



everychild. onevoice.

PTA Council of Baltimore County, Inc.

Established 1950

www.bcptacouncil.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Free State PTA: www.fspta.org
National PTA: www.pta.org

Thanks to the PTA leaders who attended our September 28th **Fall Workshops and General Meeting!** The turnout was excellent. We hope you learned a lot from our presidents', treasurers', and Reflections workshops. We can share training resources.

We plan to host a **Virtual President/Treasurer Training** soon – watch for an email!

Thanks to the Presidents and designates who attended our 1st **BCPS Leadership-PTA Roundtable** on October 5! We're grateful that Superintendent Dr. Rogers and Chief of Staff Ms. Charley-Greene will

continue to take time from their very busy schedules to take part in these monthly meetings.

Thank you to PTA Council's BCPS Liaison Sue Hahn, Office of Family and Community Engagement Supervisor, for facilitating these valuable sessions.

Due to a scheduling conflict, the November roundtable was cancelled — watch for an invitation to the December 14 (6:30pm) session.

PTA Council has been busy starting and restarting units at schools all around the county. It's wonderful to see engaged parents, staff, and com-

munity members come together to make something great happen at their schools!

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.

Leslie Weber, President
president@bcptacouncil.org
410-227-7631

OFFICER CONTACT INFO NEEDED

(for President/VP(s)/Treasurer/Secretary)

PTA Council and Free State PTA both need:

Unit Name ~ Position ~ Name
Email address
Home or school address
Phone number

Share with PTA Council by emailing directory@bcptacouncil.org

Share with Free State PTA by emailing soa@fspta.org

COUNCIL DUES

Invoices were mailed all units in September and were due on October 1.

Please send in your unit's dues (\$15 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 GIVEBACKS SUPPORT

Dawn Johnston, Reisterstown Elementary PTA President, serves on our Extension (Field Service) Committee as a GiveBacks support person. If you need help, email her at reisterstownelementarypta@gmail.com

Additionally, Emily Soontornsa-ratool, Villa Cresta Elementary PTA Treasurer, can help units with the GiveBacks website creation feature. Feel free to reach out to her at villacrestaptasecretary@gmail.com

IMPORTANT FINANCE-RELATED INFORMATION

Your federal tax forms are due by November 15th. If your gross receipts are under \$50,000, you're eligible to e-file the 900N, known as the e-postcard. For most units, the 990-EZ can be filed (for those with gross receipts under \$200,000). For those with gross income over \$200,000 and below \$500,000, the IRS Form 990 is necessary. Anyone eligible to use the 990-N or 990-EZ can choose to file Form 990. Here's a link to IRS FAQs: <https://www.irs.gov/charities-non-profits/annual-electronic-notice-form-990-n-for-small-organizations-faqs-when-to-file> For help, contact our Treasurer, John Ryan at treasurer@bcptacouncil.org

Your Maryland Charitable Solicitations Act Annual Update is due by December 31st. The form is mailed with a signed copy of your 990 or 990-EZ or Form COF-85 if you used the 990-N. Information is available here: <https://sos.maryland.gov/Charity/Pages/Registering-Charity.aspx>. Contact John Ryan for assistance.

Your unit's financial review of its 2022-23 books was due on October 30. Please send copies of the review and final financial statement to Free State PTA. Scan documents and email to soa@fspta.org.

For advice on conducting a review, contact our treasurer, John Ryan. Details are also here: <https://bcptacouncil.org/audits/>

NEWS FROM OUR FAMILY, SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS COMMITTEE

The PTA Council of Baltimore County will significantly increase our outreach to multilingual students and their families through a brand-new project, the Multilingual Community Partnership (MLCP). The MLCP is a sub-committee of our Family, School, and Community Partnerships (FSCP) Committee. The MLCP Steering Committee comprises Council board members, BCPS partners, and community members. Student delegates from all five areas have been recruited.

Thank you to Steering Committee member Edwin Perez – an educator at Parkville High School – for speaking at the 11/7 Board of Education meeting about this new initiative. Edwin shared that:

- ⇒ The MLCP mission is to serve as advisors in the areas related to ELL/English learners, the Seal of Biliteracy, and Multilingualism.
- ⇒ The MLCP vision is to work alongside our multilingual, multicultural, immigrant, and international youth and their families, and support them in achieving greater success as they navigate the complexities of our school system.
- ⇒ Among other initiatives, through the creation and implementation of inclusive language policies, the MLCP hopes to partner with BCPS to support Office of World Languages Seal of Biliteracy initiatives that help our students earn a professional recognition that declares their world language proficiency on their high school transcript.

Read more about the Maryland Seal of Biliteracy here:
[The Maryland Seal Of Biliteracy \(marylandpublicschools.org\)](https://www.marylandpublicschools.org/)

ATTENTION PTA PRESIDENTS & MEMBERS!**Celebrating Multilingual Heritage!**

BCPS offers certification in many world languages. If your child is bilingual, we urge you to share this information with your high school student, school administrators, and Guidance staff.

Don't miss this opportunity to build college and career readiness, while celebrating your cultural heritage and native language.

Contact Edwin Perez, Spanish Instructor & Student Leadership Coordinator or Ramona Basilio, Multilingual Community Partnership Steering Committee Chairperson at president@bcptacouncil.org.

LEADERS' TO-DO LIST**November**

- IRS 990 filing due November 15
- American Education Week, November 13-17

December

- Maryland Charitable Solicitations Act filing due December 31

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

REFLECTIONS ART COMPETITION CORNER

This year, we have 14 PTAs/PTSAs participating in the "I am Hopeful Because" Reflections Program. Some are participating for the very first time! Here are a few notes from my desk:

- Nov 5 - The National PTA Reflections Theme Search due date has passed. The search is nationwide and open to all students in a school with a PTA/PTSA. They are searching for the theme for 2025-2026. \$100 to the winner! What is next year's theme? "Accepting Imperfections".
- Nov 20 - Around Thanksgiving break should be your due date for entries. This gives you a month:
 - to make sure all entries are qualified and that forms are filled out
 - to organize
 - for judges to judge
 - to prepare to send the winners to PTA Council by Dec 20, 2023
- Dec 20 - PTA/PTSA Reflection winners due to Council.
- Jan 26 - Council winners are due to Free State PTA Reflections chair. ** This is also the date that participating PTAs & PTSAs must be in compliance with state PTA requirements: Dues, Insurance, Officer List, By-laws.

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

Contact me with any questions at reflections@bcptacouncil.org
Hope Metzler, County Reflections Chair

PARENT UNIVERSITY FACETIME NEWSLETTER HOME EDITION

[My Newsletters | Smore](#)

GET IN TOUCH WITH US!

Use this link to reach any PTA Council board member!

<https://bcptacouncil.org/about-us/board-members/>

2023-24 PTA COUNCIL CALENDAR**GENERAL MEETINGS
AND SPECIAL EVENTS**

January 25, 2024: Meeting/Program, 7pm
 March 17, 2024: Reflections Ceremony
 March 21, 2024: Meeting/Program, 7pm
 April 25, 2024: Meeting, Awards, Elections, 7pm
 June 10, 2024: Officer Training, 7pm

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS'
VIRTUAL MEETINGS**

First Thursday of the month @ 7pm (if interested in attending, request a link):
 2023: November 2, December 14
 2024: January 4, February 1, March 7, April 4, May 2, June 6

STANDARDS OF AFFILIATION

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. 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 soa@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. Enrollment forms were emailed to all PTAs. Coverage ended 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 soa@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/MD PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX REPORT: All local PTAs must be incorporated in Maryland. To maintain your incorporation status, a Personal Property Tax Report must be filed by April 15 each year if your PTA owns any property or not. Send a copy to FSPTA at soa@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!

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Your first dues payment to Free State PTA was due on October 1st and dues should be paid monthly.

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