



**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 2025 | BULLETIN**

## **President's Letter**

It's May, another school year is coming to an end, and this is our last bulletin until next September. Thanks to everyone who attended our March General Meeting (April's was canceled and moved to our June 9 Leadership Training). See the Health & Safety section in this bulletin for info on the great presentations offered.

Thanks to presidents (or designates) who attended the last BCPS-PTA Leadership Roundtable with Superintendent Dr. Rogers and Chief of Staff Ms. Charley-Greene on May 1. As always, participants asked great questions, raising important issues. We look forward to continuing these roundtables in the fall!

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 a Council committee or filling an officer vacancy. We have a great team of volunteers working to better BCPS and our community.

Here's a quick rundown of our upcoming events:

- PTA Council Board of Directors' meeting, **Thursday, 6/5 at 7pm via Zoom**
- Leadership Training, **Monday, 6/9 at 7pm, West Towson ES Cafetorium**; attend workshops for Presidents and Other Officers/Committee Chairs and for Treasurers. Scholarship winners and state-level Reflections winners will also be recognized.

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](mailto: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

- PTA Council Virtual Board Meeting, June 5, 7pm
- Leadership Training, June 9, 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 or send to [soa@fspta.org](mailto:soa@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. If you 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 upload a copy into Givebacks. Refer to the 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. Enrollment forms were emailed to all PTAs. Coverage will end on 6/30/25. 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 via Givebacks. More details here: <https://www.irs.gov/charities-and-nonprofits>.
- ✓ **MARYLAND CHARITABLE SOLICITATIONS ACT UPDATE:** 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. <https://sos.maryland.gov/Charity/Pages/Registering-Charity.aspx>. File here: <https://onestop.md.gov>
- ✓ **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**. Send a copy to FSPTA via Givebacks. Check your status here: [www.dat.state.md.us](http://www.dat.state.md.us). If your unit is not incorporated or incorporation needs to be revived, contact us.

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

**FSPTA strongly encourages units to submit SoA documents via Givebacks!**

## 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 2024-25 fiscal year and plan your year-end financial review (audit) <https://bcptacouncil.org/audits/>
- Work on your 2025-26 budget and PTA calendar
- Meet with your principal to set common goals and review the PTA calendar

## Financial News

### Dues Information for 2025-26

#### From National PTA: \$1.00 Dues Increase Beginning 7/1/2025

At the 2024 National PTA Convention, a motion passed to increase the National PTA dues rate by \$1.00, from \$2.25 to \$3.25, with an implementation date of July 1, 2025.

Free State PTA dues will remain \$2.00/member.

#### The total amount due per member will be \$5.25.

Keep this increase in mind when planning your 2025-26 PTA budget.

Rationale: As the largest volunteer child advocacy association, National PTA has been the conscience of the nation to better the lives of all children in America for over 127 years. That's the power of PTA driving our mission. As proud as we are of our extensive legacy and impact, there's still so much work to be done.

To ensure we have the resources to support our mission, the National PTA Board of Directors proposed a \$1.00 dues increase.

As noted, this increase was approved in Summer 2024.

### Insurance

AIM is your insurance carrier. They will email renewal information to units. Insurance is effective 7/1/25 to 7/1/26. Any questions? Contact AIM via <https://aim-companies.com> or call 1-800-876-4044.

### Helpful Links

Virtual meeting & elections guidance is [here!](#)  
Get Your National PTA Local Leader Kit [here!](#)

### Good News Regarding Delaware PTA Group Exemption!

As many local units know, the IRS's ongoing moratorium on granting group exemptions has negatively affected PTAs/PTSAs in Maryland because Free State PTA does not yet have its group exemption.

The temporary work-around has been to have MD PTA units fall under the Delaware PTA's group exemption. Due to IRS staffing issues, it was taking a very long time to get units under the DEPTA group exemption. To fall under the DEPTA group exemption, units were asked years ago to fill out a consent form, [linked here](#).

It appears that the matter has finally been rectified. *If you tried to file your IRS 990N in November 2024 and you were unable to do so, please try again.*

<https://www.irs.gov/charities-non-profits/annual-electronic-filing-requirement-for-small-exempt-organizations-form-990-n-e-postcard>

Blue Box: Submit Form 990-N (e-Postcard)

Sign-in with Login.gov or ID.me

**Go to Manage e-Postcard Profile and enter your EIN. It should say PTA DELAWARE CONGRESS. This means that your EIN falls under the DEPTA group exemption and you should be able to file your 990N.**

### 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 2025-26 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.

<https://bcptacouncil.org/audits/>

If you need help with your review, contact us!

## State and National PTA Conventions!

### Virtual National PTA Convention, 6/25-28

Details:

<https://www.pta.org/home/events/National-PTA-Convention>

Registration (\$75/person):

<https://www.accelevents.com/e/2025-virtual-national-pta-convention>

### Free State PTA Convention, 7/26-27

Maritime Conference Center, Linthicum Heights, MD

Details and Registration (\$100/person until 5/31; \$125/person after 5/31):

<https://www.fspta.org/event-details/free-state-pta-convention-2025>

**Training is a legitimate PTA expense.**

## PTA Council Leadership Training – In Person

**Monday, June 9, 7pm (doors open at 6:30pm),  
West Towson Elementary School Cafetorium**

6914 N. Charles St., Towson, 21204

The following workshops will be offered to get ready for summer planning and the 2025-26 school year:

- Presidents and Other Officers/Committee Chairs
- Treasurers

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](mailto:president@bcptacouncil.org) by 6/5/25.**

## Science Curriculum Reviewers Needed

Science PreK-12 is looking for 2-3 parents to help with a review of off-the-shelf science curriculum. If you are interested in assisting with the review, please contact Christine Schumacker, [cschumacker@bcps.org](mailto:cschumacker@bcps.org).

## BCPS Summer Programs Information!

Find valuable info here:

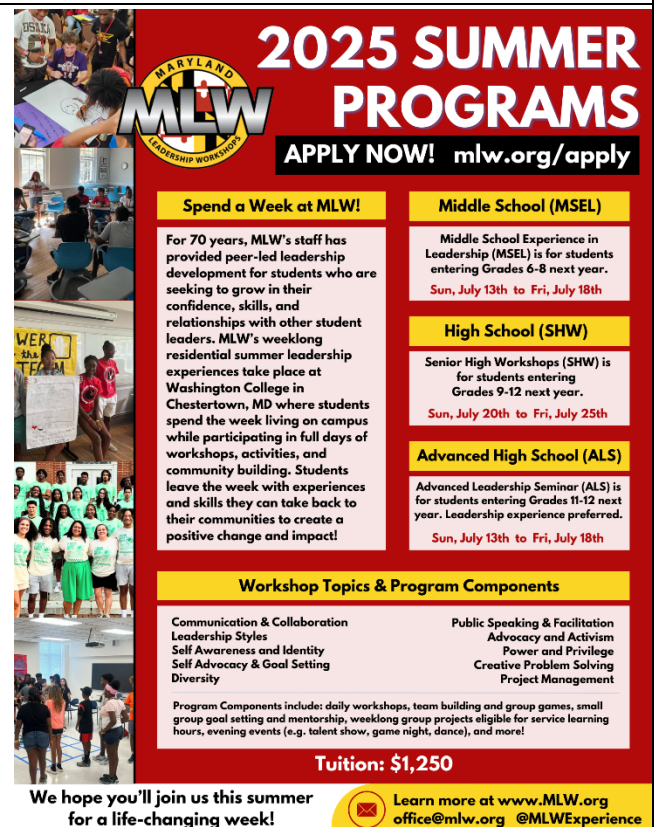
[https://www.bcps.org/curriculum/programsandoptions/o\\_e\\_l\\_p/summer\\_programs](https://www.bcps.org/curriculum/programsandoptions/o_e_l_p/summer_programs)

## Maryland Leadership Workshops (MLW) Residential Youth Summer Programs

MLW, a statewide 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, for nearly 70 years has empowered middle and high school aged students to recognize and realize their potential as leaders through residential summer programs.

- <https://mlw.org>
- <https://mlw.org/summer-programs>

MLW programs, designed for middle and high school students, focus on leadership development, communication, problem-solving, and team-building — all in a supportive and dynamic environment. Students leave the programs more confident and empowered and equipped with tangible skills to make a positive impact in their school and community.



**2025 SUMMER PROGRAMS**  
**APPLY NOW! [mlw.org/apply](https://mlw.org/apply)**

**Spend a Week at MLW!**

For 70 years, MLW's staff has provided peer-led leadership development for students who are seeking to grow in their confidence, skills, and relationships with other student leaders. MLW's weeklong residential summer leadership experiences take place at Washington College in Chestertown, MD where students spend the week living on campus while participating in full days of workshops, activities, and community building. Students leave the week with experiences and skills they can take back to their communities to create a positive change and impact!

**Middle School (MSEL)**

Middle School Experience in Leadership (MSEL) is for students entering Grades 6-8 next year.  
Sun, July 13th to Fri, July 18th

**High School (SHW)**

Senior High Workshops (SHW) is for students entering Grades 9-12 next year.  
Sun, July 20th to Fri, July 25th

**Advanced High School (ALS)**

Advanced Leadership Seminar (ALS) is for students entering Grades 11-12 next year. Leadership experience preferred.  
Sun, July 13th to Fri, July 18th

**Workshop Topics & Program Components**

Communication & Collaboration Leadership Styles Self Awareness and Identity Self Advocacy & Goal Setting Diversity	Public Speaking & Facilitation Advocacy and Activism Power and Privilege Creative Problem Solving Project Management
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Program Components include: daily workshops, team building and group games, small group goal setting and mentorship, weeklong group projects eligible for service learning hours, evening events (e.g. talent show, game night, dance), and more!

**Tuition: \$1,250**

**We hope you'll join us this summer for a life-changing week!**

Learn more at [www.MLW.org](https://www.MLW.org)  
office@mlw.org @MLWExperience

## Family, School And Community Partnerships (FSCP)

Chair Ramona Basilio ([partnerships@bcptacouncil.org](mailto:partnerships@bcptacouncil.org))

### Update on PTA Council's Responsible Cellphone Use Committee's Community Event!

#### *Showings of "Screenagers – Growing Up in the Digital Age (2025 Edition)"*

*Screenagers*, an award-winning documentary by physician and documentary filmmaker Delaney Ruston, explores the deeply complicated family and society struggles over student use of social media, video gaming, and internet addiction.

PTA Council partnered with Dulaney HS PTSA, New Town HS, Owings Mills HS, Sparrows Point HS/MS, Deer Park Middle Magnet, Southwest Academy PTA, Honeygo ES, and Winfield ES to host multiple screenings between April 8-10, 2025.

717 students, parents, staff, and community members attended showings throughout the district and participated in insightful post-screening discussions. Discussions offered social media strategies and solutions aimed at supporting efforts to help parents and children manage screen time at home, reduce smart phone dependency, and increase responsible cellphone use.

*Screenagers* is part of the PTA Council's FSCP Committee's ongoing effort to promote responsible cellphone use and help students and families navigate the digital age and find balance.

Special thank you to FSCP's Responsible Cellphone Use Subcommittee (led by FSCP Chair Ramona Basilio) partners:

- Simone Volikas, Vice President, Dulaney High School PTSA
- Emily Caster, Principal, Sparrows Point HS
- Yara Cheikh, Education Advocate
- Nicole King, Southwest Academy PTSA



### FSCP Multilingual Community Partnership (MLCP) News

Congratulations to MLCP Chair Edwin Perez, an educator at Perry Hall High School, for being selected as a top 3 finalist for the 2025 Baltimore Ravens M&T Bank "Touchdown for Teachers" Award. Edwin was chosen out of over 200 nominations! Perry Hall High School will receive a \$1,000 prize in his honor. PTA Council is lucky to have Edwin on the team!

### Health & Safety Committee Update

Thanks to Committee Chair Andra Broadwater for planning such an important, interesting, and informative event at the March General Meeting!

We had two great presentations:

- **Student data privacy requirements and best practices**  
More information available here: <https://studentprivacy.ed.gov>
- **Student mental health and BCPS supports; presentation by Courtney Brown, LCSW-C, BCPS, Supervisor of Mental Health Services**  
Presentation here: <https://bcptacouncil.org/health-and-safety/march-2025-general-meeting-youth-risk-behavior-survey>





## PTA Council's Reflections Chair Update

Baltimore County had 12 Reflections winners at the state level - congratulations to all! The 12 winners included 5 Outstanding Interpretations, 5 Awards of Excellence, and 2 Awards of Merit. There were no National PTA-level winners this year.

### From Free State PTA:

We are delighted to announce the winners of the 2024-2025 Free State PTA Reflections Contest, celebrating the theme "Accepting Imperfection." This year, students throughout the State of Maryland showcased their artistic talents across six categories: Dance Choreography, Film Production, Literature, Music Composition, Photography, and Visual Arts.

The highest honor, the Outstanding Interpretation Award, was bestowed upon the top entry in each age group and arts area. These exceptional works have been advanced to the National PTA Reflections competition. In addition to these top honors, Awards of Excellence and Awards of Merit were granted to second and third place entries, respectively, in each category and age group.

We extend our heartfelt congratulations to all participating students for their creativity and dedication, and we eagerly anticipate celebrating their achievements at the upcoming ceremony which will be announced at a later date.

<https://www.fspta.org/post/2024-2025-free-state-pta-reflections-winners>

2025-2026 Theme: "I Belong"

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

### FOR BCPS PTA MEMBERS AND STAFF

## A Seat at the Table: Family Engagement for Student Success

### Virtual Lunch & Learn Series Menu

#### Session 1

**An Empty Seat: Addressing Chronic Absenteeism with Data-Driven Solutions**  
Tuesday, March 4, 2025, 11am-12:30pm

#### Session 2

**A Welcome Place: Supporting and Engaging Newcomer Families at School**  
Tuesday, March 18, 2025, 11am-12:30pm

#### Session 3

**Nourishing Minds: The Family's Role in Student Mental Health & Well-Being**  
Tuesday, April 8, 2025, 11am-12:30pm

#### Session 4

**Reading the Recipe: Understanding School Data on Discipline, Safety & Academics**  
Tuesday, April 22, 2025, 11am-12:30pm

#### Session 5

**Setting the Table: How School Funds Are Distributed and What It Means for Families?**  
Tuesday, May 20, 2025, 11am-12:30pm



Register: <https://bit.ly/43clktj>



### RAISE FUNDS FOR YOUR NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION WITH THE BALTIMORE RAVENS!

Levy, the official concessions, food, and beverage partner at M&T Bank Stadium, is proud to offer fundraising opportunities for non-profit organizations during the 2025-2026 season.

#### How It Works

Your organization can earn a share of profits by operating a concession stand at Ravens home games and special events. This is a hands-on, team-building experience that supports your mission while serving fans!

#### What You'll Do

Participating groups help with:

- Quality food preparation
- Delivering outstanding guest service
- Promoting a positive, fun, and professional atmosphere

#### Requirements

- Volunteers must be 18 years or older
- Maintain a professional demeanor representing both Levy and your organization
- Participating groups are expected to commit to all home games, including potential playoff games
- Must be able to provide the following:
  - W-9 form
  - Certificate of Insurance (COI)
  - ACH Payment Form
  - Proof of 501(c)(3) status



HOSPITALITY  
**EVERMORE**

FOR MORE INFORMATION EMAIL:  
[RAVENSNONPROFITS@LEVYRESTAURANTS.COM](mailto:RAVENSNONPROFITS@LEVYRESTAURANTS.COM)

## 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 2025-26 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. Another option (not preferred) is to send the information to [soa@fspta.org](mailto:soa@fspta.org).

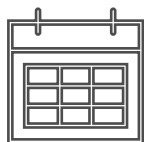
To provide information to PTA Council, use [this Google form](#) or send information to [directory@bcptacouncil.org](mailto:directory@bcptacouncil.org).



## BCPS Parent University FACEtime Newsletter

Access resources and read their monthly newsletter here!

[https://www.bcps.org/cos/communications/FACE/parent university/f a c etime newsletter](https://www.bcps.org/cos/communications/FACE/parent%20university/facetimeneewsletter)



## 2024-25 PTA COUNCIL CALENDAR

### General Meeting and Special Event:

**June 9, 2025:** Leadership Training, Scholarship Presentations, Reflections Winner Recognition, West Towson Elementary Cafetorium, 7pm

### Board of Directors' Virtual Meeting:

**June 5, 2025,** 7pm (if interested in attending, please request a link)

## PTA Council Leadership Contacts

### Officers:

President: Leslie Weber, [president@bcptacouncil.org](mailto:president@bcptacouncil.org)

Area VP Northwest Area: Ryan Coleman, [avpnwnc@bcptacouncil.org](mailto:avpnwnc@bcptacouncil.org)

Area VP Southeast Area: Will Feuer, [avpsenc@bcptacouncil.org](mailto:avpsenc@bcptacouncil.org)

Secretary: Andra Broadwater, [secretary@bcptacouncil.org](mailto:secretary@bcptacouncil.org)

Treasurer: Jayne Lee, [baltimorecountyppta@gmail.com](mailto:baltimorecountyppta@gmail.com)

### Committees:

Advocacy & Legislation: Beth Jarrett, [legislation@bcptacouncil.org](mailto:legislation@bcptacouncil.org)

Awards, Recognition & Scholarships: Open

Communications: Katie Fetchik, [communications@bcptacouncil.org](mailto:communications@bcptacouncil.org)

Curriculum & Instruction: Carrie Horwitz Lang, [curriculum@bcptacouncil.org](mailto:curriculum@bcptacouncil.org)

C&I Exceptional Students Subcommittee: Open

Extension: Emory Young, [extension@bcptacouncil.org](mailto:extension@bcptacouncil.org)

Family, School & Community Partnerships: Ramona Basilio, [partnerships@bcptacouncil.org](mailto:partnerships@bcptacouncil.org)

FSCP Multilingual Community Partnership Subcommittee: Edwin Perez, [eperez@bcps.org](mailto:eperez@bcps.org)

Health & Safety: Andra Broadwater, [health@bcptacouncil.org](mailto:health@bcptacouncil.org)

Justice, Equity, Diversity & Inclusion: Open

Nominating Committee: Beth Jarrett, [legislation@bcptacouncil.org](mailto:legislation@bcptacouncil.org)

Reflections: Jessica Roosth, [reflections@bcptacouncil.org](mailto:reflections@bcptacouncil.org)

### Representatives:

Baltimore County Student Councils: Mansi Chandrasekaran

Baltimore County Public Schools: Sue Hahn, [shahn2@bcps.org](mailto:shahn2@bcps.org)

Teachers' Association of Baltimore County: Kelly Olds

