

**PTA COUNCIL of HOWARD COUNTY GENERAL MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY, APRIL 8, 2024  
Homewood**

**Board Members and Committee Chair in Attendance**

Terri Marcus, President  
Karina Fisher, Executive Vice President  
Angela Shiplet, Secretary  
Laurie Ramey, Treasurer  
Brent Loveless, Legislative Committee Chair  
Lisa Loveless, Policy Committee Chair  
Meg Ricks, OBRC Representative

I. **Call to order** - The meeting was called to order at 7:30; quorum was established.

II. **President's report** - Terri Marcus provided the President's report.

- A. Terri Marcus reported that she will be speaking to the Board of Education to give them an update at the April 11<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- B. Terri Marcus thanked everyone who helped put together the Board of Education Candidate Forum on March 16<sup>th</sup>. A video recording of the forum is available on PTACHC's YouTube channel. A link to our YouTube channel is on the PTACHC website.
- C. On Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup>, PTACHC will be hosting an awards ceremony to showcase the winning entries in the Reflections Program.
- D. There was not a Free State President's meeting this month.
- E. The Free State Convention will be on July 20<sup>th</sup> and July 21<sup>st</sup> in Linthicum at the Maritime Conference Center. The early bird rate of \$85.00 is good until April 30<sup>th</sup>. A few PTACHC members will be attending. The National PTA as well as the Maryland State Department of Education Superintendent will be there from 9 to 10 a.m. on Saturday June 20<sup>th</sup>. There are three training workshops during the conference.
- F. PTACHC voted to support SB0739 which establishes an Algorithmic Addiction Fund to put the proceeds of any successful lawsuits against Meta for Violating the Federal Children's Online Privacy Protection Act. This bill did not make it out of committee but Senator Hester plans on reintroducing it next year.
- G. Six policies will be under review during the 2024-2025 school year. She asked anyone interested in serving on the committee to contact [policy@ptachc.org](mailto:policy@ptachc.org). The policies that will be under review include:
  - 1. Policy 1020 Sexual Discrimination, Sexual Harassment, and Sexual Misconduct
  - 2. Policy 9200 Student Discipline
  - 3. Policy 9250 Weapons
  - 4. Policy 9300 Homeless Children and Youth
  - 5. Policy 9400 Student Behavior Intervention
  - 6. Policy 10030 Contests Sponsored by Outside Organizations
- H. The deadline to submit a resume for the office manager position is April 15<sup>th</sup>. The Board will be conducting interviews in May for a start date in June.

III. **Nominating Committee's report** - Melissa Green Parker presented a report from the nominating committee. The nominating committee will be distributing a flier to solicit interest in serving on the PTACHC Board of Directors in 2024 to 2025. The flier will be sent out through email very soon.

#### IV. Executive Vice President's report

A. Karina Fisher thanked all who volunteered for the Candidate forum. She also asked PTAs to promote the YouTube recording of the forum to their units. Early voting will run from May 2<sup>nd</sup> to May 9<sup>th</sup>. The primary election will be held on May 14<sup>th</sup>.

B. The Capital Criterion Coordination Workgroup has been meeting to discuss how capital projects are prioritized. The committee met on March 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, and 25<sup>th</sup>, the remaining two meetings are on April 15<sup>th</sup> and April 22<sup>nd</sup>. A report will be presented to the Board of Education on May 23<sup>rd</sup>. There will be public hearing on June 6<sup>th</sup>. The Board of Education will be taking action on this on June 20<sup>th</sup>.

V. **Secretary's report** - *A motion was made to approve the minutes as amended. The motion was seconded and passed.*

VI. **Treasurer's report** - Laurie Ramey presented the [Treasurer's report](#). There are three PTAs who still have not paid their dues, she requested that their delegates meet with her after the meeting.

VII. **Safety Committee's report** - Lisa Krausz presented the Safety Committee report. This was the last update as the work of the committee is concluded. Terri Marcus and Beth Anna Varson met with Mr. Rudinski the head of safety last month to discuss their recommended addendum to Policy 3010. This addendum would put into policy that safety training would be required. Policy 3010 is under review next year. Mr. Rudinski indicated that he would like to use the recommendations that the School Safety Committee recommended.

VIII. **Legislative report** - Brent Loveless presented the [Legislative Report](#).

IX. **Superintendent's report** - Terri Marcus read a written report provided to the PTACHC board by James LeMon.

A. Registration for bus transportation next year has opened.

B. There will be a college fair this Thursday, April 11<sup>th</sup> from 6 to 8 p.m. at Howard High school.

C. Jump Start registration begins on April 11<sup>th</sup>.

D. Applications for the Superintendent will be accepted through Thursday, April 11<sup>th</sup>. Interviews will be conducted in May and the Board of Education will select and announce the new Superintendent in June. The new Superintendent's start date will be dependent on contract negotiations.

E. The graduation dates for 2025 have been announced and are posted on the HCPSS website.

X. **Board of Education report** - Dr. Chen sent a written report to the Board which was read to the delegation.

A. The election for the next Student Member of the Board (SMOB) will be on May 1<sup>st</sup>. There are two candidates, an Atholton student and a Wilde Lake student.

B. The last day of school will be Friday, June 14<sup>th</sup>.

C. The County Executive's budget presentation to the County Council will be on April 16<sup>th</sup>.

D. The remaining two meetings of the Capital Criterion Coordination Workgroup are on April 15<sup>th</sup> and April 22<sup>nd</sup>.

E. Central Office staff will seek approval from the Board to continue the current school start times and to make adjustments between the three tiers at the April 11<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.

X. **Adjournment** - the meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:00.