

**Baltimore County Council**

**PTA**<sup>®</sup>

*everychild. onevoice.*

# January 2020 BULLETIN

**PTA Council of Baltimore County, Inc.**

**Established 1950**

**[www.bcptacouncil.org](http://www.bcptacouncil.org)**

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Maryland PTA: [www.mdpta.org](http://www.mdpta.org)  
National PTA: [www.pta.org](http://www.pta.org)

Happy New Year! I hope that everyone has spent quality time with their family and friends throughout the holiday season.

The school year is halfway over, but we have a lot of work to still do. If you didn't file either your 990 or your Maryland Charitable Forms and need help doing so, please contact our treasurer John Ryan ([treasurer@bcptacouncil.org](mailto:treasurer@bcptacouncil.org)) or contact the MDPTA office and staff will help you (410-760-6221). These tax forms must be filed to retain your status as an active PTA and to do any fundraising in Maryland.

Now is the time to get your nominating committee up and running so that elections can take place for the next school year. If you need help

contact us and we can offer guidance and advice.

Applications for Scholarships and Council Awards are open. See information on our website and in this newsletter. Every PTA should at minimum nominate an educator/staff member and a member of their PTA for recognition. It's a great way to say "Thank You" and recognize hard work.

PTA Council of Baltimore County represents YOU and we need your feedback and participation.

Please attend our January 30th General Meeting at Loch Raven HS. Doors open at 7pm and we'll begin at 7:30pm. There will be a highly interactive workshop with

TALLsmall Productions which will help with skills in running productive and effective meetings and learning top dos and don'ts in engaging your parents. We'll also have a discussion on this year's legislative session. This is your opportunity to bring motions and ideas forward that you want us to advocate for as well as a chance to ask any questions and to network with other PTA leaders.

As always, feel free to contact me with any questions, suggestions, ideas for future meetings, or support.

*Every child. One voice.*

**Jayne H. Lee**

**President**

[president@bcptacouncil.org](mailto:president@bcptacouncil.org)

**410-446-1549**

## FY20 TOBACCO EDUCATION GRANTS

The Baltimore County Department of Health, Bureau of Behavioral Health is accepting grant applications from Baltimore County public middle and high schools. Grants should address strategies to prevent tobacco use and provide education on smokeless tobacco, secondhand smoke exposure, electronic cigarette/JUUL use, and consequences of tobacco use.

All pertinent information, including the grant application, is available here:

<http://bcptacouncil.org/fy20-tobacco-education-grants/>

Questions? Contact Tobacco Services Supervisor Maryam Baharloo at 410-887-0592 or [mbaharloo@baltimorecountymd.gov](mailto:mbaharloo@baltimorecountymd.gov)

**PTA COUNCIL GENERAL MEETING  
THURSDAY, JANUARY 30, 2020**

Loch Raven High School Cafeteria  
Doors open at 7pm; meeting and program 7:30 to 9pm

*Free and open to the public. This event will be canceled if schools are closed.*

Four voting delegate cards for each local unit will be at the registration desk. Presidents who have predetermined delegates should forward names to President Jayne Lee at [president@bcptacouncil.org](mailto:president@bcptacouncil.org), otherwise we will give delegate cards to the first four people from your PTA who sign in and present their membership cards. The PTA Council President will allow all attendees to participate, but our rules specify that membership cards must be presented to obtain a voting delegate card and that only four members from each PTA can vote. **THANK YOU!**

**FEATURED PRESENTATION: Utilizing Storytelling to Inspire Action**

The fastest way to generate parent involvement in the PTA is to use effective storytelling that draws on emotions and translates to action. In this highly interactive workshop, Keith Scott and Rebecca Klein Scott of TALLsmall Productions will engage PTA members in a series of games and modules to learn how to:

- ⇒ tell effective stories without a script
- ⇒ read the room and pivot to meet the audience where they are
- ⇒ ditch the filler words and weak language that causes people to tune out
- ⇒ adopt body language that encourages connection and displays confidence
- ⇒ learn top do's and don'ts
- ⇒ find out how to use these same skills to run effective meetings

**About TALLsmall Productions**

Keith Scott and Rebecca Klein Scott co-founded TALLsmall Productions with the mission of helping people communicate in a clear, concise, and engaging style that results in action.

**OTHER EVENT HIGHLIGHTS:**

- ⇒ hear an update on legislation affecting education
- ⇒ network with other local PTA leaders
- ⇒ raise questions and issues for discussion; PTA Council board members will do their best to address them

**PTA COUNCIL AWARDS**

**It's not too early to start thinking about nominating an outstanding volunteer, educator, or PTA program!**

**PTA Council Awards are a special way to show how much your unit appreciates someone or how much your school benefits from a program you run!**

*Recipients are recognized during the annual awards celebration held during the PTA Council General Meeting on April 30, 2020 at Loch Raven High School at 7pm.*

PTAs having paid Council dues can submit nomination forms, which will be sent soon or can be downloaded from our website: <http://www.bcptacouncil.org/awards/top-program-awards/>

- ⇒ ***Unit of Excellence Award*** for PTAs performing beyond the Standards of Continuing Affiliation (SoCA)
- ⇒ ***Special Recognition Award*** to give each PTA the opportunity to have one of its members, parents, teachers, staff members or volunteers receive countywide recognition for doing a great job
- ⇒ ***Outstanding Educator of the Year*** to honor one primary and one secondary educator
- ⇒ ***Top Program Awards*** to give each PTA the opportunity to showcase as many as 12 of its best programs

*Membership Theme/Campaign ~ Reading Program ~ Male Involvement Program  
Student Recognition Program ~ Safety Awareness Program ~ Healthy Lifestyles Program  
Substance Abuse Prevention Program ~ Advocacy Program ~ Diversity Awareness Program  
PTA Communication ~ Family-School Partnership Program ~ Community Outreach Program*

**NOMINATIONS ARE DUE ON APRIL 2!**

Nominations may be submitted via interschool mail (Cockeysville Middle School, Attn: PTA Council), US mail, email, or in person at the March 26th PTA Council General Meeting at Loch Raven High School at 7pm or before the start of the April 2nd PTA Council Board of Directors' Meeting at 7pm in the Greenwood Mansion Boardroom.

**For more information, email [awards@bcptacouncil.org](mailto:awards@bcptacouncil.org) or visit our website:**

**<http://bcptacouncil.org/awards/top-program-awards/>**

**PTA COUNCIL SCHOLARSHIPS**

PTA Council offers scholarships (\$500 on average) to high school seniors in Baltimore County Public Schools! The following factors will be considered with each application:

Membership in a PTA in good standing ~ Financial Need  
Academic Record ~ Student Resume ~ Essay

Applications are due **April 2, 2020!**

Application and details here: <http://bcptacouncil.org/scholarships/>

**BCPS 2019 STAKEHOLDER SURVEY  
OPEN JANUARY 27 to MARCH 1!**

<https://www.bcps.org/teamBCPS/stakeholder/>

Open to Students in Grades 3-12 and all parents/caregivers, community members, and staff.

- ⇒ Takes 5 minutes or less
- ⇒ Available in 16 languages
- ⇒ Can take survey on phone, tablet, or computer

**BCPS FY2021  
OPERATING BUDGET  
PUBLIC HEARING**

January 14, 2020 at 7pm (snow date 1/15/20)  
Building E, Room 114, Greenwood Campus

Public may also comment on the budget at the Board of Education's Operating Budget Work Session on January 21 (snow date 1/22/20)

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**Maryland PTA Night in Annapolis  
Thursday, February 13, 6pm - 8pm**

Maryland House Office Building  
6 Bladen Street, Room 170, Annapolis, MD 21401

Come out and meet your Legislators! Let your voice be heard!

We'll email the reservation link when it's available.

Email [info@mdpta.org](mailto:info@mdpta.org) with questions

**BCPS PARENT  
UNIVERSITY**

Full schedule of events on its website:

<http://www.bcps.org/parentu/schedule/fullSchedule.pdf>

**BCPS E-NEWSLETTER**

Sign up to receive this weekly information-packed newsletter!

<http://www.bcps.org/news/TeamBCPSNewsletter.html>

**2019-20 PTA COUNCIL CALENDAR**

***General Meetings and Special Events***  
*PTAs in good standing receive four voting delegate cards*  
*(delegates need PTA membership cards to vote)*

**January 30, 2020: Meeting and Program, Loch Raven HS, 7pm**  
**March 22, 2020: Reflections Ceremony, Cockeysville MS, 2pm**  
**March 26, 2020: Meeting and Program, Loch Raven HS, 7pm**  
**April 30, 2020: Meeting & Council Awards, Loch Raven HS, 7pm**  
**June 11, 2020: Council Leadership Training, location TBA, 7pm**

***Board of Directors'***  
***Meetings***

**Thursdays @ 7pm in  
 Greenwood Mansion  
 Boardroom  
 6901 Charles St., Towson**

**2020:**  
 January 2, February 6, March 5,  
 April 2, May 7, June 4

**HOW TO FIND US!**

**Mailing address:** c/o President Jayne Lee  
 2311 Sugarcone Rd., Baltimore MD 21209  
 (When using **interschool mail**, put Attn: PTA Council,  
 Cockeysville MS on envelope)

**Website:** [www.bcptacouncil.org](http://www.bcptacouncil.org)

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/BCPTAC>

**Twitter:** Follow @BCPTA

**President:** Jayne Lee, [president@bcptacouncil.org](mailto:president@bcptacouncil.org)

**Area VP Central Area** Christina Pumphrey,

[avpcanc@bcptacouncil.org](mailto:avpcanc@bcptacouncil.org)

**Area VP Northeast Area** Frances Craig,

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**Area VP Southeast Area:** Kim Barnhouser

[avpsenc@bcptacouncil.org](mailto:avpsenc@bcptacouncil.org)

**Secretary:** Leslie Weber

[secretary@bcptacouncil.org](mailto:secretary@bcptacouncil.org)

**Treasurer:** John Ryan

[treasurer@bcptacouncil.org](mailto:treasurer@bcptacouncil.org)

**LEADER'S TO-DO LIST****JANUARY**

- Pay MD PTA and National PTA membership dues monthly
- Attend the BCPS FY20 Operating Budget Hearing, 1/14, Greenwood Building E, 7pm
- Review Council 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)
- Attend PTA Council General Meeting, 1/30, 7pm, Loch Raven HS

**FEBRUARY**

- Pay MD PTA and National PTA membership dues
- Review Council Awards packet
- Federal 990 form due if extension was filed in November
- PTA Night in Annapolis, 2/13

**JANUARY 2020 SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE**

Greetings Team BCPS parents and teachers,

**Happy New Year!**

Looking back at this school year, it is my pleasure to highlight just a few of our achievements:

Dundalk Elementary School welcomed students and staff to its new building, and Watershed Public Charter School welcomed its first students.

Eastern Technical and Towson High Schools were named among the nation's 500 best high schools for STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) by Newsweek and STEM.org, and six more high schools joined them on the Top 5000 STEM High Schools list: Catonsville, Dulaney, George Washington Carver Center, Hereford, Pikesville, and Western Tech.

Stemmers Run Middle School became our first International Baccalaureate World School for the Middle Years Programme.

Pinewood Elementary School was named our 22nd National Blue Ribbon School.

BCPS was awarded the prestigious Annual Achievement of Excellence in Procurement® for the 15th consecutive year, and the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the 23rd consecutive year.

**Let's keep up the great work!**

Last month, I shared the [Report on the 100-Day Entry Plan](#), which examined successes, challenges, and recommendations. In the report, I identified the following priorities based on feedback from stakeholder workgroups, as well as a summary of 10 Community Conversations:

Increase achievement for all students while preparing a variety of pathways to prepare students for career and college.

Provide a safe, orderly, and caring environment for students and staff.

Recruit and retain a qualified, highly effective and diverse workforce, and create a systemwide professional development plan to improve work performance.

Communicate, engage, and partner with our parents and communities.

Ensure resources are aligned to our system priorities and are distributed efficiently and effectively.

As we move forward, you are invited to stay involved in the [budget process](#) for FY2021, as well as prepare for the system's next multiyear strategic plan.

Looking ahead, please join our celebration of BCPS pride by wearing blue and posting on social media using #BCPSblue on Team BCPS Day, which is Thursday, January 9. We also look forward to your feedback on the 2020 BCPS Stakeholder Survey, which will be available on the [BCPS home page](#) from Monday, January 27, through Sunday, March 1.

As always, I hope you're following our progress through the Team BCPS weekly e-newsletter. If not, [subscribe](#) and stay in the loop!

Sincerely,

Darryl L. Williams, Ed.D.

*Superintendent*