

PTA COUNCIL OF HOWARD COUNTY GENERAL MEETING

Monday, March 2, 2026

Location: Homewood School Cafeteria

- I. Call to Order at 7:33 PM, quorum established. Board members and committee chairs in attendance:
 - Cat Carter, President
 - Karina Fisher, Executive Vice President
 - Laurie Ramey, Treasurer
 - Ruth Cung, Secretary
 - Keyona Butts, PTA Recruitment Chair
- Cat Carter read the mission statement and reviewed important dates for County Council, Board of Education, and PTACHC, provided a recap of her Free State PTA Legislative Advocacy Day experience including bills that were discussed e.g. book fair taxes and Artificial Intelligence (AI) guidelines, and asked for volunteers to nominate others or themselves for the PTACHC board.
- II. Laurie Ramey presented the Treasurer's report and noted there are still 17 PTAs that have not paid their dues. Ms. Ramey then presented an overview with pros and cons for the question to the general membership, "Should PTACHC apply for an IRS group exemption?" This information should be reviewed with local PTA/PTSAs to prepare for a formal vote at a future PTACHC meeting.
- III. Ruth Cung presented the minutes from the February 2026 General Meeting.
 - Motion to approve February 2026 General Meeting minutes
 - Abstained: 1 member
 - Approved: All other members
 - Disapproved: None
 - Adopted
- IV. Caroline Walker presented updates from HCPSS including information on upcoming events such as the HCPSS Family Academy conference, HCPSS Family Empowerment Academy, HBCU College and Career Fair, Special Education Resource Fair, and Friends of Education Aware Nomination period extension. She also responded to general membership questions on AI that was pushed onto high school students Chromebooks, related AI (Google Gemini) questions, and the Chromebook pilot to take place at 2-3 middle schools.
- V. Meg Ricks provided updates from the Board of Education including the make-up day schedule due to inclement weather and important upcoming meeting dates.
- VI. Keyona Butts provided an overview to the best guides for PTA Operations, Free State PTA (FSPTA) Leadership Guides, PTACHC officer and leadership resources, FSPTA training opportunities, PTACHC financial and compliance resources, required officer trainings, PTACHC events/Plan of Work, and FSPTA committee structure.
- VII. Karina Fisher presented the Executive VP report with information on the PTACHC budget one-pager for concise information on operating and capital budgets and advocacy guidance, requested membership support at the upcoming County Executive Public Hearing or through email, requested volunteers for

the upcoming PTACHC Candidate Forums, and informed of the upcoming Education Town Hall on 3/18 at Long Reach High School.

- VIII. Karina Fisher introduced the delegate activity to submit questions for the upcoming PTACHC Candidate Forums: Candidate Forum #1 on 3/14/26 for Howard County Executive candidates and State Delegation candidates and Candidate Forum #2 on 4/18/26 for BoE candidates and County Council candidates.
- IX. Adjournment: 9:00 PM