

PTA Council of Howard County (PTACHC)
Third General Meeting 5 November, 2018

Board Attendees:

1. Brent Loveless, President
2. Beth Gettleman, Executive Vice President
3. Matta Zeinali, Vice President, Operations
4. Brett Sovereign, Secretary
5. Lisa Soto, CAC Representative
6. Sarah Rehling, Office Administrator

March 2 Success Program ASVAB ConAP Presentation: Sgt. Kevin Brown U.S. Army; Clara <?> Education. March 2 Success is an online test preparation online offered through Petersons (SAT, MCAT, others) <https://www.march2success.com/> ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery) to assess skills and interests. ConAP (Concurrent Admissions Program) for appointment to Reserves and admission to college.

Meeting was called to order: 7:42 pm. Quorum was confirmed.

Secretary Report: Prior meeting minutes were reviewed and approved.

Treasurer's Report: Report on October expenses and income.

Executive VP Report: Need volunteers. Scholarship committee openings -- need at least three. Policy committee needs PTA representatives. Contact executivevp@ptachc.org. Use of School Facilities committee will have open meeting in April to review (making sure those who use facilities have articles of incorporation and proof of insurance). From the online survey of Howard County diversity in PTA and bullying lead to a potential working group - need volunteers.

SECAC Report: No report.

HCEA Report: No report.

Superintendent Report: James LeMon reporting on behalf of the Superintendent. Mentioned various upcoming information sessions for the Career Academies and college admissions support. Also announced upcoming mental health initiative within the schools. 5 social workers hired to provide region services to 24 schools, working in collaboration with Horizon Foundation.

Horizon Foundation -- Mental Health Initiatives: Presenting were Nicky Vernick, CEO, and Michelle Taylor. Horizon is a community health foundation -- offers grants to HCPSS for a number of initiatives to increase health and well-being in the County. For Mental Health, they have partnered with HCPSS to incorporate mental health assistance into the schools. 1 in 5 adults have mental health issues, most of which began in childhood. Early diagnosis and treatment can be extremely effective. Work to remove barriers to treatment -- transportation, reduced cost, general access (multilingual). The foundation gave a grant for \$400,000 to pilot to 24 schools. In addition to this, work with Head Start to assist with 4 year olds who have issues. Offer crisis urgent mental health referrals to Sheppard Pratt system.

The foundation is working a media campaign to reduce the stigma associated with seeking mental health care. The Foundation has issued an RFP (Request for Proposals) to this end -- mental health outreach and community engagement. Track 1 grantees will be awarded \$500 if they will have a representative speak at the school, and promote one of four HCPSS co-sponsored screenings of the movie "Angst," on living with anxiety for children (middle and high).

A more extensive outreach at Track 2 up to \$20,000 for projects, with an emphasis on outreach to underserved groups. Question from delegates -- are you working with Parks and Recreation and Columbia Association on after-school programs. Answer -- that's a good idea. Other questions -- which schools will be piloted -- mainly elementary, more details next month. Other resources for student mental health in the county were mentioned: Chase Brexton will see patients with or without insurance, Mental Health Awareness, Stigma Reduction, and Outreach.

PTACHC President Update: President Brent Loveless reporting -- report will be available on the website ptachc.org under Meeting tab and Legislative tab. The majority of the PTACHC board met with the PTA BoE and discussed upcoming issues impacting school funding and budgeting. President Loveless exhorted the attendees to be prepared for the 2019 General Assembly and official actions such as rate changes for new development that impact school construction. PTACHC and members must be ready to advocate for options that are beneficial and sustainable for all HCPSS students. Howard Hughes is required to provide a school site as condition of further development in Columbia. Planning and Zoning is recommending an "alternative compliance" at a November 8 Planning Board Hearing. DPZ is also using a different enrollment projection than usual -- this could be precedent setting.

Talbott Springs will be rebuilt through a matching formula (55% of select items) although IAC (Maryland's Interagency Commission on School Construction) is considering changing it to 54% in the future for all construction.

For HS#13, the owner of the Jessup Mission Road site will hold a pre-submission meeting to discuss DRRA submittal (which can be minor or very broad meeting) on November 14th. Last week the Elkridge High School Task Force recommended two sites for acquisition.

For PTACHC, the Mitigation fees position was set last year -- would like attendees to go back to their local PTAs to get feedback on reissuing this position. Will promote the original motion up on ptachc.org.

Meeting adjourned: 9:08 pm

Next Meeting: Monday 3 December at 7:30 pm, Homewood School.

Associated Documents: Minutes from 4 October General Meeting. Meeting agenda, Treasurer's Report. Horizon Foundation RFP <https://www.thehorizonfoundation.org/?p=3635> and Fact Sheet.

Minutes taken by Brett Sovereign, Secretary