

PTAC HOWARD COUNTY GENERAL MEETING MINUTES MONDAY, AUGUST 28, 2023

Board Members present:

Terri Marcus, President

Karina Fischer, Executive Vice President

Hiruy Hadgu, Vice President of Operations

Glenda Hernandez-Tittle, Vice President of Issues

Angela Shippet, Secretary

Laurie Ramey, Treasurer

Brent Loveless, Legislative Committee Chair

Lisa Loveless, Policy Chair

Meg Ricks, ORBC Chair

I. Call to Order- Meeting was called to order at 7:30; quorum was established.

II. President's report- Terri Marcus introduced the 2023-24 Board of Directors and committee chairs. She also provided an overview of the responsibilities of a PTACHC delegate. A survey will be sent out to determine if the delegation would prefer a 7:00 or 7:30 p.m. start time to general meetings. The delegation will also be asked if there is interest in a virtual speaker series. Free State PTA will be holding leadership training on September 6th and 7th. PTA officers are welcome to join the PTACHC Facebook group.

III. Secretary's report- Angela Shippet presented the minutes from the June 5th general meeting. *A motion was made to approve the minutes of the June 5th general meeting, the motion was seconded and the minutes were approved.*

IV. Treasurer's report- Laurie Ramey presented the [Treasurer's report for July](#). The financial review for 2022-2023 was completed in the summer and was made available for delegates to review. *Laurie Ramey moved that PTACHC officially adopt the 2022-2023 financial review; the motion was seconded and passed.* The [proposed 2023-2024 budget](#) was presented. *Laurie Ramey motioned that PTACHC approve the 2023-2024 budget as proposed. The motion passed (44 yeas, 2 no's, and 1 abstention).* Laurie Ramey reported that Free State PTA now has guidance for electronic bill pay. *Laurie Ramey motioned that PTACHC approve recurring payments to Verizon to be deducted directly from PTACHC's bank account. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.*

V. Legislative report- Brent Loveless presented the [legislative report](#). Anyone interested in joining the Legislative Committee should contact Legislative@ptachc.org.

VI. Guest Speaker Lisa Terry, Purple Star Schools- Lisa Terry the manager of the Office of Military and Veteran Families presented information about how a school can earn the [Purple Star designation](#). The application will be open in December.

VII. Guest Speaker Dr. Martirano, Superintendent of Howard County Public Schools- Dr.

Martirano shared that today was the opening of Guilford Park High School, the Hammond High School addition, and the new Talbot Springs building. The capital budget will be released soon; this budget will include initiatives related to early childhood learning. Dr. Martirano reported that the graduation rate in HCPSS was the highest in the state at 94%. This year there will be an emphasis on attendance. Dr. Martirano reported that there are less than 50 staffing vacancies, with most of these vacancies in math and special education. Dr. Martirano discussed the changes to the transportation policy and ongoing bus driver vacancies. Dr. Martirano cited bus driver call outs and a bottle neck at the bus lot as some of the reasons behind the day's transportation issues. He stated that he is concerned about tomorrow and "we are trying to do everything we need to do better." He took questions from the audience.

VIII. Board of Education Report- Dr. Chen presented the Board of Education Report. At the last Board meeting the superintendent was asked to review the implementation of policy 5200 to determine what was working and what is not.

IX. CARY Report- Ying Matties introduced herself to the delegation and provided information about the Community Alliance for Rainbow Youth and their mission.

X. SECAC Report- Daria Wise introduced herself to the delegation and provided a report on the Special Education Community Advisory Council (SECAC). SECAC has a new board and will be meeting in person this year on the first Tuesday of the month from 7 to 9 p.m. at Patuxent Valley Middle School. If anyone has questions about SECAC they can contact SECACchair@gmail.com. A goal of the new board is to have a representative from every school in attendance at SECAC meetings.

XI. Adjournment- The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.