

Summary of PTA Council of Howard County meeting held 3/7/2016 – notes by Teiko Campbell

- 1) Minutes from the prior month and a current Treasurer's Report will be available on the PTACHC website for review one week prior to every monthly meeting.
- 2) At the next PTAHC meeting on Monday April 4, 2016 at 7:30pm, the PTAHC will host **"Meet the Candidate"**. President Avery has invited the 11 candidates vying for the 3 (of 7) BOE seats that are up for election. Positions currently occupied by Ann DeLacy, Ellen Giles and Janet Siddiqui. Additional names on the ballot: Corey Andrews, Kirsten Coombs, Mavis Ellis, Robert Wayne Miller, Marcelino M. Bedolla, Vicky Cutroneo, Christina Delmont-Small, & Pravin Ponnuri.  
[http://www.elections.maryland.gov/elections/2016/primary\\_candidates/gen\\_cand\\_lists\\_2016\\_3\\_by\\_county\\_14.html](http://www.elections.maryland.gov/elections/2016/primary_candidates/gen_cand_lists_2016_3_by_county_14.html)
- 3) **Superintendent's Report** – (John White, HCPSS Communications Director)
  - Thursday 3/17/16 @ 6pm-9pm County Wide Military Night at River Hill High School
  - Thursday 3/17/16 @ 7:30pm, Coffee and Conversation with BOE at Dunloggin Middle School
  - As a result of the incident with students at Mount Hebron High School. The BOE established a Diversity committee. They received over a 100 applications and selected 35 people representing a diverse cross section of the community (parents/students/staff/community members). They are charged with developing recruitment, curriculum development, elevating student voice, and increasing cultural proficiency. Example: Diversity training is not mandated for teachers.
- 4) **Mount Hebron Issue – What can PTA do to help? (1 hour dedicated to this discussion)**
  - The PTSA presidents from Mount Hebron High School and Hammond High School spoke on what they did in the aftermath of the Mount Hebron High School incident. 2 takeaways: Personally invite parents from diverse communities to join the PTA Executive Board and Utilize the BOE Office of Cultural Proficiency as a resource for assistance, they can come out to moderate forums.
- 5) **Discussion of the Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) policy** - (Towanda Mitchell, Secretary PTACHC)  
Based on the results of the survey the PTAHC will take the following stance:
  - Do not extend the BYOD to elementary schools.
  - Each school should review the cell phone policy.
  - Each school should review the BYOD policy for middle school.A vote taken & passed to ask the Superintendent to give expanded authority on future technology policies by requiring input from parents and the community before it becomes approved. This will ensure greater transparency and accountability.
- 6) **Legislation** - (Donna Sudbrook, Legislative Liaison PTACHC)
  - Howard County BOE – Elected School Board, Delegate Atterbeary **DID NOT PASS**
  - The Public Charter School Improvement Act of 2015 – **BECAME LAW**
  - Howard County Public School System – Access to Public Information, Delegate Miller **CURRENTLY IN SESSION**
  - Ben's Rule, Delegate Vogt, III - **CURRENTLY IN SESSION**

- The Committee to Review Maryland's Use of Assessments and Testing in Public Schools – HB 452 **BECAME LAW**