

PTA Council of Howard County Meeting Summary & Take Aways

Nov. 2, 2016

Membership Wisdom

- PTACHC has a new Membership Chair.
- Ms. Sarah Mugo will be a resource for local PTA's with a focus to increase new Membership. Her email is: membership@ptachc.org
- Please share her words of wisdom with your PTA/ at your next local meeting –
“Let's reach out to those who have not joined yet by making personal contact and promote the value of the PTA”

Treasurer's Report

- **Audits** were due 10/31/2016 (send a copy to MDPTA of your audit report. TO DO for the treasurer: Scan and email to: office@mdpta.org. (Put your full PTA name in the subject line please)
- **PTACHC dues** are due 11/1/2016 Form is on the council website.

HCPSS New Graduation Requirements

- Presentation by Tim Guy (HCPSS Coordinator of Assessment) & Sandra Suber (HCPSS Coordinator of Student Services)
“Not much has changed except mostly testing”
- Testing: - has transitioned from the HSA to PARCC. Requirements are by when the student took course. See HCPSS website for details.
- Credits: See the course catalog that is online to see the detail of all the credits needed to graduate
- **Powerpoint presentation is on the www.ptachc.org website under the meeting tab.**

Superintendent's Report by John White

- **#thinkb4upost Digital Safety Conversation** Monday November 14, 2016 6-8 PM at Homewood School Cafeteria
- **Voices for a Drug Free Community** Jan 18th - 7-9 PM Wilde Lake High School
- “Celebrate HCPSS” newsletter is available online at HCPSS and in paper form

Discipline and School Disparity Report by Towanda Brown, PTACHC Secretary & Policy chair

- **Disparity for advanced placement**
- **Baltimore Sun Report**
- 2015 **suspension rate** of Howard county 2.5 % compared to statewide 4%
- **Suspension reasons** – code of conduct changed in 2015 – No longer can suspend for disrespect or insubordination
- **“Encourage students , they need to hear what they are doing well”**

APFO Report by Brent Loveless

- APFO - Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance For more information visit the HoCo Gov't website <https://www.howardcountymd.gov/About-HoCo/County-Executive/Adequate-public-facilities-ordinance-task-force>
- Downtown Columbia Legislative Report/Package <https://www.howardcountymd.gov/DowntownColumbia-TIF>
- Inform your PTA, communicate what you want via motions if possible before it gets voted on
- 2 bills will be voted on November 7th
- Most MD counties have APFO laws, and throughout the country
- Approved Motion at Nov. 1 PTACHC meeting: “PTACHC supports having 100% as the maximum capacity and include High Schools in the APFO testing”

BrightMinds – HCPSS Educational Foundation

- Lisa Terry presented about the Foundation. Website: www.brightmindsfoundation.org
- *Supporting education for success of all Howard County Students
- Teacher grants, laptop program (bridging the digital divide), driving student success (buses for after school), scholarships in past, Teachers for tomorrow grant programs,

PTACHC legislative Report by Donna Sudbrook

- General Election: Tuesday, November 8, 2016
- Early voting: Thursday Oct 27 - Thursday Nov 3
- Board of Ed candidates has 6 candidates , voters may vote for 3. www.elections.maryland.gov
- Gen Assembly website: www.mgaleg.maryland.gov
- MD PTA legislation agenda is on the www.mdpta.org website
- Join the email listserve to keep up to date on legislative issues