

Take Aways & Action Items

PTA Council General Meeting

December 4, 2017

Treasurer's Report

Laurie Ramey: treasurer@ptachc.org

- Treasurer's Report was presented
- OBRC Budget Committee Report
2018-2019 HCPSS budget
 - Under discussion are later school start times which may cost more. Your input would be welcomed.
 - Email Laurie to let her know what your local PTA's priorities would be for the 2018-2019 HCPSS budget.

Board of Education Report

Mavis Ellis: mavis_ellis@hcpss.org

Board of Education Member

- Policy 1020 - Sexual discrimination was added to policy review schedule. Public hearing will be held.
- BOE will hold public hearing on Dec. 7, 2017 at 7:30 pm on 2 items:
 - A. Policy 8040 - selection of instructional materials
 - B. 2018-19 Academic calendar

BOE members also present at PTACHC meeting -
Christina Delmont-Small & Cindy Vaillancourt

Howard County Legislative Delegation

- Introduction of Delegation by PTACHC President, Vicky Cutroneo (president@ptachc.org)
- **District 13:** Del. Vanessa Atterbeary
Del. Shane Pendergrass
Del. Frank Turner
- **District 12:** Del. Terri Hill
Del. Clarence Lam
- **District 9:** Sen. Gail Bates
Del. Warren Miller
Del. Robert Flanagan

District 12 - Del. Terri Hill

- Proposing Bill: Personnel should be able to handle concussions in schools.
- Proposing Bill: American Association of Univ. Women related to Child Support.
- Proposed Ho. Co. Bill 18-18: Collection and Sharing of De-Identified Student Data for Public Health Programs

Policies and procedures re if, how, and when student's data can be shared for purpose of public health. Policy to see what is appropriate to be collected (i.e. BMI of students) Audience question: doesn't the fitness gram already include this data? Del. Hill was not aware.

District 13 - Del. Shane Pendergrass

- Proposed Ho. Co. Bill 11-18: Howard County Board of Education – Superintendent of Schools – Term Length

In Howard County, the County Board shall determine the length of the term of the county superintendent.

Del. Bob Flanagan & Del. Warren Miller (Dist. 9) commented on this topic.

District 13 – Del. Vanessa Atterbeary

- Proposing a bill regarding termination of school superintendent.

District 13 – Del. Frank Turner

- Proposed Ho. Co. Bill 13-18: Transfer Tax Exemption and Rate Reduction – Teachers

To qualify for an exemption or rate reduction, a teacher would have to be employed for a minimum of 3 years.

This is to help with retention of teachers in Howard County schools, as many don't live in the county.

Del. Frank Turner cont.

- Proposing bill “Statewide”: To reduce or eliminate the need to pay for community college.

It has limitations of dollar amount, would have to live in the county, and have to file FAFSA. It will be need-based.

District 9 - Sen. Gail Bates

- Proposed Bill: Check children's vision for tracking (visual acuity is currently tested but not visual tracking).
- Last year the bill did not pass, so it will be proposed again this year.

District 13 - Del. Vanessa Atterbeary

- Proposed Bill 14-18: Student Loan Assistance Repayment Program for Teachers

Howard County needs to have student loan forgiveness program for teachers who commit to Howard County schools for 5 years.

Qualifications have to be met.

Howard County has problem retaining top-level, and diverse teachers.

APFO Legislation

Howard County Delegation Chair proposed:

1. Proposed Ho. Co. Bill 12-18: School Facilities Surcharge - Rate Alteration

Dist. 13 - Del. Shane Pendergrass – concerned the bill needs more process and does not think there should be a hearing yet.

Brent Loveless - Commented that there are differences of opinion on this bill.

APFO Legislation cont.

2. Proposed Ho. Co. Bill 15-18 (Del. Flanagan):
Transfer Tax – School Site Acquisition and Construction Fund
 - Generally relating to the allocation of transfer tax revenue in Howard County. County Council may, by law, increase the percentage of transfer tax revenue allocated to the school site acquisition and construction fund up to a maximum of 50%.
 - In 1989 this program was enacted to preserve farm land in HoCo. This bill prohibits county reducing funding for HoCo Agricultural Land Preservation Fund.

Audience & Delegate Discussion/Questions

- Questions taken from the Audience and answered by the Delegation:
 1. Is there a state construction model that can be considered for schools to make costs cheaper initially and then upgrade later instead of more having more upfront costs?
 2. Maintenance in schools and keeping up the facilities.
 3. Del. Warren Miller (Dist. 9): Stated there is a need for redistricting schools in Howard County.
- HoCo is getting ready to build 13th high school!

Future Meetings

- December 7, 2017
Board of Education
Regular meeting 4:00 pm
Public session 7:30 pm
- January 8, 2018:
PTACHC General Membership Meeting
7:30 pm at Homewood Cafeteria

Action Items

- Email Laurie Ramey, PTACHC Treasurer to let her know what your local PTA's priorities would be for the 2018-2019 HCPSS budget.
(Treasurer@ptachc.org)
- Please get involved in legislation affecting Howard County!
- See Howard County government website for local legislation:
(<https://www.howardcountymd.gov/About-HoCo/State-Delegation/Proposed-Local-Legislation>)
local legislations.