

PTA COUNCIL OF HOWARD COUNTY GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday, September 1, 2026

Location: Homewood Center Cafeteria, 10914 MD-108, Ellicott City, MD 21042

- I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by Karina Fisher, President. A quorum was established, and the PTACHC Mission Statement was read. Board members and committee chairs in attendance:
 - Karina Fisher, President
 - Karen Biederman, Executive Vice President
 - Levita Lowe, Secretary
 - Anthony DeBella, Vice President of Advocacy
 - Brent Loveless, Legislative Committee Chair
 - Lindsay Unger, Technology Committee Chair
- II. President's Report: Karina Fisher announced PTACHC's upcoming 100th anniversary and recognized new PTA delegates and/or presidents.
- III. Executive Vice President's Report: Karen Biederman introduced herself, announced that she is leading PTACHC's 100th anniversary celebration, and requested volunteers.
- IV. Secretary's Report / Approval of Minutes: Levita Lowe presented the minutes of the June 1, 2026 General Meeting.
 - Motion to approve the June 1, 2026 General Meeting minutes.
 - o Abstained: 2 members
 - o Disapproved: 0 members
 - o Approved: All other members
 - o Adopted
- V. Treasurer's Report / Approval of Budget: Presented on behalf of Laurie Ramey, Karina Fisher presented the Treasurer's Report for June, July, and August 2026, and announced upcoming board training opportunities, including two in-person sessions on September 13 and 16, annual Treasurer/President training, and GiveBack training via Free State PTA [FSPTA]
 - Motion to approve the June, July, and August 2026 financial reports.
 - o Abstained: 3 members
 - o Disapproved: 0 members
 - o Approved: All other members
 - o Adopted
- VI. Vice President of Advocacy's Report: Anthony DeBella reported on Vice President of Advocacy activities, including outreach to the Board of Education and County Council, and requested volunteers for the Budget Committee. He announced a Thursday Zoom Advocacy meeting.
- VII. Legislative Committee Report: Brent Loveless reported that the Legislative Committee is seeking volunteers and is monitoring pending legislation on capital funding.
- VIII. Board of Education Liaison Report: Meg Ricks shared her history of leadership in various PTA and PTACHC roles. She also reported that she is halfway through her four-year term on the Board of Education.

- IX. Technology Committee Report: Lindsay Unger reported that the Technology Committee's survey ran from April 24 to May 25, 2026, and received 560 responses from approximately 75 of 78 schools. Survey results were then shared via presentation.
- X. HCPSS Superintendent Presentation: Karina Fisher introduced HCPSS Superintendent Mr. William (Bill) Barnes, who presented on the theme "Strengthening Our Culture of Learning."
- XI. HCPSS Superintendent Q&A: Superintendent Barnes responded to member questions on topics including student visitor policy and school safety, school security, staffing and class sizes, transportation, academic proficiency initiatives, and facilities maintenance. No motions were made.
- XII. Closing Comments: Karina Fisher reminded members to sign in, welcomed HCPSS rep to PTACHC, James LeMon, and announced that Board of Education elections will be held in November 2026. She recognized the Technology Committee and announced Megan Brauner as the new Reflections Program Committee Chair.
- XIII. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 9:16 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Levita Lowe

Secretary, PTA Council of Howard County