



everychild. onevoice.

January 2015 BULLETIN

PTA Council of Baltimore County, Inc.

Established 1950

www.bcptacouncil.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Maryland PTA: www.mdpta.org
National PTA: www.pta.org

The 2015 General Assembly session is scheduled to convene on January 14 with the swearing in of new members. On January 21, the Governor and Lieutenant Governor will be sworn in. With the core mission of PTA being advocating for the welfare of children, it will be important to watch and act on what happens

during that 90-day session. We will be sharing the date for PTA Night in Annapolis as soon as it has been scheduled. Please share with your members that the Maryland PTA's Capwiz website has changed to:

<http://cqrcengage.com/npta2md/home>

This website offers information on legislation, advocacy, and contacting your elected officials, and can be used to register to receive legislative alerts.

Emory Young
President

PTA COUNCIL GENERAL MEETING

THURSDAY, JANUARY 29, 2015

Loch Raven High School

Doors open at 7pm

meeting and program 7:30 to 9pm

Featuring Dr. Alan Hill, Manager
BCPS Office of Student Behavior

Free and open to the public.
Event will be canceled if schools are closed.

MARYLAND PTA NEWS

The MD PTA Arts in Education/Reflections Committee was tasked by National PTA with choosing the top five themes for their consideration in selecting the 2016-17 National PTA Reflections theme.

CONGRATULATIONS

to two Perry Hall High School students, who submitted two of the five top themes for Maryland:

I Am One Of A Kind - Emma K.
My Life Is Awesome - Jack K.

VOTING DELEGATE CARDS

Four Voting Delegate Cards for the

January 29, 2015 PTA Council General Meeting

will be mailed in mid-January to local PTAs having paid this year's Council dues. The cards entitle four delegates from each local unit to vote on matters presented to the Council. Each card, signed by the local PTA president and by the delegate, must be presented **along with a valid 2014-2015 PTA Membership Card** from the same local PTA at registration. If you do not receive your cards by 1/22, please contact Secretary Georgina Clevenger at 410-363-6975 or

secretary@bcptacouncil.org

WELCOME to
Baltimore County's
newest local PTA unit
The PTSA AT KENWOOD HIGH
SCHOOL!

PTA Council 2014-2015 Calendar***Board of Directors Meetings***

Thursdays @ 7:30pm
(except for Wednesday, April 1, 2015),
Building E, 6901 Charles St.

2015

January 8
February 5
March 5
April 1*
May 7
June 4

All Meetings and Events Open to the Public

General Meetings and Events
PTAs in good standing receive 4 voting delegate cards in advance)

January 29, 2015: Meeting, Program and/or Workshops, Loch Raven HS, 7pm

March 15, 2015: Reflections Awards Ceremony, Cockeysville MS, 2pm

March 26, 2015: General Meeting, 7pm (location TBD)

April 30, 2015: Meeting & Council Recognition Awards, 7pm (location TBD)

June 11, 2015: Council Leadership Training, 7pm (location TBD)

Advisory Group Meetings (all begin at 7pm)

January 12, Special Education Citizens' Advisory Committee (SECAC), Leisure and Afterschool Activities, Building E

January 14, Southeast Area Education Advisory Council, New Nutrition Guidelines and Rule 3`25, Dundalk MS

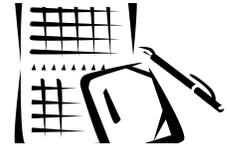
January 21, Southwest Area Education Advisory Council School, Safety and Security, Westowne ES

February 4, Citizens' Advisory Committee for Gifted and Talented Education (GTCAC), STAT/Digital Learning Initiative, Cockeysville MS (snow date March 11)

February 9, SECAC, Q&A session w/ IEP chairpersons, Building E

February 11, Southeast Area Education Advisory Council, Update on Elementary Schools, Charlesmont ES

February 18, Southwest Area Education Advisory Council, Transitioning from Elementary to Middle, Lansdowne HS

PTA/PTSA Leader's Calendar**JANUARY**

- Pay MD PTA and National PTA membership dues monthly
- Attend the BCPS FY16 operating budget hearing, 1/13, West Townson ES, 7pm
- Review Council Awards packet
- Review bylaws to determine date and process for selection of local PTA Nominating Committee
- Look for MD Personal Property Tax Return in the mail
- Attend PTA Council General Meeting, 1/29, Loch Raven HS, 7pm
- MSDE Maryland Parent Involvement Matters Award nomination due 1/30 (see pg. 6 for details)
- MD PTA membership incentive due 1/31 (see pg. 9 for details)

FEBRUARY

- Pay MD PTA and National PTA membership dues
- Review Council Awards packet
- Federal 990 form due if extension was filed in November

Our Nominating Committee is seeking ...

PTA leaders to fill various board and committee positions. If you're interested in serving or know of an excellent candidate, please contact
Nominating Committee Chair
Frances Craig at
nomination@bcptacouncil.org

PTA COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE COUNTY, INC.
Board of Directors Meeting – December 4, 2014
 Treasurer's Report

Beginning Balance: (11/6/14) Checking	\$36,242.19
Certificate of Deposit	\$15,383.22
Certificate of Deposit	5,054.47
Receipts	+\$643.00
Disbursements	- \$0.00
Balance, (12/4/14) Checking	\$36,885.19
Certificate of Deposit	\$15,383.22
Certificate of Deposit	\$5,054.47

	Reporting Period <u>11/6/14-12/4/14</u>	YTD <u>2014-2015</u>	Adopted Budget <u>2014-2015</u>
BALANCE FORWARD	\$56,679.88	\$47,454.39	\$47,454.39
RECEIPTS:			
Membership Dues	\$643.00	\$12,298.50	\$14,951.00
Fall Workshop	0.00	1,260.00	2,000.00
Interest	0.00	0.00	20.00
Miscellaneous Income	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>50.00</u>
TOTAL RECEIPTS:	\$643.00	\$13,558.50	\$17,021.00
TOTAL ASSETS	\$57,322.88	\$61,012.89	\$64,475.39
DISBURSEMENTS:			
Executive Board:			
101 Administration	\$ 0.00	\$0.00	\$ 125.00
103 Copy/Reproduction	0.00	0.00	1,000.00
104 Equipment/Pers. Property Tax	0.00	0.00	50.00
105 Hospitality	0.00	0.00	750.00
106 Memorials	0.00	0.00	250.00
108 Postage	0.00	0.00	500.00
109 Supplies	0.00	6.09	1,000.00
111 Bank Charges	0.00	9.00	50.00
Publications:			
201 Bulletin	\$ 0.00	\$175.12	\$ 1,000.00
202 Directory	0.00	2,300.00	2,300.00
204 Web Site	0.00	20.97	1,000.00
Leadership Development:			
301 Fall Workshop	\$ 0.00	\$1,178.83	\$ 2,500.00
302 National Convention	0.00	0.00	3,500.00
304 MCPT Convention	0.00	0.00	1,200.00
306 Workshops & Meetings	0.00	0.00	100.00
307 Technical Support	0.00	0.00	250.00
Standing Committees:			
401 Committees	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 100.00
402 Legislation	0.00	0.00	200.00
403 Council Recognition	0.00	0.00	1,500.00
Special Projects:			
604 Reflections	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 2,200.00
606 Membership Incentive	0.00	0.00	1,000.00
607 Council Dues Incentive	0.00	0.00	250.00
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS:	\$ 0.00	\$3,690.01	\$20,825.00
FUNDS TO CARRY FORWARD:	\$57,322.88	\$57,322.88	\$43,650.39

John Ryan
Treasurer

PTA COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE COUNTY, INC.
Board of Directors Meeting – January 8, 2015
Treasurer's Report

Beginning Balance: (12/4/14) Checking	\$36,885.19
Certificate of Deposit	\$15,383.22
Certificate of Deposit	5,054.47
Receipts	+\$156.00
Disbursements	- \$3.00
Balance, (1/8/15) Checking	\$37,038.19
Certificate of Deposit	\$15,383.22
Certificate of Deposit	\$5,054.47

	Reporting Period <u>12/4/14-1/8/15</u>	YTD <u>2014-2015</u>	Adopted Budget <u>2014-2015</u>
BALANCE FORWARD	\$57,322.88	\$47,454.39	\$47,454.39
RECEIPTS:			
Membership Dues	\$156.00	\$12,454.50	\$14,951.00
Fall Workshop	0.00	1,260.00	2,000.00
Interest	0.00	0.00	20.00
Miscellaneous Income	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>50.00</u>
TOTAL RECEIPTS:	\$156.00	\$13,714.50	\$17,021.00
TOTAL ASSETS	\$57,478.88	\$61,168.89	\$64,475.39
DISBURSEMENTS:			
Executive Board:			
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FUNDS TO CARRY FORWARD:	\$57,475.88	\$57,475.88	\$43,650.39

John Ryan
Treasurer

The Maryland Parent Involvement Matters Award

Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE)
www.marylandpublicschools.org

The Maryland Parent Involvement Matters Award is an annual award for parents (and others with legal responsibility for a child) whose exemplary contributions to public education have led to improvements for Maryland's public school children, teachers, schools, programs, and/or policies. The award was created by MSDE to highlight the positive impact parents have on public schools and to encourage all parents to get involved in whatever way they can.

Areas of Parent Involvement

- ⇒ **Communicating:** Fostering communication that impacts the school community
- ⇒ **Volunteering:** Recruiting or organizing volunteers, or supporting school activities, both internal and external
- ⇒ **Learning:** Organizing or coordinating learning activities that reinforce homework or classroom skills
- ⇒ **Collaborating with Community:** Coordinating resources and services for the school community, which could include fundraisers that would enhance a school's services or environment, or coordinating resources or services from the school community that may serve an external community
- ⇒ **Decision Making:** Participating on decision-making committees, or in programs that advocate system or policy changes, or serving as a representative for the school or education community

Completed nomination packets must be postmarked by **Friday, January 30, 2015**

Download complete information and form at <http://marylandpublicschools.org/pima/>

PTA COUNCIL AWARDS

PTA Council of Baltimore County will honor the hardworking parents, educators and programs that make local PTA/PTSA's shine at its annual Awards Celebration on Thursday, April 30, 2015. Nomination forms will soon be sent and will be available to download at www.bcptacouncil.org. The PTA Council of Baltimore County Board of Directors will review submitted nomination forms to select the winning recipient for each award. Only PTA/PTSA's having paid Council dues are eligible to submit nominations.

The awards packet contains nomination forms for the following awards:

Unit of Excellence Award to honor PTAs who perform tasks that demonstrate they are operating their PTA properly.

Special Recognition Award to give each PTA the opportunity to have one of their members, parents, school staff member and/or volunteers receive countywide recognition for doing a great job.

"Top Program" Awards to give each PTA the opportunity to showcase best programs.

Outstanding Educator of the Year to give each PTA the opportunity to obtain countywide recognition for a member of their school's staff. There will be one Primary and one Secondary Educator of the Year Award presented for the entire county. However, every educator who is nominated will be formally recognized during the ceremony held on April 30. We encourage all PTAs to recognize their hardworking volunteers and educators and showcase their PTA programs that improve the lives of children in Baltimore County.

Deadline to submit nomination forms is March 26, 2015
For additional information email awards@bcptacouncil

**STAY UP-TO-DATE ON WHAT'S HAPPENING IN
BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

PTA leaders and members are encouraged to attend Board of Education meetings (schedule on p. 10) to hear about what's going on in BCPS. If you are unable to attend, you can watch meetings live online at:
<http://www.bcps.org/video/liveStream.html>

Subscribe to TeamBCPS Newsletter: www.bcps.org/news/TeamBCPSNewsletter.html

Read Superintendent Dance's Deliberate Excellence Blog: <http://deliberateexcellence.wordpress.com/>

Download BCPS Now Mobile App: www.bcps.org/news/mobileapp.htm

Follow BCPS on Twitter: <http://twitter.com/BaltCoPS>

Like BCPS on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/BaltCoPS>

**BCPS SYSTEMWIDE PHYSICAL FACILITIES ASSESSMENT
AND
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN UPDATE AVAILABLE AT**

<http://www.bcps.org/construction/longtermplanning/>

BALTIMORE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Need help paying for services?

The Baltimore County Department of Health Cancer Program provides free cancer screenings (breast, cervical, and colon) to county residents who are uninsured, under-insured, and meet program guidelines. With cancer being the second leading cause of death in Maryland, we are spreading the word so eligible residents can take advantage of the free services we provide.

Call 410-887-3456

Baltimore County Department of Health

Healthy people living, working, and playing in Baltimore County

Are parents in your school interested in FREE Parenting Education Classes?

Active Parenting Now and Active Parenting of Teens Groups are currently forming

The Baltimore County Department of Health offers free parenting education assistance (6-week program) to all County residents. You can make a difference by learning how to:

- ⇒ Become an "Active" Parent
- ⇒ Use problem solving strategies and anger management
- ⇒ Model and encourage lifelong healthy behaviors
- ⇒ Use opportunities to share with and learn from other parents
- ⇒ Build strong healthy families and communities
- ⇒ Give your child the best possible foundation for a successful future

For more information, contact Rhondalynn Gross 410-887-3828 or rgross@baltimorecountymd.gov

PRESCRIPTION DRUG USE ON THE RISE**INFORMATION FROM THE BALTIMORE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
BUREAU OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH 410-887-3828**

Non-medical use of prescription drugs is a growing problem in the U.S. among teens and adults. 80% of the world's pain pills are consumed in the United States, which has just 5% of the world's population. Every day, 2,500 young people use a prescription pain reliever to get high for the first time. Many teens believe that prescription drugs are safer to use than illegal drugs. Nearly half of teens who use prescription drugs say they get them from a relative or friend. The most highly abused drugs by youth are prescription pain medication, anti-anxiety or sleep medication, meds used to treat ADHD, and over-the-counter (OTC) cough or cold medicine. Personality changes, excessive drowsiness, confusion, difficulty walking and rapid eye movement may indicate signs of abuse.

Youth surveyed reported the following reasons why they abuse prescription and OTC drugs:

- Prescription drugs help them relax and cope with stress, depression, and anxiety.
- Prescription drugs help them deal with life's pressures, e.g. stimulants increase alertness and concentration in school. Others report abusing stimulants to help with weight control.
- Prescription drugs are a way to self-medicate to relieve pain or improve their sleep.

Because teens perceive prescription drugs as less harmful than street drugs, it's important that they understand that taking meds that are not prescribed for them can lead to addiction and other health problems. Also, taking too much of certain drugs can lead to overdose and death. Experts say the increase in heroin use is linked to prescription opioid abuse. Young people often become addicted to pain pills and progress to heroin — which provides the same euphoric high — when pills are hard to come by. It's important for parents to talk early and often with their children about the dangers of prescription drug abuse. For tips on how to have this conversation with your child, visit

The Partnership at www.drugfree.org and www.StopMedicineAbuse.org

The 2013, Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene's Youth Risk Behavior Survey, indicate the following results concerning Baltimore County students:

Used prescription drugs without a doctor's prescription	Middle School	High School
One or more times during their life	6.9 %	14.8%
In the past 30 days	8.7%	8.6%
Used heroin one or more times during their life	2.4%	4.2%

Parents can, inadvertently, contribute to the prescription drug problem when they fail to discard their prescribed meds once they've recovered from an illness or injury. Acquiring prescription medications can be as easy for a teen as going into a parent's or family member's medicine cabinet, drawer or kitchen cupboard. Parents can limit their child's access and availability to prescription and over-the-counter drugs by taking certain precautions within their home and encouraging friends and other family members to do the same. Take inventory of your prescription and over-the-counter medicines; secure them in a safe place and dispose of unused, unwanted and expired medicine. Drug drop boxes are available outside of all Baltimore County Police precincts and are accessible 24/7.

FINANCIAL REVIEW:

Every PTA must conduct an annual financial review for its financial year and send a copy to MD PTA, 5 Central Ave, Glen Burnie, MD 21061. *Refer to MD PTA "Cash Encounters" for financial review report format and sample report.*

IRS 990: Every PTA is required to file annually by November 15th. If annual gross income was \$50,000 or less you can e-file the 990 e-postcard. Provide a copy of 990 filing to MD PTA. *For assistance in filing the IRS 990 please contact MD PTA at 410-760-6221.*

INSURANCE: Every PTA is required to have insurance coverage through BB&T. Enrollment forms for 2014-2015 coverage were sent to all PTAs. The form can also be downloaded at www.mdpta.org. *Current coverage ends on 6/30/15.*

BYLAWS: Need to be reviewed at least every 3 years and submitted to MD PTA for approval. *A copy of the bylaws template was included in the leadership mailing sent to local PTAs.*

INCORPORATION: Every PTA must be incorporated in the state of MD. To maintain your incorporation status, a Personal Property Tax Return must be filed by April 15th each year whether or not your PTA/PTSA owns any property. Check your status at the Taxation and Assessment website at www.dat.state.md.us. *Contact MD PTA at 410-760-6221 for assistance.*

PTA COUNCIL "OFFICE"**Mailing address:**

Cockeysville Middle School
10401 Greenside Drive
Cockeysville, MD, 21030

Interschool mail: indicate "Attn: PTA Council, Cockeysville MS"

President: Emory Young president@bcptacouncil.org
Secretary: Georgie Clevenger secretary@bcptacouncil.org
Treasurer: John Ryan treasurer@bcptacouncil.org
Committee Chairs: contact information in directory
Website: www.bcptacouncil.org
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/BCPTAC>
Twitter: Follow @BCPTA

MEMBERSHIP

- ⇒ MEMBERS CAN BE ENROLLED ALL YEAR LONG
- ⇒ ENROLLED MEMBERS MUST BE ISSUED THEIR CARDS IN A TIMELY MANNER
- ⇒ 2014-2015 PTA MEMBERSHIP VALID UNTIL 9/30/15

The MD and National PTA portion of each enrolled member's dues should be remitted to MD PTA on a monthly basis. A new invoice will be issued monthly for any cards that are outstanding until all cards are paid for or the remaining cards are returned to the MD PTA office.

MD PTA dues are \$1.75 per member/year, National PTA dues are \$2.25 per member/year (total of \$4.00). Additional cards can be obtained (after making a payment for 75% of the initial invoice) by calling the MD PTA office at 410-760-6221.

MD PTA Membership Information

http://www.mdpta.org/bridge_membership.html

National PTA Membership Toolkit

<http://www.pta.org/members/content.cfm?ItemNumber=3107>

NEWS FROM MD PTA MEMBERSHIP CHAIR LIZ WHEELER (membership@mdpta.org)

CONGRATULATIONS to the December winner of MD PTA's membership incentive **PINE GROVE MIDDLE SCHOOL PTSA!** January's incentive is to send a log with at least 100 PTA volunteer hours to MD PTA by 1/31/15. Logs can be scanned and emailed. February's incentive is to send a photo(s) with at least 100 participants at PTA events between August and February 28. In April, one PTA will be chosen from the "Century Celebration Club" (PTAs participating for 5 of 7 months of incentives are club members) to receive a free MD PTA convention registration.

BULLETIN

PTA Council President: Emory Young
410-935-8927, president@bcptacouncil.org
BULLETIN Editor: communications@bcptacouncil.org
WEBSITE: www.bcptacouncil.org
The PTA Council of Baltimore County BULLETIN is published five times a year.

PASS IT ON!

Information published in the Council BULLETIN is meant to be passed along to your membership!

Articles may be reprinted in local PTA newsletters by adding the credit:

"Reprinted from the PTA Council of Baltimore County BULLETIN (Month/Year)"

Calendar Reminders

JANUARY

Jan 5 Schools Reopen
Jan 6 BOE Meeting, 7pm
Jan 8 PTA Council BOD Meeting, 7:30pm
Jan 12 SECAC Meeting, Building E, 7pm
Jan 13 Public Hearing on FY16 Operating Budget, West Towson ES, 7pm
Jan 14 Snow Date for Public Hearing
Jan 14 Southeast Education Advisory Council Meeting, Dundalk MS, 7pm
Jan 19 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday Observed, Schools and Offices Closed
Jan 20 BOE FY15 Operating Budget Work Session, 6:30pm
Jan 21 Snow Date for BOE Work Session
Jan 21 Southwest Area Education Advisory Council Meeting, Westowne ES, 7pm
Jan 23 Second Marking Period Ends, All Schools Close 3 Hours Early
Jan 26 Systemwide Professional Development Day, Schools Closed for Students
Jan 29 PTA Council General Mtg., Loch Raven HS, 7pm,
Jan 30 MSDE Parent Involvement Award deadline (see pg. 6 for more details)

FEBRUARY

Feb 3 BOE Meeting, 7pm
Feb 4 GTCAC Meeting, Cockeysville Middle, 7pm (snow date March 11)
Feb 5 Distribution of Report Cards
Feb 5 PTA Council BOD Meeting, 7:30pm
Feb 9 SECAC Meeting, Building E, 7pm
Feb 11 Southeast Education Advisory Council Meeting, Charlesmont ES, 7pm
Feb 13 Half-Day Systemwide Professional Development, Elementary and Middle Schools Close 3 Hours Early
Feb 16 Presidents' Day, Schools and Offices Closed
Feb 17 BOE Meeting, 6:30pm
Feb 18 Southwest Area Education Advisory Council Meeting, Lansdowne HS, 7pm

Board of Education (BOE) meetings held on Tuesdays at Building E (formerly ESS Building), Greenwood Complex, 6901 Charles St., Towson unless otherwise noted (www.bcps.org/board)

BOE meetings can be viewed online at <http://www.bcps.org/video/livestream.html>

BOE Advisory & Public Comment: *Speaker sign up required that evening prior to start of meeting*

PTA Council Board of Directors (BOD) meetings held on Thursdays at Building E (except for April 1)

Career and Technology Education Advisory Council (CTEAC) Meetings held on Mondays at Building E (http://www.bcps.org/offices/cte/pdf/CTEAC_dates.pdf)

Citizens' Advisory Committee for Gifted and Talented Education (GTCAC) meetings held on Wednesdays at various locations (<http://www.bcps.org/offices/gt/pdf/CAC-Calendar.pdf>)

Special Education Citizens' Advisory Committee (SECAC) meetings held on Mondays at Building E. (http://www.bcps.org/offices/special_ed/pdf/SECAC-MeetingSchedule.pdf)