

PTA Council of Howard County (PTACHC)
Meeting notes from PRES Delegate
November 1, 2016

Visit the PTACHC website for more information: <http://www.ptachc.org>

- Financial reports due – make sure treasurer filed with Maryland PTA, including the 990. Audits due Oct 31 and dues are due 11/1
- New Membership Chair – Sarah Mugo will be a resource for local PTAs to focus on increasing new membership
- Bright Minds Foundation presentation. It is the educational foundation for the HCPSS. Seeks grants and fundraises for staff and teacher grants programs. Other programs include bridging the digital divide (laptops for students in need), driving student success (bus transportation for afterschool programs), and scholarships. www.brightmindsfoundation.org
- Resource for military families—Lisa Terry – Manager of Veterans and Families lbterry@howardcountymd.gov
- New High School Graduation Requirements – check catalog online at hcpss.org – only change from last year is now 4 credits are required in math (rather than 3)
 - Also changes in state and federal assessment requirements (testing)- requirements based on when you took the course (as opposed to cohort model). Transition from HSA to PARCC and Integrated Science Assessment
 - A letter will be sent each year to show you your student’s progress toward these requirements.
 - Presentations will be posted on the PTAHC website – www.ptachc.org
- Upcoming event: #thinkb4upost – A Digital Safety Conversation – **November 14** from 6-8 p.m. at the Homewood School Cafeteria – See www.hcpss.org for more information
- Don’t forget your federal impact forms!
- Report on school disparities – last month there was a presentation on disparities in discipline. This month there was a presentation on disparities in advanced placement – identification for these courses begins in elementary school.
- Update on Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance (APFO)- Report from parent concerned about the Adequate Public Facilities policy that addresses community growth and aims to avoid over-crowding. See Howard Council Bill 55-2016 and Resolution CD 103-2016 for more information. There is an effort by downtown Columbia developers to freeze it for 40 years. Concerns that the recommendations aren’t adequate to avoid overdevelopment, overcrowding schools, higher student-teacher ratios, traffic issues, etc. Current recommendations include allowing developers to pay a fee to bypass 110% enrollment cap. Task Force report available online on County

Executive's website - <https://www.howardcountymd.gov/About-HoCo/County-Executive/Adequate-public-facilities-ordinance-task-force>

- PTACHC made a motion to make an official statement that APFO legislation stipulates that 100% maximum capacity is considered full (right now its 110%) and that this capacity includes high schools, and not just elementary and middle schools as it currently does.
- Legislative Committee Report – legislative@ptachc.org
 - General Election is Tuesday, November 8 – polls open from 7 am to 8 pm
 - Early Voting through November 3.
 - Includes Board of Education candidates. 11 candidates filed to run for 3 of 7 BOE seats that are up for election.
 - www.elections.maryland.gov
- Let your PRES delegates know if there is an issue you'd like us to raise.
- See www.ptachc.org for meeting minutes, etc. Main action items and take-aways also listed here.