

PTA COUNCIL OF HOWARD COUNTY GENERAL MEETING

MONDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2024, 4TH OF 2024-25 SESSIONS

Location: Homewood School Cafeteria

- I. Call to Order at 7:31 PM, quorum was established at 7:34 PM. Board members and committee chairs in attendance:
 - Terri Marcus, President
 - Karina Fisher, Executive Vice President
 - Angela Shippet, Vice President of Operations
 - Catherine Carter, Vice President of Issues
 - Laurie Ramey, Treasurer
 - Ruth Cung, Secretary
 - Brent Loveless, Legislative Committee Chair
 - Lisa Loveless, Policy Committee Chair
- Terri Marcus read the mission statement.
- Terri presented at the 11/7/24 BoE meeting, PTACHC met with Darin Conforti, and met with Ben Schmitt of HCEA. PTACHC Board members presented at Advocacy 101 training meeting hosted by Pointers Run Elementary for all general membership. The last HB1450 Task Force meeting is on 12/3/24 and will be reported at the January 2025 meeting.
- II. Dr. Mary Klyap and Dr. Caroline Walker of the HCPSS Strategic Planning Advisory Work group presented the group's goal, process, and progress to date including the mission and vision statement. The general membership provided feedback on the mission and vision statements. The presentation to the Board of Education will be 1/16/25.
- III. Ruth Cung presented the minutes from the November 2024 General Meeting.
 - Motion to approve November 2024 General Meeting minutes as amended (spell Darin Conforti director of budget correctly)
 - All approved, no abstentions
 - Adopted
- IV. Laurie Ramey presented the Treasurer's Report, noting 12 PTAs have not submitted membership dues. Laurie also announced that she is holding a virtual Q&A session for general membership.
- V. Karina Fisher presented updates on the cell phone policy review and a brief overview of the Operating Budget.
 - Bill Basset presented updates on the cell phone policy to the BoE on 11/21 with policy recommendations. Recommendation included primary policy adjustments, clarity on definitions in the recommendations, progression of consequences, and changes to the code of conduct. The Board did not vote because BoE wanted public hearing or testimony.
- VI. Ben Schmitt presented an update from the Howard County Education Association (HCEA). The HCEA is focusing on the following: repairing connections with community through the work of the Special Education committee, future Early Educator committee, and trying to promote education careers.

- VII. James LeMon was not able to attend the meeting but provided follow up information for topics from the November general membership meeting regarding early education including: points of contact, Transition to Kindergarten, and Blueprint funding for early education.
- VIII. Dr. Linfeng Chen provided updates from the Board of Education (BoE). Dr. Chen discussed the last BoE Meeting and addressed a question from membership. New board members/re-elected board members were inaugurated.
- IX. Brent Loveless presented the Legislative report. The Howard County legislators have released positions and PTACHC will provide PTACHC positions at the January 2025 general meeting and request feedback from PT(S)As.
- X. Adjournment
 - Motion made to adjourn the meeting
 - All approved, no abstentions
 - Adjourned at 9:15 PM