schools were recognized on the basis of rigorous standards for high achievement and significant improvement developed by MSDE and the U.S.

- Naming HCPSS School # 42

The Howard County Public School System accepted public suggestions of names for Elementary School #42, scheduled to open for the 2018-2019 school year. Suggestions were accepted September 20-October 11, 2017.

Board of Education Liaison: Mavis Ellis, Board Member, Howard County Board of Education

- Spring Regional Meetings (April 25 & 27)
- Feasibility Study (June 22)
- Attendance Area Plan

There will be two public hearings scheduled Oct. 26, 2017 and Nov. 9, 2017.
Thursday, Nov. 16, 7:30 p.m., Approval of Attendance Area Adjustment Plan

- Attendance Area Committee Meetings

The Howard County Public School System Attendance Area Committee (AAC) is had a special meeting on Wednesday, September 20, 2017, at 6:30 p.m. at the Applications and Research Laboratory, room B-37. The Superintendent, at the capital budget presentation on September 11, asked the AAC to reconvene to consider a possible northeastern high school.

Please note that if you send emails to individual board members of BOE it does not count as testimony you have to send to official testimony email! See BOE website.

Special Education Citizens Advisory Committee (SECAC): Lori Scott

- SECAC wants to engage more families and students to come to their meetings.
- SECAC is required by COMAR (Maryland law) to provide education and support for staff.

They deal with any challenges and issues and you can go to your schools to get answers.

Please see here if you would like more information: <https://www.hcpss.org/special-education/>

Howard County Office of Children and Families: Lisa Rhodes, Family Engagement Specialist & Valerie Harvey

As part of the Department of Community Resources and Services, our mission is to provide information and access to resources for families to ensure all children in our community thrive. The goal of the Office is to work in concert with the community to coordinate, develop, expand, and enhance children and family services in Howard County through workshops and newsletters.

See their info at <https://www.howardcountymd.gov/Departments/Community-Resources-and-Services/Office-of-Children-and-Families>.

CARE (Child and Adolescent Resources and Education) for Howard County Families is a free service provided by the Howard County Office of Children and Families, with the support of Howard County Department of Community Resources and Services, the Howard County Local Children's Board, Maryland State Department of Education, Howard County Mental Health Authority and the Governor's Office for Children. The CARE Line is a resource and referral service for the following:

Behavior Issues, Finding Child Care, Child Care Assistance, County Resources, Special Needs, Parenting Classes, Health Care, Mental Health Concerns, Grandparents Support, Financial Assistance, Support Groups, Adolescent Concerns, School Age Programs, Camps.

Community Advisory Committee: Towanda Brown, President

- Brochures were given out
- Policy 2060 which explains CAC
- All PTA's can have a liaison at the CAC and its open to everyone.
- For more information: <http://www.hcpss.org/board/cac/>

Howard County Education Association (HCEA): Colleen Morris, President

- HCEA is the professional association and also the exclusive representative in collective bargaining for all teachers and most education support professionals in Howard County.
- They are working on a concept addressing discipline issues.

PTACHC Legislative Liaison: Donna Sudbrook

- A flyer was distributed with a survey question " I would prioritize spending on the below as follows:
- Legislation pertaining to the following topics may be introduced at General Assembly 2018:
 - ✓ All day Pre-Kindergarten (universal or targeted)
 - ✓ Charter Schools
 - ✓ New School construction/ and maintenance issues

Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance (APFO): Vicky Cutroneo, PTACHC President

- Last meeting of APFO was well attended. There are several schools over capacity. You can let your legislators know your position.
- See here for more information: <https://www.howardcountymd.gov/About-HoCo/County-Executive/Adequate-public-facilities-ordinance-task-force>.

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 PM.

Minutes taken by Matta Zeinali, VP Operations PTACHC