

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>

MARCH 2023 | BULLETIN

President's Letter

It's hard to believe that this is the next-to-last PTA Council bulletin. We'll publish our last one in May. This edition will be brief, focusing on a few key items:

- Reflections Ceremony on 3/19
- PTA Council Awards and Recognitions (application due on 3/30)
- PTA Council General Meeting on 3/30
- PTA Council Scholarships (application due on 4/27)
- Maryland Personal Property Tax Form (due on 4/15)
- PTA Council General Meeting and Awards Ceremony on 4/27

Mark your calendars for our **March General Meeting on Thursday, 3/30 at 7pm via Zoom**. After a brief business meeting, attendees will take part in a health and safety forum which is being planned. Hope to see you there!

Thanks to the Presidents who attended our February and March **BCPS Leadership-PTA Meetings**. We hope you continue to find them useful.

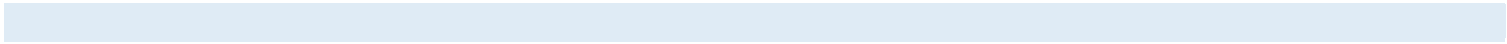
If your unit is holding **elections** this spring, it's time to put your nominating committee in place. This committee identifies new leaders to keep your unit moving forward. If you need help with nominations or the election process, contact us.

National PTA and Free State PTA membership dues: while you should continue selling memberships and collecting dues, to be in "good standing" and to determine the number of delegates you may send to the Free State PTA Convention, you must remit dues for at least 10 members by March 31!

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	Standards Of Affiliation (SoA)
<p>MARCH</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Pay FSPTA and NPTA dues ❖ Review bylaws to determine date and process for selection of local unit PTA Nominating Committee ❖ Council award nominations due 3/30 <p>APRIL</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Pay FSPTA and NPTA membership dues ❖ Personal Property Tax Returns due by 4/15; all PTAs must file to maintain incorporation status (http://bcptacouncil.org/personal-property-taxes/) ❖ Council scholarship nominations due 4/27 ❖ Publish your nominating committee's slate of officers; check your bylaws for specifics ❖ Elect officers for next school year; see bylaws for correct election month <p>Visit our Resources Section to access our yearly planning list to remind you of key dates and tasks.</p>	<p>In addition to paying member dues and providing officer contact information to Free State PTA (FSPTA), you must take care of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 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. <p><i>For all shared documents, be sure to keep copies for yourself!</i></p>

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

BCPS invites parents/caregivers and community members to participate in the annual review of the BCPS and Title I Systemwide Family Engagement Plan.

Take a few minutes to review the plan and send feedback!

[BCPS and Title I Systemwide Family Engagement Plan Feedback.](#)

PTA COUNCIL LEGISLATIVE SESSION TESTIMONY

- We support House Bill 0210, a bill governing the selection of members of Baltimore County's hybrid Board of Education (BOE) to have appointed members and elected members take seats on the Baltimore County BOE on a staggered basis.
- We support House Bill 348, a bill to improve how vacancies on the Baltimore County Board of Education (BOE) are filled by expediting the process.
- We support Senate Bill 557, a bill which aims to expand access to school meals by providing state funds to cover the cost of school breakfast and school lunch for all students in schools participating in the National School Lunch or School Breakfast Program.
- We support House Bill 514, a bill which would increase the appropriation for Maryland Meals for Achievement (MMFA) In-Classroom Breakfast Program to allow for all eligible Maryland schools to participate in this program.

For additional information on the PTA's Legislative activities, contact Advocacy & Legislation Chair Beth Jarrett, legislation@bcptacouncil.org.

MEMBERSHIP DUES

National PTA and Free State PTA membership dues: while you should continue selling memberships and collecting dues, to be in "good standing" and to determine the number of delegates you may send to the Free State PTA Convention, you must remit dues for at least 10 members by March 31!

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. *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.

BCPS PARENT UNIVERSITY

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

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

PARENT UNIVERSITY FACETIME NEWSLETTER HOME EDITION

A great resource for your families!
<https://www.smore.com/u/parentuniversity>

PTA COUNCIL GENERAL MEETING & PRESENTATIONS

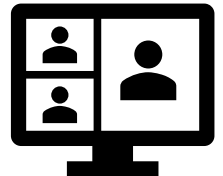
THURSDAY, MARCH 30 @ 7PM VIA ZOOM

Following a brief General Meeting, our program will feature a health & safety forum.

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 3/29/23!



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/>

NATIONAL PTA DAY OF SERVICE

PTAs will activate Earth Day activities on Saturday, April 22, 2023, and build a better environment in their local community and have fun! Your PTA Day of Service project can be an Earth Day event already being planned or something new. What’s most important is that the event is meaningful to your PTA community. Your unit’s service project should focus on the theme: A Better Environment

PTAs are encouraged to partner and collaborate with eco-conscious and friendly businesses, local organizations, and nonprofits focused on improving the environment such as nature centers, state and local parks and 4-H clubs, etc. More information is available here: [Day of Service - Earth Day | National PTA](#)

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.

SPECIAL EDUCATION UPDATE

BCPS SPECIAL EDUCATION RESOURCE CENTER (SERC) and PTA SPECIAL EDUCATION LIAISONS (SEL)

Did you know such a resource existed? It does and it's in Parkville:

White Oak School
8401 Leefield Road, Baltimore, MD 21234
443-809-5443

The [Special Education Resource Center](#) is for all families and staff.

Consider voting at a board meeting on adding a Special Education Liaison (SEL) to your PTA's board! An SEL is a parent/caregiver volunteer who has a child with an IEP. The SEL works closely with the PTA and school staff to be a resource in the school community regarding the needs of children with disabilities.

Details are here: [PTA Special Education Liaisons - Division of Curriculum and Instruction \(bcps.org\)](#).

SAVE THE DATE!

PTA Council of Baltimore County-Northwest Area Middle Schools Multilingual Students Welcoming Event & Family Resource Fair

Hosted by Deer Park Middle Magnet School, Sudbrook Magnet ESOL Center, and Franklin Middle School

When: Wednesday, April 19, 2023 , 6-7:30pm
Where: Deer Park Middle Magnet School (DPMMS)
9830 Winands Rd. Randallstown, MD 21133

The PTA Council of Baltimore County presents a welcoming event for English language learners (ELLs), multilingual students, families, and BCPS ESOL participants. The program includes a meet n' greet, school and community resource exhibits, and food basket distribution.

The event is a joint Northwest middle school outreach program sponsored by PTA Council and the Baltimore County Executive's Office of Immigrant Outreach Services in partnership with the Northwest Area Education Advisory Council (NWAEAC).

For more information, contact Ramona Basilio, Chairperson, Family, School, & Community Partnerships Committee, at familyschool@bcptacouncil.org or 443.851.5211 or Gevene Alarcón de Harden, Bilingual Senior Communications Officer, BCPS Department of Communications and Community Outreach, gharden@bcps.org or 443.809.1250

REFLECTIONS

Update From PTA Council Reflections Chair

FSPTA will announce recipients in March; NPTA announces recipients in May.

Reflections Open House Art Exhibition and Awards Ceremony

Sunday, March 19 at 2pm

at Cockeysville Middle School

Slogan: "Reflect, Create, Celebrate!"

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

Come to the event to view artwork from our young artists, learn more about the program, and watch them receive recognition for their artistic creations. You are welcome to stay for the exhibition only or for the exhibition and the awards.

*** Even though this is a FREE event, please "purchase" a ticket for each person attending (i.e., 6 tickets for 6 people).*

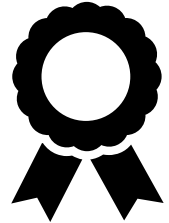
For more details and to RSVP, use this link:

reflections2023.eventbrite.com

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

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

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



Save the Date for the Free State PTA Annual Convention

FSPTA will hold its annual convention virtually, July 28-31. Details will be announced soon at <https://www.fspta.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)

- March 19, 2023: Reflections, 2pm (in person)
- March 30, 2023: Meeting/Program, 7pm (virtual)
- 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):

- March 2
- April 13
- May 4
- June 1



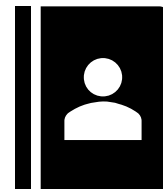
OFFICER CONTACT INFO NEEDED

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/uvtdL1fVukpbdyY6>

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: vacant
- ❖ 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: vacant
- ❖ 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