

PTA Council of Howard County (PTACHC)
Fourth General Meeting 3 December, 2018

Board Attendees:

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

Meeting was called to order: 7:34 pm. Quorum was confirmed.

President's Announcements: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Advisory committee representative from PTACHC needed. Please contact the board.

Treasurer's Report: Report on November expenses and income. PTA dues were due November 1st, and there are some schools still in arrears. Form 990s were due last month. MD PTA updated their Cash Encounters guidance documentation -- see <http://www.mdpta.org/documents/CashEncounters1819Final.pdf>.

Secretary Report: Prior meeting minutes were reviewed and approved.

Superintendent Report: James LeMon, December 11th 4:30-6:30 at Wilde Lake for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Advisory committee.

SECAC Report: No report.

HCEA Report: No report.

OBRC (Operating Budget Review Committee) Liaison Report: Laurie Ramey reporting. Recommendations to the BoE on the budget (reinstated in 2017). Strategic report and other documents on the BoE website. Budget starts with the Superintendent, then reviewed, sent to County Executive, then County Council. December 18th budget is expected -- then January 17, 22, 29, 31 work sessions with BoE. February 12th adoption by BoE. Looking for OBRC liaison for next year.

Dress Code Policy: Laurie Ramey reporting. Committee has finished meeting, and made changes to the existing policy based on the Oregon Now Model Dress Code. Hats will allowed, along with hoodies. Presented to BoE on January 10th -- it will be posted 3 days before that. Public testimony February 14th. Reference: <https://noworegon.org/issues/model-student-dress-code/>

HCPSS Mental Health Initiatives Briefing: James LeMon, superintendent representative, and Consuela Robinson, Instructional Facilitator. Four-year strategic plan for student well-being, involving a multi-tiered system, academic and behavior. Initiatives involve instruction, restorative justice, mental health, PBIS. Five social workers in Howard County public schools to provide small group counseling, along with some individual counseling, and coordinate services provided (50% direct services, 50% management of programs). HC Health Department and Horizon Foundation provided 5 year grant until June 2019. The new Social Work Program expands to 23 additional schools supported by outside providers referred through various methods. Reviewed what exists currently in the schools for mental health assistance as well as how the new initiatives providing additional support. Community collaboration includes a mental health community advisory council, and a superintendent's sub-cabinet.

Legislative Local Bills Update: District 13, MD General Assembly, Vanessa Atterbeary briefing. Local Educational Bills: Elected school board (1-19), modifies law so that five board members will be elected from the council districts. Impact fees (3-19), modifies rates charged to new construction for school capacity (required funding to spent in local school district), includes 6% cap. It is currently \$1.26 per square foot, which would be modified to (in draft) \$4.00. There will be a work session January 12th (location to be determined) on these and other bills. Still waiting for the BoE Redistricting law (no draft yet) -- increase of fees, transfer taxes. Questions from delegates: where is comparable county impact fee information, find link Maryland general assembly webpage. Why were these rates proposed -- waiting on analysis on impact? Does this involve affordable housing?

Note, access to all proposed local bills: <https://www.howardcountymd.gov/About-HoCo/State-Delegation/Proposed-Local-Legislation>

At the next meeting, we will discuss whether PTACHC will take a position on these bills.

Water Quality Report: President Loveless reported that current results of the HCPSS water quality testing are available on the HCPSS website (hcpss.org/schools/water-quality-reports).

Homewood's Recycled Treasure Sale, December 20th: Students use school vouchers (interim grades and attendance) to buy donated presents. Need donations (gifts for men), and volunteers (gift wrap, and wrappers). Collect up through December 16th -- deliver to the school front office.
suzi_young@hcpss.edu

Meeting adjourned: 9:03 pm.

Next Meeting: Monday 7th January at 7:30 pm, Homewood School.

Associated Documents: Minutes from 5 November General Meeting. Meeting agenda, Treasurer's Report.

Minutes taken by Brett Sovereign, Secretary