

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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

**Dear PTA Leader,**

Welcome back to school. This will be a very different school year for all of us. We are in this together and the PTA Council of Baltimore County will be here to support you, offer training of officers and advocate for the best education for all children whether their experience is in a brick and mortar building or a virtual classroom.

Most of you are aware that National PTA has placed Maryland PTA in restructure status and that Maryland PTA is trying to fight to keep that from happening. While we will keep you informed of any new developments, we have no intention of letting that get in the way of the mission and purpose of PTA.

National PTA has created a support team to directly support Maryland local PTAs and Councils. We suggest that when you send any information to Maryland PTA, you send a copy to [mdpta@pta.org](mailto:mdpta@pta.org) which is the email address being monitored by the National PTA team charged with supporting the restructure. You can also call National PTA directly at 703-518-1261 and identify yourself as a local leader in Maryland.

If you are having any difficulties getting responses or information from Maryland PTA, send an email to [soa@pta.org](mailto:soa@pta.org).

If making any dues payments or sending any tax forms, audits or other paperwork, be sure to keep copies for yourself and send copies to either [mdpta@pta.org](mailto:mdpta@pta.org) or PTA Council

of Baltimore County as a back up.

Please send your list of officers using the form on the bottom of our homepage or email the information to [directory@bcptacouncil.org](mailto:directory@bcptacouncil.org) as well as to National PTA by using the Google Form on page 2 of this bulletin.

Contact me or any council board member at any time for help or guidance.

*Every child. One voice,*

*Jayne H. Lee*

President

[president@bcptacouncil.org](mailto:president@bcptacouncil.org)  
410-446-1549

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

PTA Council's first event of 2020, our **ANNUAL FALL WORKSHOP**, will take place virtually on **Thursday, October 8, 2020 at 7pm**

**Training sessions for presidents and treasurers, but all are welcome to participate!**

*Watch for an invitation and details via email!*

**GET YOUR PTA YEAR OFF RIGHT; Register for the Local PTA Leader Kit & PTA Bootcamp!**

<https://www.pta.org/home/run-your-pta/local-leader-kit>

**2020-21 PTA COUNCIL CALENDAR***General Meetings and Special Events*

**October 8, 2020:** Fall Workshop; Virtual Event, 7pm  
(watch for more details via email)

**January 28, 2021:** Meeting/Program, location TBA, 7pm

**March 21, 2021:** Reflections, location TBA, 2pm

**March 25, 2021:** Meeting/Program, location TBA, 7pm

**April 29, 2021:** Meeting & Awards, location TBA, 7pm

**June 14, 2021:** Officer Training, location TBA, 7pm

*Board of Directors' Meetings*

Thursdays @ 7pm  
Greenwood Mansion Boardroom  
6901 Charles St., Towson  
(virtual meetings until Jan 2021; if  
interested in attending, please request a  
link as meetings are open)

**2020:**

September 3, October 1,  
November 5, December 10

**2021:**

January 7, February 4, March 4,  
April 8, May 6, June 3

**PTA COUNCIL: HOW TO FIND US**

**Mailing address:** c/o President Jayne Lee 2311 Sugarcone Rd., Baltimore MD 21209

**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, [avpnenc@bcptacouncil.org](mailto:avpnenc@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:** Leslie Weber, [secretary@bcptacouncil.org](mailto:secretary@bcptacouncil.org)

**Treasurer:** John Ryan, [treasurer@bcptacouncil.org](mailto:treasurer@bcptacouncil.org)

**PTA INSURANCE**

Maryland PTA offers low-cost insurance to locals. Your payment to AIM was due on July 1. If you haven't done so, download the enrollment form and send questions to: Brianna Connel at 1-800-876-4044 or [bconnel@aim-companies.com](mailto:bconnel@aim-companies.com).

<http://mdpta.org/insurance/>

**OFFICER CONTACT INFO NEEDED!**

(President/VP/Treasurer/Secretary)

**Share information with PTA Council:** Use the form at the bottom of our homepage OR email [directory@bcptacouncil.org](mailto:directory@bcptacouncil.org).

**Share information with National PTA:** Use this Google form:

<https://forms.gle/ygoVHX3rXPzjYEDc7>

## **NATIONAL PTA'S ANNUAL REFLECTIONS PROGRAM**

### ***2020-21 Theme: "I Matter Because..."***

This year's Reflections theme is "I Matter Because..." and it is perfect timing for such an uplifting theme given the difficult year it has been.

The Reflections program will proceed as normal except for a more virtual/online approach to sharing handouts, collecting entries and judging. We are also open to a hybrid approach where some entries are collected in person (such as a 3D mobile) and infection control procedures are followed. We will be flexible and open to ideas!

So let's begin our Reflections program now with an open mind to the possibilities! Contact Hope Metzler at [reflections@bcptacouncil.org](mailto:reflections@bcptacouncil.org). You can also join her on Facebook or Twitter @bcptareflect for updates and ideas. There is a special group just for Chairs!

#### **Some specifics about Reflections:**

Reflections offers students Pre-K to Grade 12 the opportunity to create original works of art in 6 categories: **dance choreography, film production, literature, musical composition, visual arts, and photography.**

A total of 4 entries per age division (Primary (Pre-K-Grade 2), Intermediate (Grades 3-5), Middle (Grades 6-8), High (Grades 9-12), Special Artist (All Grades)) in each of the 6 categories can be submitted to PTA Council for judging in early January.

Entries receiving County Awards of Excellence are forwarded to Maryland PTA for judging. The state forwards Outstanding Interpretation entries to National PTA for judging. Participants are recognized at each level.

**Visit National PTA's Reflections Page:** <https://www.pta.org/home/programs/reflections>

**Send your Reflections Coordinator's name/email/number to** [reflections@bcptacouncil.org](mailto:reflections@bcptacouncil.org)

Hope Metzler  
PTA Council Reflections Chair

#### **Facebook Pages & Groups to join:**

[BC PTA Reflections Page](#) - for everyone

[BC Reflections Chair Group](#) - private group just for Chairs

[National PTA Leaders](#) - private group for all leaders (Reflections Chairs are leaders too)

**SUPERINTENDENT'S SEPTEMBER 2020 MESSAGE**

Greetings Team BCPS parents and teachers,

**Welcome back to school!**

First and foremost, I want to acknowledge that COVID-19 is affecting members of our community in very different ways. I send all my hopes for your health and the health and safety of your loved ones.

Health and safety are our priorities as we start this school year, as reflected in our [Reopening Plan](#). We are considering the latest guidance from Governor Hogan, State Superintendent Dr. Salmon, and the Maryland State Board of Education, and more information will be shared as soon as possible.

As you know, this is a new day in public education for all of us. While this start of school is like no other, I'm sending you the same warm welcome as always. I am visiting students, educators, and staff during virtual classrooms and meetings. All the smiling faces help provide the energy and enthusiasm we all need for both learning and relationship building.

I can't say it enough. Once again, I want to thank families and educators for your partnership during this unprecedented pandemic. As always, please stay connected through your school, our [home page](#), social media, our [weekly e-newsletter](#), and [Parent University](#)—which has a new look as our COVID-19 parent hub.

Sincerely,  
Darryl L. Williams, Ed.D.  
*Superintendent*

**NEWS FROM BCPS: LOW ENROLLMENT THIS YEAR!**

Due to the pandemic, BCPS enrollment is very low! Please encourage any family you know (even if homeschooling) to enroll since enrollment affects BCPS funding!

**BCPS PARENT UNIVERSITY:** <http://www.bcps.org/parentu/>

This site has been revamped to become the go-to hub for information on virtual learning and family resources! Please share this link with your members!

**MEMBERSHIP RESOURCES**

We know membership will be more difficult this year due to COVID-19 and MDPTA restructuring, but we're here to help and resources are available to you.

**Please contact us for ideas and visit these links:**

**Visit** the Membership Section of the PTA Council website for info, tips, and sample easy-to-fill-out membership form: <http://www.bcptacouncil.org/resources/membership/>

**Visit** the National PTA website for Membership Campaign info:  
<https://www.pta.org/home/run-your-pta/membership-campaign>

**PTA COUNCIL PARTNER STUDENT SUPPORT NETWORK**

Since Student Support Network's (SSN) creation in 2015, PTA Council has supported this non-profit which provides basic necessities to BCPS students in need. Before the pandemic, SSN ran "rooms of support," under the guidance of school administrators, social workers, and guidance counselors, to give the most in-need students (many of whom are homeless) food and basic life necessities. When schools closed in March, SSN pivoted to create food and necessity distribution sites. Every week, volunteers man three sites: Owings Mills High School, Parkville High School, and Loch Raven Technical Academy. Any and all in need are welcome to drive up every Friday morning for pick-up.

There are now 10 BCPS schools in the network. Read about SSN and their network schools here: <https://www.studentsupportnetwork.org/>

**PTA COUNCIL ADVOCACY WORKS!  
CEP MEAL PROGRAM IMPLEMENTED FOR BCPS SCHOOLS!**

CEP stands for the Community Eligibility Provision, a federal meal program for students in need. We've advocated for this program for a number of years at Board of Education (BOE) meetings and with County and State legislators. The BOE at its July 14, 2020 meeting voted unanimously to direct the Superintendent to elect CEP for the 66 BCPS schools currently eligible.

Schools electing CEP offer breakfast and lunch at no charge to all students at schools with a certain percentage of students in poverty. No more lunch-shaming, meal card debt, and paperwork to fill out for students attending these schools.

All of the schools below, and at least 20 more, will be able to offer meals at no charge to ALL students, which will comprise at least 30% of all BCPS students:

Arbutus Elementary  
Baltimore Highlands Elementary  
Battle Grove Elementary  
Battle Monument School  
Bear Creek Elementary  
Berkshire Elementary  
Catonsville Center for Alt Studies  
Charlesmont Elementary  
Chase Elementary  
Crossroads Center  
Deep Creek Elementary  
Deep Creek Middle  
Dundalk Elementary  
Dundalk Middle  
Edmondson Heights Elementary  
Elmwood Elementary

Gen. John Stricker Middle  
Glyndon Elementary  
Grange Elementary  
Halethorpe Elementary  
Halstead Academy  
Hawthorne Elementary  
Hernwood Elementary  
Holabird Middle  
Lansdowne Elementary  
Lansdowne Middle  
Logan Elementary  
Mars Estates Elementary  
Martin Blvd Elementary  
McCormick Elementary  
Meadowood Education Center  
Middlesex Elementary

Norwood Elementary  
Oakleigh Elementary  
Riverview Elementary  
Rosedale Center  
Sandalwood Elementary  
Sandy Plains Elementary  
Scotts Branch Elementary  
Seneca Elementary  
Stemmers Run Middle  
Sussex Elementary  
Victory Villa Elementary  
White Oak School  
Woodholme Elementary  
Woodlawn Middle

**MEMBERSHIP DUES: Council Dues Due October 1**

Dues bills are only \$1 per unit this year, as voted upon by the PTA Council Board of Directors at our August meeting, recognizing the issues created by COVID-19. We can't completely waive dues because of a stipulation in our bylaws (dues would have been .50/member based on 2019-20 membership numbers). Council dues are separate from Maryland PTA and National PTA dues. **Some units owe dues from last year and will be contacted separately.**

National PTA dues are \$2.25/member to National PTA and \$2.00/member to MDPTA.  
Each unit remits dues monthly in the amount of \$4.25/member to MDPTA.

**STANDARDS OF CONTINUING AFFILIATION**

**FINANCIAL REVIEW:** Every PTA must conduct an annual financial review and send a copy to MDPTA, 5 Central Ave, Glen Burnie, MD 21061. Refer to MDPTA "Cash Encounters" in the Finances section of our website for a sample report.

**IRS 990:** Every PTA must file annually by 11/15. If annual gross income was \$50,000 or less, you can e-file the 990 e-postcard. Provide a copy of 990 filing to MDPTA. For assistance, contact MDPTA at 410-760-6221.

**INSURANCE:** Every PTA unit in Maryland must have insurance coverage through AIM. Enrollment forms were sent to all PTAs; form can be downloaded at [www.mdpta.org](http://www.mdpta.org). Coverage ended 6/30/20. Please see the Finances/Insurance section of the PTA Council website for details.

**INCORPORATION:** All local PTAs must be incorporated in Maryland. To maintain your incorporation status, a Personal Property Tax Return must be filed by April 15th each year whether or not your PTA owns any property. Check your status here: [www.dat.state.md.us](http://www.dat.state.md.us). If your unit is not incorporated or the incorporation needs to be revived, contact MDPTA at 410-760-6221.

**BYLAWS:** Need to be reviewed at least every 3 years and submitted to MDPTA for approval. For assistance revising, contact [bylaws@bcptacouncil.org](mailto:bylaws@bcptacouncil.org).

**PTA COUNCIL BOARD MEMBERS NEEDED**

*Interested in joining the PTA Council board and serving at the County level?*

Contact Frances Craig at  
[nominatianne@bcptacouncil.org](mailto:nominatianne@bcptacouncil.org)

**TO-DO LIST****SEPTEMBER**

- Conduct general membership meeting/adopt 2020-21 PTA budget
- Distribute cards to your members
- Pay PTA Council dues (due 10/1)
- Send officer contact info to National PTA and PTA Council

**OCTOBER**

- Attend virtual PTA Council Fall Workshop, 10/8, 7pm
- Send copy of annual financial review to MDPTA (due 10/30)
- Pay MDPTA and National PTA membership dues monthly
- Distribute cards to your members
- Begin work on Reflections

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

**NATIONAL PTA SUPPORT TEAM**

NPTA has created a team to directly support locals during MDPTA restructuring. Identify yourself as a local leader in Maryland:

**Email: [mdpta@pta.org](mailto:mdpta@pta.org) OR [soa@pta.org](mailto:soa@pta.org)**  
**Call: 703.518.1261**