

## PTACHC LEGISLATIVE REPORT

August 30, 2021

The PTA Council of Howard County seeks individuals to join the legislative committee to further the primary mission to advocate for children. The duties range from reviewing of legislation to assessing educational impact, communications, project tracking, surveying, analysis, training and more. Simply put, the effectiveness of PTACHC's efforts is directly aligned with the level of membership participation.

**School Capacity-Class Size-Portable Classrooms-Concentrations of Poverty-Capital Budget-Overcrowding-Redistricting-Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance -Land Use related items.** *PTA has standing positions that no school should have to operate over 100% capacity. This is a tangible issue with clear outcomes. The issue is pervasive and dominates Howard County legislative actions year after year. PTACHC is the PRIMARY advocate for this issue in the county.*

\*HOCO BY DESIGN – <https://www.hocobydesign.com/> The General Plan update directing growth and facilities for the next 20 years. Members are strongly encouraged not only to participate in the process, but proactively ensure that the process supports adequate school resources to serve any growth without compromise to education standards. There are a series of two in person and four virtual meetings starting August 31<sup>st</sup> at 6 pm, Sept. 1<sup>st</sup> at Noon and 6 pm, Sept. 2<sup>nd</sup> at Noon, Sep 13<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm, Sept. 14<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 am ([see website for details](#)). These are the last opportunities to set direction and provide input before the plans are drafted. Once drafted any modifications will be very limited and require significant effort.

[CR144-2021](#) – [cc.howardcountymd.gov/Legislation](http://cc.howardcountymd.gov/Legislation) - Procedural process to have council exempt a mixed market rate-affordable housing project (Roslyn Rise 4) from failed APFO school overcrowding tests.

[CR145-2021](#) – [cc.howardcountymd.gov/Legislation](http://cc.howardcountymd.gov/Legislation) - Procedural process to have council exempt a mixed market rate-affordable housing project (Roslyn Rise 9) from failed APFO school overcrowding tests.

[CB65-2021](https://apps.howardcountymd.gov/olis/PrefiledLegislation.aspx) – <https://apps.howardcountymd.gov/olis/PrefiledLegislation.aspx>- Rules of notice for new development

[ZB 1126M](https://www.howardcountymd.gov/leadership/zoning-board-3) – <https://www.howardcountymd.gov/leadership/zoning-board-3> - Oct. 13<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm - Rezoning Courthouse for redevelopment

Housing Opportunities Master Plan Task Force Report Complete – <https://www.howardcountymd.gov/DHCD-HOMP-TaskForce> - Report feeds into the General Plan with recommendations to reduce APFO school overcrowding provisions and multiple recommendations relating to socioeconomic distribution.

Racial Equity Task Force Report Complete - <https://cc.howardcountymd.gov/About-Us/Commissions-Task-Forces-and-Special-Reports/Racial-Equity-Task-Force> - Report makes recommendations to the council for future legislation. Significant exemptions to APFO school overcrowding protections recommended and significant educational policy changes to HCPSS.

### **Budget-Budget Competition-Grants-State Share-Revenues-Standards**

*Nearly every piece of legislation has a budgetary impact to operational and capital education funding. While the exact amount to fund any given component of education is debatable, PTA organizations need to advocate for enough funding to sustain the quality of education in Howard County. This may include additional advocacy to meet unfulfilled standards of education.*

## **Representation – Elections – Candidates**

*PTACHC does not endorse candidates but may inform its membership of legislation that may affect representation on educational issues– typically these would be informational only without a position.*

[CR-35-2021](#) – [cc.howardcountymd.gov/Legislation](http://cc.howardcountymd.gov/Legislation) – Resolution setting dates for council redistricting.

## **Other**

[CB-63-2021](#) – Allowing Electronic meetings for County Boards

**State Delegation** - <https://www.howardcountymd.gov/leadership/state-delegation> - Delegation is not in session but typically is drafting legislation for introduction for the 2022 session in January.

HCPSS BOE Legislative

<https://go.boarddocs.com/mabe/hcpssmd/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=ABKNSY6159A6>

The HCPSS legislative committee has separate roles, responsibilities and voting procedures than PTACHC, but many issues are considered in parallel where membership should be aware of the legislation in which HCPSS is involved.