

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 2023 | BULLETIN

President's Letter

It's May, another school year is coming to an end, and this is our last bulletin until next September.

Here's a quick rundown of our upcoming events:

- BCPS-PTA Leadership Roundtable with Dr. Yarbrough and Ms. Charley-Greene, Thursday, 6/1 from 6:15pm to 7:15pm via Zoom
- PTA Council Board of Directors' meeting, Thursday, 6/1 at 7:15pm via Zoom
- PTA Council Officer Training, General Meeting & Awards Celebration, Monday, 6/12 at 7pm, Loch Raven High School – this event will also feature Reflections and Membership Workshops

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

- Hold elections (based on your bylaws requirements)
- Transition to your new leadership team; discuss what went well and what didn't and set some reachable goals
- Encourage new leaders to attend our 6/12 training
- Close out your books for the 2022-23 fiscal year and plan your year-end financial review
- Work on your 2023-24 budget and PTA calendar
- Meet with your principal to set common goals and review the PTA calendar

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 and knowledge to good use by joining the Council as an officer or committee chair/member. You're needed! We have an amazing team of committed volunteers working together to better BCPS and our community.

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@bcptacouncil.org
 410-227-7631

Leaders' To-Do List

MAY

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

JUNE

- ❖ PTA-BCPS Leadership Roundtable (virtual), June 1, 6:15pm
- ❖ PTA Council Virtual Board Meeting, June 1, 7:15pm
- ❖ PTA Council Leadership Training, June 12, 7pm, Loch Raven High School Cafeteria
- ❖ 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
- ❖ Send financial review to jlee@fspta.org

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 "Free State PTA Financial Guide" 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 ends 6/30/23. 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!

INSURANCE

AIM is your insurance carrier. They will email renewal information to units. Insurance is effective 7/1/23 to 7/1/24. Any questions? Contact AIM via <https://aim-companies.com/> or call 1-800-876-4044.

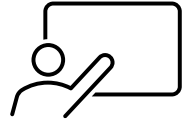
FINANCIAL REVIEW

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 2023-24 budget.

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. If you need help with your review, contact us!

PTA COUNCIL OFFICER TRAINING, GENERAL MEETING & AWARDS CELEBRATION - "A Night of Shining Stars"

Monday, June 12, 7pm (doors open at 6:30pm), Loch Raven High School



Training workshops will follow a brief General Meeting and our annual awards celebration honoring deserving volunteers, educators, and PTA programs.

The following workshops will be offered to get ready for summer planning and the 2023-24 school year:

President Training ~ Treasurer Training ~ Reflections ~ Membership (hosted by Free State PTA VP for Membership Traci Tatum).

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.

To RSVP, email president@bcptacouncil.org by 6/10/23

BCPS PARENT UNIVERSITY

Access resources and read their monthly newsletter here!

https://cos.bcps.org/departments/communications/family_and_community_engagement/parent_university

BCPS SUMMER PROGRAMS INFORMATION!

Find this valuable info here!

https://dci.bcps.org/department/educational_options/summer_programs



HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE UPDATE

Thanks to Committee Chair Andra Broadwater for securing such great presenters for our March General Meeting! You can find their presentations here:

Presentation: What Does Cannabis Legalization Mean for Parents, Schools, and Students?

- Dawn S. Berkowitz, MPH, CHES, Deputy Executive Director, Maryland Medical Cannabis Commission

[PTA Council Cannabis Presentation](#)

Presentation: Identifying Bullying vs. Conflict and Dealing with Them

- Dr. Kim Ferguson, Executive Director, BCPS Department of Social-Emotional Support
- Dr. Kevin Roberts, Director, BCPS Office of School Climate and Culture

[PTA Council Bullying vs Conflict Presentation](#)

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

The PTA Council Family, School & Community Partnerships Team would like to thank co-sponsors, joint school partners and all of the community resource exhibitors for your participation in the inaugural Northwest Area Welcoming Event for Middle School Families held on April 19th at Deer Park Middle Magnet School. The event included multilingual students and families, public and private resources, food, balloon art, music, and fun for everyone. A special note of appreciation to the Baltimore County Executive's Office of Immigrant Affairs for your support. The event was a joint Northwest-area middle school (Deer Park Middle Magnet School, Sudbrook Middle Magnet School, and Franklin 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 (NWAEC).

Parents/caregivers encouraged to take Maryland Special Education Parent Involvement Survey

BCPS parents or guardians of children receiving special education and related services are asked to complete the [online Maryland Special Education Parent Involvement Survey](#) by Friday, May 19. The information you provide will help guide the state's efforts in improving special education.



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 \(bcps.org\)](#)

BUILDING BRIDGES FOR STUDENT MENTAL HEALTH INITIATIVE KICK-OFF

Andra Broadwater, PTA Council Health and Safety Committee Chair, was selected by Free State PTA to represent Maryland parents at the May 2023 event at the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) Headquarters in Chicago. The Building Bridges Initiative is taking place in association with the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE). Through this work, Free State PTA hopes to establish and enhance productive, collaborative, and trustworthy relationships between state boards of education and the AAP by working together to increase parent and family engagement to address student mental health.

Several action steps have been established by the working group, and if you have questions or suggestions, please feel free to contact Andra at secretary@bcptacouncil.org.

REFLECTIONS UPDATE

Congratulations to ALL the 2022-2023 "Show Your Voice!" Reflections Winners!

National PTA received over 900 student entries from 44 state PTA congresses in all the available arts categories. Of those submissions, they awarded over 200 student artists at the national level.

Winners from PTA Council of Baltimore County:

National PTA - We had 2 BCPS students given the Award of Merit for their submission.

pta.org/home/programs/reflections/awards

Maryland's Free State PTA - We had a total of 10 BCPS students win Awards from State, 2 with Outstanding Interpretation. fspta.org/programs

PTA Council of Baltimore County - We submitted 41 entries to Free State PTA for judging.

Local PTAs - Villa Cresta ES PTA, Prettyboy Elem PTA, Carney ES PTA, Jacksonville ES PTA, Lyons Mill ES PTA, Sparks ES PTA, Timonium ES PTA, Ridgely Middle PTA, Hereford Middle PTA, Cockeysville MS PTA (and 1 student from Hampton ES PTA, direct submit to council).

Please check out our Reflections page for announcements, photos, and winning entries! bcptacouncil.org/resources/reflections/

DID YOU KNOW that you can start preparing NOW for next year's Reflections Art Competition "I am Hopeful Because...."? Visit pta.org/home/programs/reflections/startyourprogram for 2023-2024 theme graphics.


- Share the new graphics on social media.
- Create a committee now.
- Go over your budget. Plan.
- Add the new graphics to your school's end-of-year art showcase and pass out flyers.
- Talk to your art, music and literature teachers about next year's lesson plans.
- Plan an art supply swap meet over the summer.
- Add it to your end-of-year PTA newsletter.

Thank you! Hope Metzler, reflections@bcptacouncil.org


Join the discussion at facebook.com/groups/BCreflect/

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



<p>NEW FREE STATE PTA FINANCIAL GUIDE</p> <p>Use this guide as a resource – you’ll find almost anything you need to know about running your unit!</p> <p>Find it here: https://www.fspta.org/finance</p>	<p>FREE ACCESS TO EDUCATION WEEK FOR PTA LEADERS!</p> <p>Did you know that Baltimore County Public Schools offers domain-based access to Education Week (www.edweek.org) for all faculty, staff, and leadership within the district? They have offered to allow our PTA leaders access.</p>
<p>VIRTUAL MEETING & ELECTIONS GUIDANCE: Find it here!</p>	<p>As the premier source of news, information, and analysis in K-12 education, Education Week believes that an equitable - and excellent - education for all students is possible. And more importantly, it empowers its readers to make that goal a reality through in-depth reporting, research, and actionable insights.</p>
<p>Get Your National PTA Local Leader Kit here</p>	<p>If you would like access, please email Sue Hahn, Office of Family and Community Engagement, shahn2@bcps.org.</p>
<p>CONGRATULATIONS TO BCPS VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR RAMONA BASILIO!</p> <p>Our Family, School and Community Partnerships (FSCP) Chair Ramona Basilio (who wears many other hats!) was honored on April 19 with this major recognition. We’re so lucky she joined us last summer and is doing such great work expanding PTA Council’s outreach!</p> 	<p>SPREAD THE WORD – AREA EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCILS WANT YOUR HELP</p> <p>Did you know that community members can get involved in these 5 councils representing different geographic areas of our county (Southeast, Northeast, Central, Northwest and Southwest)? The councils are community liaisons to the Board of Education. Read more about these councils here: https://bcps.ss3.sharpschool.com/cms/One.aspx?portalId=2828&pageId=66785522</p>
<p>Virtual Free State PTA Convention, 7/28-31, early bird registration through 5/31</p> <p>Convention Registration Form Free State PTA (fspta.org)</p>	<p>Virtual National PTA Convention, 6/15-24, delegate registration due date 5/31</p> <p>https://www.pta.org/home/events/National-PTA-Convention-Expo</p>

2022-23 PTA COUNCIL CALENDAR

<p>GENERAL MEETINGS AND SPECIAL EVENTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • June 12, 2023: General Meeting, Awards and Officer Training, 7pm, Loch Raven High School 	<p>BOARD OF DIRECTORS’ MEETINGS</p> <p>First Thursday of the Month @ 7pm (virtual meetings until further notice; if interested in attending, please request a link):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • June 1 
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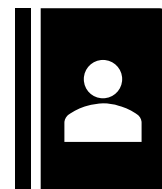
OFFICER CONTACT INFO NEEDED

If you've held your elections (and even if your officers will serve again next year), both PTA Council and Free State PTA need 2023-24 officer contact information!

Send the name, position, mailing address, phone, and email for every unit's President, VP, Treasurer, and Secretary. Send your list to directory@bcptacouncil.org and to Free State PTA at 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