

Baltimore County Council

PTA[®]

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PTA Council of Baltimore County, Inc. | Established 1950

<https://www.bcptacouncil.org> Free State PTA: <https://www.fspta.org> National PTA: <https://www.pta.org>

MAY 2026 | BULLETIN

President's Letter

It's hard to believe that the end of the school year is almost here! This is our last bulletin until next September. Thanks to everyone who attended our **March and April General Meetings**. See below for information on the great presentations offered and for details on elections.

Here's a quick rundown of our upcoming events:

- The last **BCPS-PTA Leadership Roundtable** with Superintendent Dr. Rogers will take place on Thursday, 6/4 at 6:30pm. Presidents will receive emailed invitations.
- PTA Council Board of Directors' meeting, Thursday, 6/4 at 7:15pm via Zoom
- **Leadership Training, Monday, 6/8 at 7pm, West Towson ES Cafetorium**; attend workshops for Presidents and Other Officers/Committee Chairs (Boardsmanship) and for Treasurers. Scholarship winners and National PTA and Free State PTA Reflections winners will be recognized, as will outstanding Service-Learning Partners Program projects.

THANK YOU for your leadership -- you've truly worked to make every child's potential a reality.

Every child. One voice.

President

Leslie Weber

President

president@bcptacouncil.org

410-227-7631

Every child. One voice.



Leaders' To-Do List

MAY

- Continue to pay National PTA and Free State PTA dues (more info [here](#))
- Elect PTA officers for next school year; see your bylaws for correct election month

JUNE

- BCPS-PTA Virtual Leadership Roundtable, June 4, 6:30pm
- PTA Council Virtual Board Meeting, June 4, 7:15pm
- Leadership Training, June 8, 7pm, West Towson ES Cafetorium
- End of PTA fiscal year, close books
- AIM Insurance coverage ends June 30

JULY/AUGUST

- Prepare final report for previous fiscal year
- Plan for financial review, prepare budget
- Choose PTA committee chairs, fill remaining board positions
- Treasurer transition; complete signature cards at PTA's bank
- Upload financial review into Givebacks

Standards Of Affiliation (SoA)

In addition to paying member dues and providing officer contact information to Free State PTA (FSPTA), you must take care of the following:

- ✓ **BYLAWS:** Bylaws need to be reviewed at least every 3 years and submitted to FSPTA for approval.
- ✓ **FINANCIAL REVIEW (AUDIT):** All PTAs must conduct an annual financial review which is due to FSPTA by 10/30.
- ✓ **INSURANCE:** Every PTA unit in Maryland must have insurance coverage through AIM. Enrollment forms were emailed to all PTAs. Coverage ends 6/30/26.
- ✓ **IRS 990:** Every PTA must file annually by 11/15. If annual gross income was \$50,000 or less, you can submit the 990N e-postcard.
- ✓ **MARYLAND CHARITABLE SOLICITATIONS ACT:** As a charitable organization soliciting in MD, your unit must file documents with the Secretary of State. Registration is required prior to the commencement of solicitations (for new units) and an annual update is required by 12/30.
- ✓ **INCORPORATION/MD PERSONAL PROPERTY REPORT:** All local PTAs must be incorporated in MD. To maintain your incorporation status, a Personal Property Report must be filed by 4/15 each year if your PTA owns any property or not.

For all shared documents, be sure to keep copies for yourself!

FSPTA requires that units submit SoA documents via Givebacks!


Detailed information on how to handle all of these requirements is here:

<https://bcptacouncil.org/pta-unit-compliance>

End-of-School-Year To-Do List

The end of the school year is time for you to:

- Hold elections (based on your bylaw requirements)
- Transition to your new leadership team; discuss event outcomes and set some reachable goals
- Close out your books for the 2025-26 fiscal year and plan your year-end financial review (audit) <https://bcptacouncil.org/audits>
- Work on your 2026-27 budget and PTA calendar
- Meet with your principal to set common goals and review the PTA calendar

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| <p>PTA (National, Free State) Dues and Council Dues</p>  <p>Has your unit paid last year's and this year's PTA membership dues? Find information on how to handle dues here:</p> <p>https://bcptacouncil.org/resources/membership</p> <p>Pay council dues using the form here: https://bcptacouncil.org/resources/finances/council-dues</p> <p>Please reach out with questions!</p> | <p>Financial Review</p> <p>It's best to get your unit's review (audit) done in July or August (after the end of your 6/30 fiscal year, but before your first general meeting) so your board can work on its 2026-27 budget.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Select a committee of at least 3 people who do not have check-signing authority. • Your budget should be presented to your members at your first General Meeting. <p>https://bcptacouncil.org/audits/</p> <p>If you need help with your review, contact us!</p> |
| <p>Insurance</p> <p>AIM is your insurance carrier. They will email renewal information to units. Insurance is effective 7/1/26 to 7/1/27. Any questions? Contact AIM via https://aim-companies.com or call 1-800-876-4044.</p> | <p>Helpful Links</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Virtual meeting & elections guidance is here! • Get Your National PTA Local Leader Kit here! |
| <p>State and National PTA Conventions!</p> <p>National PTA Convention, 6/18-20, Pittsburgh</p> <p>https://www.pta.org/home/events/National-PTA-Convention</p> <p>Free State PTA Convention, 7/25-26</p> <p>Maritime Conference Center, Linthicum Heights, MD</p> <p>https://www.fspta.org/convention2026</p> <p>Training is a legitimate PTA expense.</p> | <p>PTA Council Leadership Training</p> <p>Monday, June 8, 7pm (doors open at 6:30pm), West Towson Elementary School Cafetorium</p> <p>6914 N. Charles St., Towson, 21204</p> <p>The following workshops will be offered to get ready for summer planning and the 2026-27 school year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presidents and Other Officers/Committee Chairs (Boardsmanship) • Treasurers <p>We'll also recognize the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council scholarship recipients • National PTA and Free State PTA Reflections winners • Service-Learning Partners' programs of excellence <p>To RSVP, email president@bcptacouncil.org by 6/5/26.</p> |
| <p>Upcoming Free State PTA Training for May</p> <p>Register here: https://www.fspta.org/upcomingtrainings</p> | |

Family, School And Community Partnerships

Chair Ramona Basilio (partnerships@bcptacouncil.org)



Our Service-Learning Partners (SLP) collaborated with local PTA/PTSA units, the BCPS Office of Family and Community Engagement's Student Service-Learning Program, and community partners to create meaningful and diverse hands-on service projects during GYSD, April 20-25, 2026. Students had the opportunity to earn service-learning hours needed for graduation. School-based and community projects focused on:

- **youth engagement:** Overlea HS PTSA, made possible by National PTA Youth Engagement Capacity-Building Grant
- **civics/youth voter registration:** Towson HS PTSA
- **food insufficiency/food drive:** Cockeysville MS PTSA, Franklin MS PTSA and FMS Ambassadors
- **environmental:**
 - recycling: Deer Park Middle Magnet Kids4Kids Ambassadors
 - awareness/clean-up: Hereford MS PTSA, Loch Raven Technical Academy PTSA, Sudbrook Magnet MS PTSA, Woodlawn HS PTSA
- **kindness/community-building:** "Art with Heart" Peer Mentoring Workshop, Southwest Academy PTSA

We especially want to thank our County partners:

- Councilman Mike Ertel (District 6) for hosting PTA Council and the Loch Raven Technical Academy PTSA at the 2026 Annual Towson Clean-up at the Loch Raven Recreation Center on April 18
- Councilman Julian Jones (District 4), who worked with Baltimore County Department of Recreation and Parks staff and the Sudbrook Magnet MS PTSA at the Northwest Regional Park Community Clean-up on April 25.

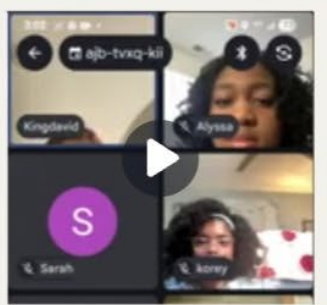
School-based Highlights!

- Overlea HS Youth Engagement Day
- Towson HS Law and Public Policy students registered 25 students to vote during their lunch period
- Deer Park Middle Magnet Kids4Kids Ambassadors collected 1,032 plastic bottles
- Sudbrook Magnet MS students organized an environmental clean-up team at Northwest Regional Park





We Called!



They Answered!



Students Collaborated and Created This!



She helped Spread the Word BY Posting Flyers After School



They competed! Boys was this hilarious to watch!



BCPS Alum leading the way!



A Student's View is Critical For Improvement!



Movie Time



Educating by Art Design Students Created Posters on issues of Importance for Ballots

Overlea High School Celebrating Global Service Learning Day @ Youth Night Congrats to our Student PTSA Leaders for Planning & Setting Up this Event!



Our Civic Engagement Poster Design Winners



Two of Many Winners for the Night!





Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (JEDI) Committee

Chair, Edwin Perez, diversity@bcptacouncil.org

Policy 1250 Approved: Protecting All Students

After months of advocacy and testimony from PTA Council and community allies, the BCPS Board of Education has voted and approved Policy 1250. This policy ensures that schools remain focused on education, not immigration enforcement. Key protections of Policy 1250 include:

- **Warrant Requirement:** ICE agents are prohibited from entering school grounds or bus stops without a judicial warrant.
- **Privacy:** Staff may not ask for or require information regarding the immigration status of students or families.
- **Mandatory Training:** All BCPS employees will receive annual training on enforcement response protocols.
- **Student Support:** Schools must provide trauma-informed counseling resources for students in mixed-status families.

We extend our gratitude to Board Member Christina Pumphrey (former PTA Council Central-area VP) for her public leadership throughout this process.

In the coming year, the Council's JEDI Committee will focus on accountability and implementation of Policy 1250.

We're committed to collaborating with the district and community partners to ensure these protections are clearly communicated and that every campus remains a safe, accessible space for every student.

Council Elections and Vacancies

If your role at a local unit is ending or if you want to get involved at the County level while also serving your unit, consider putting your experience to good use by **joining a Council committee or filling an officer vacancy**. Committee chairs serve 1-year terms and are appointed at our August meeting.

<https://bcptacouncil.org/committees> (interest form)

We held elections at our April General Meeting. Congratulations to our new officers!

President – open (current President will carry out duties until successor is elected)

VP – Ramona Basilio

Treasurer – Sara Petry

Secretary – open (current Secretary will carry out duties until successor is elected)

Area VP Central – Beth Jarrett

Area VP Northeast – Katie Fetchik

Area VP Northwest – Erica Williams

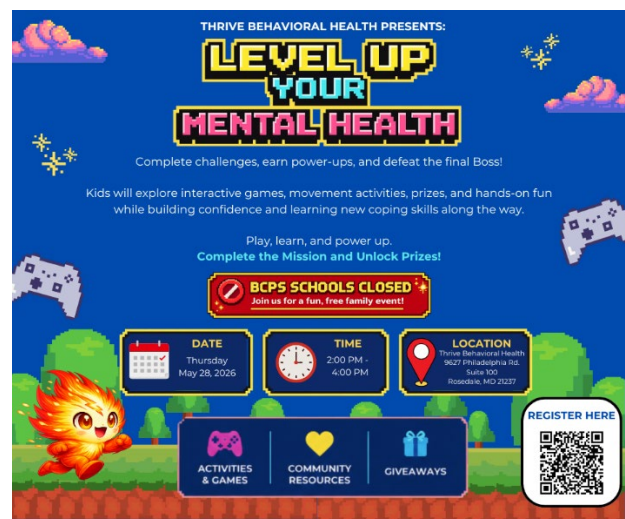
Area VP Southeast – open (current AVP will carry out duties until successor is elected)

Area VP Southwest – Kari Waters

Thrive Behavioral Health: Family Event

Thursday, May 28

The FREE Level Up Your Mental Health Fair is a video game-themed community event designed to help children build coping skills, confidence, movement, and emotional wellness through interactive games, activities, and hands-on experiences. Families will also have the opportunity to connect with community resources and supports. We're hoping to provide families with a fun, engaging activity on a day schools are closed while also helping connect them with local supports and wellness resources.



April General Meeting Presentations

Service Learning:

BCPS Office of Family and Community Engagement Program Specialist Stacey Wade offered PTA/PTSA leaders a great overview of Student Service Learning in BCPS!

https://bcptacouncil.org/home/service-learning_pta-presentation/

BCPS School-based Health Centers:

School-based health centers (SBHC) provide primary care in the schoolhouse to help keep students healthy and ready to learn. All BCPS schools have a school nurse in the health suite. Some BCPS schools also have an SBHC with a health care provider that can see students for well-child exams/sports physicals, sick visits, vaccines, health screenings, and much more. All students that attend a school with an SBHC are eligible to enroll, regardless of insurance.

For more information about our convenient health services and locations, please check the [BCPS Department of Health Services Website](#). School nurses may answer questions, facilitate appointments, and provide enrollment forms. Enrollment may also be completed in the "Wellness" tab in the FOCUS parent portal.

<https://bcptacouncil.org/health-and-safety/>

Baltimore County Department of Health Resources Vaping and Youth

Due to the increasing use of electronic cigarettes among our youth, the Baltimore County Department of Health Tobacco Program is attempting to educate parents on this latest epidemic. The BCDH would like to meet with each local PTA, either in-person or virtually, to discuss the latest data and trends on our students using vape products. These products are being marketed to young and are highly addictive.

If you would like to schedule a presentation, please contact Dan Young at 410-887-0565 or dyoung@baltimorecountymd.gov.

PTA Council's Reflections Update



Baltimore County had 6 Reflections winners at the state level - congratulations to all! The 6 winners included 2 Outstanding Interpretations, 2 Awards of Excellence, and 2 Awards of Merit.

We're proud that we had a National PTA winner this year!

Literature:

- Award of Merit (Intermediate): Phoebe Olorunnishola, Lyons Mill ES

Music Composition

- Award of Merit (Intermediate): Jack Barrett, Jacksonville ES
- Award of Excellence (High School): Josiah Brion, Towson HS

Photography:

- Outstanding Interpretation (Middle School): Leah Knuth, Hereford MS – **this entry was submitted to National PTA where it won an Award of Excellence!**
- Award of Excellence (Middle School): Piper Foltz, Cockeysville MS

Visual Arts:

- Outstanding Interpretation (Accessible Arts): Grayson Gonzalez, Prettyboy ES – **this entry was submitted to National PTA**

Congratulations to our student winners and to the PTA Reflections Chairs and PTA Presidents, officers, and board members who made the program a reality!

Website: <https://bcptacouncil.org/resources/reflections>

Congratulations!

We're proud of Edwin Perez, Chair of our Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee, for receiving the **Ann Beusch Distinguished Service Award from Maryland Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL)**.

The award was presented at the Maryland TESOL Spring Dinner and Annual Member Meeting on Friday, May 15. The recognition honors the legacy of the former state supervisor of ESOL and foreign languages by recognizing educators who demonstrate exceptional dedication to international students. Edwin's selection reflects a commitment to the advocacy and academic success of our immigrant, multicultural, and multilingual youth, a mission that remains central to the teaching and learning within our schools.



Officer Contact Info Needed!

If you've held your elections (and even if your officers will serve again next year), both PTA Council and Free State PTA need 2026-27 officer contact information! Send the name, position, home address, phone, and email for every unit's President, VP, Treasurer, and Secretary.

Use Givebacks to submit Officer Contact Information to Free State PTA.

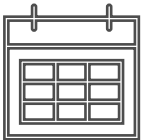
To provide information to PTA Council, send information to directory@bcptacouncil.org or use this Google form <https://forms.gle/sbbHD947cpwWWNgY7>.



BCPS Parent University FACetime Newsletter

Access resources and read their monthly newsletter here!

[https://www.bcps.org/cos/communications/FACE/parent university/facetime newsletter](https://www.bcps.org/cos/communications/FACE/parent%20university/facetime%20newsletter)



2025-26 PTA COUNCIL CALENDAR

June 8, 2026: Leadership Training, Scholarship Presentations, Reflections Winner Recognition, Service Learning Partners' Recognition, West Towson Elementary Cafetorium, 7pm

June 4, 2026: Board of Directors Meeting, 7:15pm (if interested in attending, please request a link)

PTA Council Leadership Contacts

President: Leslie Weber, president@bcptacouncil.org

Area VP Central: Beth Jarrett, avpcentral@bcptacouncil.org

Area VP: Northeast: Katie Fetchik, avpnortheast@bcptacouncil.org

Area VP Northwest: Ryan Coleman, avpnorthwest1@bcptacouncil.org

Area VP Northwest: Antoinette Barber, avpnorthwest2@bcptacouncil.org

Area VP Southeast: Will Feuer, avpsoutheast@bcptacouncil.org

Area VP Southwest, Erica Williams, avpsouthwest@bcptacouncil.org

Secretary: Andra Broadwater, secretary@bcptacouncil.org

Treasurer: Jayne Lee, treasurer@bcptacouncil.org



Committees:

Advocacy & Legislation: Beth Jarrett, legislation@bcptacouncil.org

Communications: Katie Fetchik, communications@bcptacouncil.org

Curriculum and Instruction: Carrie Horwitz Lang, curriculum@bcptacouncil.org

Extension: Emory Young, extension@bcptacouncil.org

Family, School, and Community Partnerships: Ramona Basilio, partnerships@bcptacouncil.org

Health & Safety: Andra Broadwater, health@bcptacouncil.org

Justice, Equity, Diversity & Inclusion: Edwin Perez, diversity@bcptacouncil.org

Multilingual Community Partnership: Edwin Perez, eperez@bcps.org

Nominating Committee: Melissa Sivels, Chair, nominations@bcptacouncil.org (full committee on our website)

Reflections: reflections@bcptacouncil.org

Scholarships: Angie Obaza, awards@bcptacouncil.org

Representatives:

Baltimore County Student Councils: Hiyall Fitsum

Baltimore County Public Schools: Sue Hahn, shahn2@bcps.org

Teachers' Association of Baltimore County: Lloyd Allen, lallen@mseanea.org