

SUSAN KATZ ASSUMES ROLE AS BALTIMORE COUNTY PTA PRESIDENT

Child advocate Susan Katz has assumed leadership of the PTA Council of Baltimore County effective July 1, 2006.

Mrs. Katz, a resident of Owings Mills, has served area children both professionally and through volunteer efforts for more than 25 years. She has served on the PTA Council since 2002 in a variety of capacities, most recently nominating committee chairperson. Mrs. Katz also has served on the Baltimore County Public Schools Northwest Area Educational Advisory Council from 2004 to 2006. She was a community representative on the boundary committees for both Windsor Mill Middle School (2005-6) and New Town High School (2002-3).

On the local level, Mrs. Katz also served Owings Mills High School as co-chair of the National PTA Parent Involvement Schools of Excellence Certification Team (certification was awarded in May 2005) and as the school's PTSA president and membership chair.

Mrs. Katz has been acknowledged for her dedication to the education of children in the community. She has received a variety of awards including Maryland PTA Life Member, Distinguished Service Award from the PTA Council of Baltimore County, and a Key to Owings Mills High School from the Owings Mills High School PTSA.

Professionally, she is director of Planning and Regulatory Affairs for Kennedy Krieger Institute, where she manages regulatory activities for the hospital, coordinates long-range planning and serves as liaison to the board of directors.

Her goals for the organization for the year ahead are simple: to lead PTA Council in its advocacy and training efforts to ensure that Baltimore County students receive a quality academic education in a safe learning environment. The council's efforts toward this goal will include strengthening relationships with local PTAs/PTSAs, the Baltimore County Public Schools, other advocacy groups, and local and state government.

"PTA Council will maintain and enhance its position as a leader and team builder as it presents a united voice on behalf of children and youth in our county," says Mrs. Katz.

"Advocacy leads to stronger parent involvement and strong parent involvement leads to higher student achievement that ensures future success."

The Baltimore County PTA Council is a key link between local PTAs and the Maryland and National PTAs. It was organized in 1950 under the authority of the Maryland PTA for the purpose of conference, leadership training and coordination of the efforts of local PTAs within Baltimore County. The PTA Council, which celebrated its 55th anniversary last October, serves more than 45,000 members in 158 local PTAs.

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