

Baltimore County Council

PTA[®]

everychild. onevoice.

September 2021 BULLETIN

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

Last year was a difficult one. All of us suffered the consequences of a worldwide pandemic. To those who personally experienced the loss of family, income, food, or housing, I offer my heartfelt condolences. Both the physical and psychological effects of this virus will be with us and our children for some time.

Many PTAs were pretty much shut down for a year. The issues at the state PTA and a ransomware attack didn't help. PTA Council of Baltimore County never stopped working. We have been and will be a resource for you and a link to training, services, and advocacy. We will continue to speak on YOUR behalf.

I'm happy to announce that the new Free State PTA is officially open for business. They are the ONLY state PTA in Maryland. Any contact that is not from Free State PTA (FSPTA) is not from a group affiliated with National PTA. A group, even after receiving cease and desist orders, is

continuing to use a PTA mailing list, the PTA trademark name MD Congress of Parents and Teachers, and @mdpta.org to contact our locals. National PTA and Free State PTA will continue to correct this. Please continue to notify us of such contact.

This year will have its own issues with some children in virtual learning and others in person. The rise in Covid-19 cases has led our County Executive to declare a state of emergency. We will monitor the situation and always keep safety as a priority.

For that reason, we'll begin our year with virtual meetings and trainings. We found that these type of meetings made it easier for members; we'll consider keeping virtual trainings an option even after we have the ability to meet in person again.

Our first General Meeting and workshops will be held on September 30th. Watch for registration forms.

Our website, www.bcptacouncil.org, has many of the powerpoints from our trainings, but attending our virtual training will give you the ability to ask questions and give feedback on what you want YOUR council to help you with.

Our Reflections program promises to be exceptional. For more information, contact reflections@bcptacouncil.org.

Feel free to contact me or any of our officers listed on the website for ANY HELP YOU NEED!

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."

Every child. One voice,

President Jayne H. Lee

president@bcptacouncil.org

410-446-1549

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

PTA Council's first event of the 2021-22 school year, our **ANNUAL (NOW VIRTUAL) FALL WORKSHOP**, will take place on **Thursday, September 30, 2021 at 7pm**

Training sessions to run your unit successfully ~ all are welcome to participate!

Watch for an invitation and details via email!

2021-22 PTA COUNCIL CALENDAR***General Meetings and Special Events***
(virtual or in-person, to be decided based on BCPS policy and health conditions)

September 30, 2021: Virtual Fall Workshop, 7pm
January 27, 2022: Meeting/Program, 7pm
March 20, 2022: Reflections, 2pm
March 31, 2022: Meeting/Program, 7pm
April 28, 2022: Meeting, Elections, Awards, 7pm
June 6, 2022: Officer Training, 7pm

Board of Directors' Meetings

Thursdays @ 7pm
(virtual meetings until further notice; if interested in attending, please request a link as meetings are open)

2021:

September 1, October 7,
November 4, December 2

2022:

January 6, February 3, March 3,
April 7, May 5, June 2

PTA COUNCIL: HOW TO FIND US

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

Website: www.bcptacouncil.org

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/BCPTAC>

President: Jayne Lee, president@bcptacouncil.org

Area VP Central Area: Christina Pumphrey, avpcanc@bcptacouncil.org

Area VP Northeast Area: Frances Craig, avpnenc@bcptacouncil.org

Area VP Northwest Area: Ryan Coleman, avpnwnc@bcptacouncil.org

Area VP Southeast Area: Will Feuer, avpsenc@bcptacouncil.org

Secretary: Leslie Weber, secretary@bcptacouncil.org

Treasurer: John Ryan, treasurer@bcptacouncil.org

PTA INSURANCE

Free State PTA offers low-cost insurance (\$226/year) to local units. Your package has not changed. Your payment to AIM was due on July 1. If you need help, contact 1-800-876-4044 or Pamela Brizendine at pbrizendine@aim-companies.com

<https://aim-companies.com/>

JOIN US ON THE PTA COUNCIL BOARD!

If interested in serving, please contact Nominating Chair Frances Craig at

nominationne@bcptacouncil.org

OFFICER CONTACT INFO NEEDED!

(President/VP/Treasurer/Secretary)

We need:

- ⇒ Unit (School) Name
- ⇒ Position
- ⇒ Name
- ⇒ Email address
- ⇒ Home address
- ⇒ Phone number

Share information with PTA Council by emailing secretary@bcptacouncil.org

Share with Free State PTA by emailing secretary.fspta@gmail.com

NATIONAL PTA'S ANNUAL REFLECTIONS PROGRAM

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.**

Looking for a date to launch your PTA's Reflections program? September 12-18th is National Arts in Education Week and is sponsored by the Americans for the Arts.

This is an excellent time to begin your media campaign and talk with teachers in literary, fine arts and performance arts. **This year's theme is "I Will Change the World By..."**. You can find more information regarding Reflections here <https://www.pta.org/home/programs/reflections>.

You can also visit Americans for the Arts website: <https://www.americansforthearts.org/.../national-arts-in...>

Want more resources? You can also utilize National PTA's ArtsEd resources! <https://www.pta.org/home/programs/reflections/artsedtools>

Specifics about Free State PTA's requirements will be coming soon. Email reflections@bcptacouncil.org with any questions and to let us know you are participating!

Thank you, Hope Metzler, Reflections Chair

reflections@bcptacouncil.org

[BC PTA Reflections Page](#)



START YOUR PTA YEAR OFF RIGHT; GET YOUR KIT!

[Local Leader Kit | National PTA](#)

MEMBERSHIP RESOURCES

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:
[Membership Resources - Run Your PTA | National PTA](#)

MEMBERSHIP DUES

National PTA dues are \$2.25/member
Free State PTA dues are \$2.00/member

Each unit remits dues monthly in the amount of \$4.25/member to **National PTA** until Free State PTA can do so. Please use the form found here to pay membership dues:

<https://www.fspta.org/membership>

MEMBERSHIP CARDS

If your unit uses MemberHub, you're all set! You can print your membership cards from there.

If your unit doesn't use MemberHub, you'll be still be able to print your own cards once Free State PTA shares the template.

COUNCIL DUES:

Dues are only \$5 per unit this year, as voted upon by the PTA Council Board of Directors, which recognized the continuing 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 last year's membership numbers).

Council dues are separate from Free State PTA and National PTA dues.

Invoices for Council Dues are in the Back-to-School Package sent to units via BCPS interoffice mail.

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

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

FREE CCBC FAMILY LITERACY ESOL PROGRAM

Classes held October to December
via Zoom and in-person

Flyers available here:
<http://bcptacouncil.org/ccbc-family-literacy-esol-program/>

Questions? Contact Family Literacy ESOL program coordinator, Angina Panozzo, at apanozzo@ccbcmd.edu or 443-840-3452

PTA: WHO'S WHO

- ⇒ **School:** Local PTA units are independent non-profits with state and federal requirements.
- ⇒ **County:** PTA Council is an **all-volunteer support and training organization** with no legal standing over units. Units pay Council Dues to be supported and represented by the Council, which does no fundraising. We represent local units as a stakeholder group at Board of Education meetings, on the School Board Nominating Commission, and on BCPS and Baltimore County focus and work groups.
- ⇒ **State:** Units are constituents of Free State PTA (www.fspta.org)
- ⇒ **National:** Free State PTA is chartered under National PTA.
- ⇒ **PTA members** are members of their local units, Free State, and NPTA because they pay dues to all. Members enjoy a number of benefits: [Member Benefits - About PTA | National PTA](#)

STANDARDS OF CONTINUING AFFILIATION

FINANCIAL REVIEW (AUDIT): All PTAs must conduct an annual financial review (due 10/30) and email a copy to Free State PTA at secretary.fspta@gmail.com. Refer to “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 the 990 filing to secretary.fspta@gmail.com. More details here: <https://www.irs.gov/charities-and-nonprofits>

INSURANCE: Every PTA unit in Maryland must have insurance coverage through AIM. Enrollment forms were sent to all PTAs. Coverage ended 6/30/21. 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 15 each year whether or not your PTA owns any property. Send a copy to secretary.fspta@gmail.com. Check your status here: www.dat.state.md.us. If your unit is not incorporated or the incorporation needs to be revived, contact Free State PTA.

BYLAWS: Bylaws need to be reviewed at least every 3 years and submitted to Free State PTA for approval. Until a Free State PTA bylaws template is available, keep using your current bylaws.

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

LEADERS' TO-DO LIST**SEPTEMBER**

- Conduct general membership meeting, adopt 2021-22 PTA budget
- Distribute cards to your members
- Pay PTA Council dues (due 10/1)
- Send officer contact info to Free State PTA and PTA Council

OCTOBER

- Attend virtual PTA Council Fall Workshop, 9/30, 7pm
- Send copy of annual financial review to Free State PTA (due 10/30)
- Pay Free State PTA and National PTA membership dues monthly; first payment due October 1
- 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.