

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>

JANUARY 2023 | BULLETIN

President's Letter

Happy 2023! We hope the first half of the school year was successful for your PTA.

We recently said goodbye to our long-time TABCO liaison Marcie Cooke – we truly appreciated her educator's insights. We also bid farewell to Central Area VP Christina Pumphrey, who was elected to serve on the Board of Education (BOE). We know her extensive PTA leadership experience will make her an outstanding board member. We welcome Marcie's successor, TABCO VP Kelly Olds – thank you for volunteering to fill this important position on our board! We also welcome new Baltimore County Student Councils (BCSC) liaison Toyosi Dada, a junior at Towson High School. It's crucial to have student voice on our board.

We hope that your unit filed its **IRS 990 form** (due on November 15) and **Maryland Charitable Solicitations Act filing** (due on December 31). Both are key to keeping your corporation "in good standing." Please reach out if you need help!

We're excited to announce that our next **General Meeting** will be held on January 26 at 7pm via Zoom. After a brief business meeting, attendees will learn from Free State PTA about membership resources and from BCPS about the online BCPS Event Manager and related insurance requirements. We hope to see you there! See page 4 for details.

Our **Virtual President/Treasurer Training** held on November 15 was fantastic. Thanks to all who attended. We hope to hold more virtual sessions to help you run your unit. Of course, whenever you have an issue or question, please reach out. We're here to support you.

Thanks, too, to the Presidents who attended our November **BCPS Leadership-PTA Meeting**. Our next virtual meeting will take place on February 2 at 6:15pm. Invitations will be sent to unit Presidents before the meeting. **Please send me topics you'd like to discuss at upcoming meetings.**

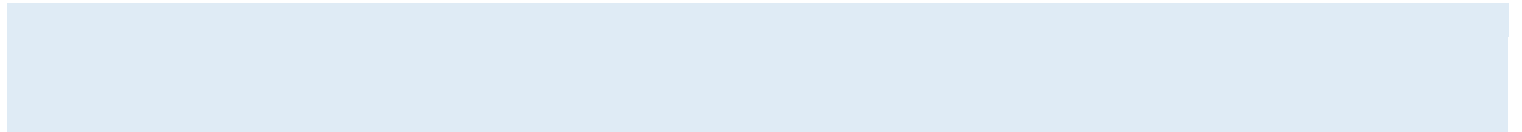
Our **Awards, Recognition and Scholarships Committee** is looking for your nominees for recognition awards, outstanding educator awards, Unit of Excellence awards, and “Top Program” awards. Program awards will recognize units which have established strong family, school, and community partnerships. We’re also seeking BCPS seniors (who are members of a PTA/PTSA in good standing) interested in applying for PTA Council scholarships. Information will be finalized soon, and will be available on our website and emailed to all presidents.

PTA Council represents PTA/PTSA units and members in a number of ways. Our members serve on BCPS and County commissions, taskforces, and workgroups, and we attend many BCPS/County events. For example, we canceled our December board meeting to take part in the BCPS Community Conversation on Safe and Supportive Environments held at George Washington Carver Center for Arts and Technology on December 1.

Thank you for all you do to help "make every child's potential a reality by engaging and empowering families and communities to advocate for all children."

Feel free to contact me or any of our board members for ANY HELP YOU NEED!

Every child. One voice,
President
Leslie Weber
president@bcptacouncil.org
410-227-7631





Leaders' To-Do List

JANUARY

- ❖ Pay FSPTA and NPTA dues
- ❖ Review awards packet.
- ❖ Review bylaws to determine date and process for selection of local PTA Nominating Committee
- ❖ Start thinking about filing MD Annual Report and/or Personal Property Tax Return (see <http://bcptacouncil.org/personal-property-taxes/> for details)
- ❖ If not yet done, file 990 and MD Charitable Solicitations Form (for help, contact Treasurer John Ryan; forms must be filed to retain status as active PTA and fundraise in Maryland)

FEBRUARY

- ❖ Pay FSPTA and NPTA membership dues
- ❖ Review awards packet
- ❖ 990 form due if extension was filed in November

Visit our [Resources Section](#) to access our yearly planning list to remind you of key dates and tasks.

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. All units should have submitted bylaws to FSPTA by 6/1/22. If you still need to do this, use the template here: <https://www.fspta.org/bylaws>
- ✓ **FINANCIAL REVIEW (AUDIT):** All PTAs must conduct an annual financial review (due 10/30) and email a copy to FSPTA at jlee@fspta.org. Refer to "Cash Encounters" in the Finances section of our website for a sample report.
- ✓ **INSURANCE:** Every PTA unit in Maryland must have insurance coverage through AIM. Enrolment forms were emailed to all PTAs. Coverage ended 6/30/22. See the PTA Council website's Finances/Insurance section for details.
- ✓ **IRS 990:** Every PTA must file annually by 11/15. If annual gross income was \$50,000 or less, you can submit the 990 e-postcard. Provide a copy of the 990 filing to FSPTA at jlee@fspta.org. More details here: <https://www.irs.gov/charities-and-nonprofits>
- ✓ **MARYLAND CHARITABLE SOLICITATIONS ACT UPDATE:** As a charitable organization soliciting in Maryland, your unit must file documents with the Office of the Secretary of State. Registration is required prior to the commencement of solicitations (for new units) and an annual update is required. <https://sos.maryland.gov/Charity/Pages/Registering-Charity.aspx>
- ✓ **INCORPORATION/MARYLAND PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX RETURN:** All local PTAs must be incorporated in Maryland. To maintain your incorporation status, a Personal Property Tax Return must be filed by April 15 each year if your PTA owns any property or not. Send a copy to FSPTA at jlee@fspta.org. Check your status here: www.dat.state.md.us. If your unit is not incorporated or the incorporation needs to be revived, contact FSPTA.

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

BCPS STAKEHOLDER CLIMATE SURVEY

The **BCPS Stakeholder Climate Survey** will be available January 30, 2023 through a link on the BCPS web page. The survey is for all stakeholders: students in grades 3–12, parents/caregivers, community members, and all staff.

Anyone may take the survey via smart phone, tablet, or computer. It takes five minutes or less to complete, is anonymous, and is available in 20 languages for students, parents/caregivers, and community members. The information from this survey will help BCPS understand how to best support all stakeholders and to improve student and organizational performance.

BCPS employees who are also BCPS parents/caregivers, and parents/caregivers with children in more than one school are encouraged to take the survey more than once to reflect their experience with each role or with each child's school.

BCPS PARENT

UNIVERSITY A go-to hub for family resources! Please share this link with your members!

<http://www.bcps.org/parentuniversity>

PARENT UNIVERSITY FACETIME NEWSLETTER HOME EDITION

A great resource for your families!

<https://www.smores.com/u/parentuniversity>

PTA COUNCIL AWARDS

We will honour the people and programs that make local PTAs shine at our **annual Awards Celebration, "A Night of Shining Stars," on Thursday, April 27, 2023, location to be announced.**

PTAs having paid Council dues can submit nomination forms, which will soon be available on our website and emailed to units.

- **Unit of Excellence Award** – honors each PTA/PTSA demonstrating performance beyond the Standards of Affiliation (SoA).
- **Recognition Award** – to give each PTA/PTSA the opportunity to have one of its members, parents, teachers, staff members or volunteers receive recognition for doing a great job. Each unit may **nominate ONE individual** for recognition, which is awarded at three levels (PTA Council Awards Committee determines which level is warranted).
- **"Top Program" Award** – to give each PTA/PTSA the opportunity to showcase its programs and partnerships. We will recognize units which have established strong family, school, and community partnerships.
- **Outstanding Educator of the Year Award** – to give each PTA/PTSA the opportunity to recognize a member of its school's staff. There will be one primary and one secondary Educator of the Year Award presented for the entire county. (Note: This award is based on performance during the 2022-23 school year, not a lifetime achievement award.)

NOMINATIONS DUE MARCH 30! For more information, email awards@bcptacouncil.org or visit our website: <http://bcptacouncil.org/awards/top-program-awards/>

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Your first dues payment to Free State PTA was due on October 1st.

Invoices should be paid to Free State PTA monthly.

Info on how to pay dues is here:
<https://www.fspta.org/membership>

COUNCIL DUES

Invoices were mailed to all units in September and were due on October 1. Reminders were sent in December. *Please send in your unit's dues (\$5 total amount due) as soon as possible.*

Mail payment (check) to:
PTA Council Treasurer John Ryan
3014 Sixth Ave.
Baltimore, MD 21234.

If you have questions, email
treasurer@bcptacouncil.org

PTA COUNCIL GENERAL MEETING & PRESENTATIONS

THURSDAY, JANUARY 26 @ 7PM VIA ZOOM

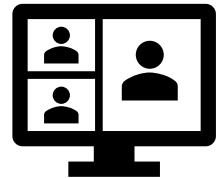
Following a brief General Meeting, our program will feature:

- Traci Tatum, Free State PTA's Vice President of Membership, who will share membership resources
- Debbie Gogel from the BCPS Office of Facilities Operations, who will present on using the online BCPS Event Manager and related insurance requirements

Our meetings are open to the public; you don't need to be a PTA member to attend! Only voting delegates (up to 4) named by a PTA/PTSA unit president may vote in the business portion of the meeting, however.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3948082958>

To RSVP, email president@bcptacouncil.org by 1/25/23!



National PTA Legislative Conference

Join fellow PTA members for LegCon on March 7-8! This year will be a fully virtual experience, where you will hear about emerging issues for children and families, network with fellow PTA advocates and speak with your members of Congress about issues important to you and your community. [Register now!](#)

PTA COUNCIL SCHOLARSHIPS

We offer scholarships to BCPS high school seniors; selections are made in May based on the following factors: Student's membership in a Baltimore County PTA in good standing; Essay; Academic Record; Student Resume



In addition to regular scholarships, PTA Council grants two special scholarships:

- **The Georgie Clevenger Memorial Scholarship** for a graduating senior planning on a career in nursing
- **The Marilyn Ryan Memorial Scholarship** for a graduating senior with exceptional volunteering or community service

Application due on 4/27/2023! Find application & details here:

<http://bcptacouncil.org/scholarships>

Watch for a flyer and info on social media. The application will also be shared with BCPS Guidance Departments.

FOCUS ON FAMILY ENGAGEMENT AND PARTNERSHIPS

The PTA Council of Baltimore County's Family, School, and Community Partnerships (FSCP) Committee is focusing on increasing support for multilingual students and their families through establishing strategic partnerships. The FSCP Committee is working with the BCPS Office of Family and Community Engagement, ESOL Office, ESOL Welcome Center, and Northwest Area Education Advisory Council on the ESOL Outreach Initiative. At our January board meeting, we voted to streamline our annual "top program" awards to focus on family engagement, outreach, and partnerships, and to award grants to units to help them with their established and sustainable partnerships.

More info will be available on our website soon!

BCPS PARTNERSHIP SPOTLIGHT NEWSLETTER: LOOKING FOR SUCCESSFUL PTA-COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

We asked in our November bulletin and we're asking again! We'd like to know if your PTA unit has established successful community partnerships! As an established BCPS partner, we have a space in the monthly BCPS Partnership Spotlight Newsletter.

Please reach out to our Family, School, and Community Partnerships (FSCP) Committee Chair Ramona Basilio (familyschool@bcptacouncil.org) to let her know about the partnerships you've created.

Pictures would be greatly appreciated.



INFORMATION FROM FREE STATE PTA TREASURER BRUCE BUTZ

➤ **IRS 990**

All local PTA units were required to complete one of the 990 forms for the IRS. This should have been submitted to IRS by November 15. Please provide a copy of either the 990, 990EZ or the 990N to Free State PTA via mail (5730 Cottonworth Ave., Box 20924, Baltimore, MD 21209) or via email to finance@fspta.org. But the easiest method is to upload the document through MemberHub.

➤ **Secretary of State's Maryland Charitable Solicitation Act**

Local PTAs with a gross income of \$25,000 are required to register, or annually renew their registration, as a charitable organization with the Office of the Secretary of State and have submitted the fee by the end of December. For those locals who filed the e-postcard for the 990-N, but had an income of less than \$25,000, you can complete the Exempt Organization Fund-Raising Notice. No fee is required. Those locals filing a 990-N with gross incomes of \$25,000 but less than \$50,000 will have to complete the COF-85 located on the Secretary of State's website along with the Annual Update of Registration. Those locals with over \$50,000 in gross income will be required to complete the annual update of registration and provide a copy of their 990EZ. Please be sure to provide Free State PTA with a copy of your submissions to the Secretary of State or upload them through MemberHub.

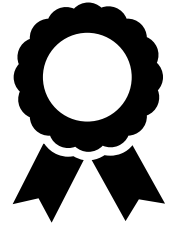
Free State PTA's Financial Guide, the former Cash Encounters, is in the process of being reformatted and revised with updated information on online banking, credit/debit, and gift card usage. With the exception of these topics, the most recent copy of Cash Encounters in your possession will still be pretty applicable.

Questions or concerns can be sent to bbutz@fspta.org.

REFLECTIONS

Update From PTA Council Reflections Chair

Local unit PTA submissions are at the county level for judging and will be submitted to FSPTA in late January. FSPTA announces recipients in March; NPTA announces recipients in May.



The PTA Council Reflections Ceremony is planned for

Sunday, March 19 at 2pm

at Cockeysville Middle School

Slogan: "Reflect, Create, Celebrate!"

Website: <https://bcptacouncil.org/resources/reflections> with link to <https://sites.google.com/view/bcreflect/home>

Facebook: @bcreflect ~ **Twitter:** @bcptareflec

For questions or assistance, please contact: Hope Metzler, reflections@bcptacouncil.org

2022-23 PTA COUNCIL CALENDAR

GENERAL MEETINGS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

(virtual or in-person, to be decided based on BCPS policy and health conditions)

- January 26, 2023: Meeting/Program, 7pm
- March 19, 2023: Reflections, 2pm
- March 30, 2023: Meeting/Program, 7pm
- April 27, 2023: Meeting, Awards, 7pm
- June 12, 2023: Officer Training, 7pm

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETINGS

First Thursday of the Month @ 7pm (virtual meetings until further notice; if interested in attending, please request a link):

- January 5
- February 2
- March 2
- April 13
- May 4
- June 1



OFFICER CONTACT INFO NEEDED

PTA Council and Free State PTA both need:

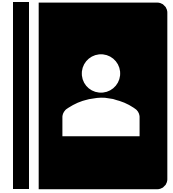
Unit (School) Name, Position, Name, Email address, Home address

Phone number

Share with PTA Council by emailing directory@bcptacouncil.org, or use this form: <https://forms.gle/uvtvdL1fVukpbdyY6>

Share with Free State PTA by emailing Secretary Jayne Lee, jlee@fspta.org

PTA COUNCIL LEADERSHIP CONTACTS



- ❖ President: Leslie Weber, president@bcptacouncil.org
- ❖ VP for Leadership: Jayne Lee, baltimorecountyppta@gmail.com
- ❖ Area VP Central Area: Christina Pumphrey, avpcanc@bcptacouncil.org
- ❖ Area VP Northwest Area: Ryan Coleman, avpnwnc@bcptacouncil.org
- ❖ Area VP Southeast Area: Will Feuer, avpsenc@bcptacouncil.org
- ❖ Secretary: Andra Broadwater, secretary@bcptacouncil.org
- ❖ Treasurer: John Ryan, treasurer@bcptacouncil.org

Committees

- ❖ Advocacy & Legislation: Beth Jarrett, legislation@bcptacouncil.org
- ❖ Awards, Recognition & Scholarships: Christina Pumphrey, awards@bcptacouncil.org
- ❖ Communications (Social Media, Publicity): Hope Metzler, communications@bcptacouncil.org
- ❖ Curriculum & Instruction: Carrie Horwitz Lang, curriculum@bcptacouncil.org
 - Exceptional Students Subcommittee: Jason Dowell, exceptional@bcptacouncil.org
- ❖ Extension: Emory Young, extension@bcptacouncil.org
- ❖ Family-School & Community Partnerships: Ramona Basilio, familyschool@bcptacouncil.org
- ❖ Health & Safety: Andra Broadwater, health@bcptacouncil.org
- ❖ Justice, Equity, Diversity & Inclusion (previously Diversity & Inclusion): Vacant
- ❖ Nominating Committee: Vacant
- ❖ Reflections: Hope Metzler, reflections@bcptacouncil.org

Representatives

- ❖ BCPS: Sue Hahn, shahn2@bcps.org and Charlie Herndon, cherndon@bcps.org
- ❖ BCSC: Toyosi Dada
- ❖ TABCO: Kelly Olds, kolds@mseanea.org



Contact us!

PTA Council of Baltimore County, President Leslie Weber, c/o Seneca Elementary School
545 Carrollwood Rd., Middle River, MD 21220

❖ www.bcptacouncil.org