



*everychild. onevoice.*

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*Emory Young, President, PTA Council of Baltimore County, Inc.*

Local PTAs/PTSAs reach out to parents, school staff, and communities to build strong family-school partnerships that will benefit every BCPS student.

***TOGETHER, we can make every child's potential a reality.***

**Please attend the following events!**

Through training and support, Council helps PTA locals meet their members' goals as they advocate on behalf of the needs of students. Council links 153 locals to state and national PTA programs, initiatives, purposes and mission.

♦ ***BCPS Pre-Operating Budget Hearings*** scheduled in each of the five areas of the county. Let your voice be heard; speak on behalf of your school's budget needs for FY 2015-16. See page 9 for hearing dates.

***PTA serves as:***

- ***A powerful voice for all children***
- ***A relevant resource for families and communities***
- ***A strong advocate for the education and well-being of every child***

♦ The PTA Council annual ***Fall Reception and Workshops*** (and General Meeting) on Thursday, October 23, 2014, from 6-9:30 p.m. at New Town High School, 4931 New Town Blvd., Owings Mills 21117. The reception will feature numerous exhibitors and vendors.

### ***Winners of MD PTA Annual Convention Awards***

Congratulations to two individuals and one family from the Catonsville MS PTSA, who received MD PTA Convention awards in July 2014:

**Educator of the Year: Charlotte Soracoe**  
**Golden Apple: PTSA President Angela McLean**  
**Family of the Year: Kathy and Jerry Sadler**

Awards are given to individuals whose contributions to PTA are exemplary, who go above and beyond for all children, who act as tireless advocates for children's education, health, and well-being, who serve as models for others in their community, and who maintain the integrity of the organization by living up to the Purposes and Mission of PTA.

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

### ***REMINDER:***

***Council Dues are due***

***October 1st!***

### **IMPROVING PTA COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS**

A major goal this year is to improve communications. This bulletin will be shared 5 times per year, email communications will be enhanced, and our website completely will be overhauled. These upgrades will greatly improve Council's ability to help YOU, local leaders, run your "business" (which is what your local unit is) more effectively.

**GOING GREEN:** Our goal is to email this bulletin to save Council funds and paper. It will also help you share information with your unit.

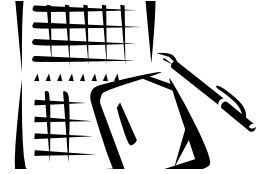
**When we email asking you to choose between paper and email, let us know your preference.**

## 2014-15 BOARD OF DIRECTORS GOALS

- ◆ Actively recruit and welcome members to fill vacant positions on the Board of Directors
- ◆ Assist all PTA units to achieve and maintain the standards of affiliation established by Maryland PTA
- ◆ Promote the PTA as the most prominent and visible child advocacy organization in Baltimore County
- ◆ Increase PTA membership in Baltimore County

*Adopted September 4, 2014*

## PTA/PTSA Leader's Calendar



## IN THE SUMMER DID YOU:

- Send officer contact info to MD PTA?
- Order the National PTA starter kit?
- Conduct your annual financial review of your PTA's books?

## SEPTEMBER

- Conduct general membership meeting/adopt 2014-2015 PTA/PTSA budget
- Register for the PTA Council Fall Reception & Workshops, 10/23, New Town HS
- Pay MD PTA and National PTA membership dues monthly
- Distribute cards to your members
- Pay PTA Council dues (due 10/1)

## OCTOBER

- Send copy of annual financial review to MD PTA (due 10/30)
- Attend PTA Council Fall Reception & Workshops, 10/23, New Town HS
- Pay MD PTA and National PTA membership dues monthly
- Distribute cards to your members
- Attend pre-operating budget hearings (dates on page 9)
- Begin work on Reflections Program

## PTA Council 2014-2015 Calendar

### Board of Directors Meetings

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

#### 2014

October 2  
November 6  
December 4

#### 2015

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

*All  
Council  
Meetings  
and  
Events  
Open  
to the  
Public*

### General Meetings and Special Events

*PTAs in good standing receive 4  
voting delegate cards in advance  
(delegates need PTA membership  
cards to vote)*

**October 23, 2014: Fall Reception  
& Workshops, New Town HS,  
exhibit area 6pm, General Meet-  
ing 7pm followed by workshops**

**January 29, 2015: Meeting, Pro-  
gram and/or Workshops, loca-  
tion TBA, 7pm**

**March 15, 2015: Reflections  
Awards Ceremony, location  
TBA, 2pm**

**March 26, 2015: Meeting, Pro-  
gram and/or Workshops, loca-  
tion TBA, 7pm**

**April 30, 2015: Meeting & Coun-  
cil Recognition Awards, location  
TBA, 7pm**

**June 11, 2015: Council Leader-  
ship Training, location TBA,  
7pm**

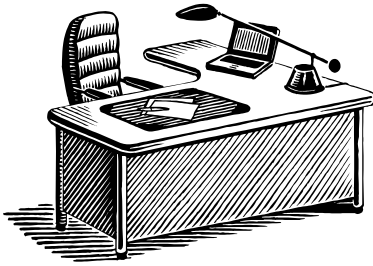
### Council Memorials

PTA Council provides a memo-  
rial donation to the MD PTA  
Scholarship Fund whenever an  
administrator, teacher, or PTA  
officer dies while serving BCPS.  
PTA Council also provides a  
memorial donation whenever a  
registered BCPS student dies.  
Should your school suffer such  
a loss, please contact the PTA  
Council at 410-666-6637.

**PTA COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE COUNTY, INC.  
2014-2015 PROPOSED BUDGET**

	Budget <u>2013-2014</u>	Actual Amount <u>2013-2014</u>	Budget <u>2014-2015</u>
BALANCE FORWARD	\$42,580.08	\$42,580.08	\$47,454.39
<b>RECEIPTS:</b>			
Membership Dues	\$16,169.50	\$15,946.50	\$14,951.00
Fall Workshops	2,000.00	1,972.00	2,000.00
Interest	10.00	17.76	20.00
Miscellaneous Income	<u>350.00</u>	<u>303.30</u>	<u>50.00</u>
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS:</b>	\$18,529.50	\$18,239.56	<b>\$17,021.00</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$61,109.58</b>	<b>\$60,819.64</b>	<b>\$64,475.39</b>
<b>DISBURSEMENTS:</b>			
Executive Board:			
101 Administration	\$ 125.00	\$ 119.71	\$ 125.00
103 Copy/Reproduction	1,000.00	164.52	1,000.00
104 Equipment/Pers. Property Tax	50.00	0.00	50.00
105 Hospitality	750.00	70.90	750.00
106 Memorials	250.00	250.00	250.00
108 Postage	500.00	232.57	500.00
109 Supplies	1,000.00	283.17	1,000.00
111 Bank Charges	50.00	33.00	50.00
Publications:			
201 Bulletin	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
202 Directory	2,250.00	2,200.00	2,300.00
203 Subscriptions	250.00	0.00	0.00
204 Web Site	160.00	133.33	1,000.00
205 Resource Materials	100.00	0.00	0.00
Leadership Development:			
301 Fall Workshops	2,500.00	2,324.63	2,500.00
302 National Convention	3,500.00	2,978.00	3,500.00
304 MCPT Convention	1,200.00	450.00	1,200.00
305 Mandatory Training	1,000.00	0.00	0.00
306 Workshops & Meetings	100.00	35.00	100.00
307 Technical Support	225.00	201.00	250.00
Standing Committees:			
401 Committees	100.00	0.00	100.00
402 Legislation	100.00	0.00	200.00
403 Council Recognition	1,500.00	769.18	1,500.00
Special Projects:			
604 Reflections	2,200.00	1,970.24	2,200.00
606 Membership Incentive	1,000.00	900.00	1,000.00
607 Council Dues Incentive	250.00	250.00	250.00
<b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS:</b>	<u>\$21,160.00</u>	<u>\$13,365.25</u>	<u>\$20,825.00</u>
<b>FUNDS TO CARRY FORWARD:</b>	<b>\$39,949.58</b>	<b>\$47,454.39</b>	<b>\$43,650.39</b>

Adopted: August 7, 2014

**PTA COUNCIL “OFFICE”**

The PTA Council does not maintain an office. Everyone serving on PTA Council is a volunteer. Our mailing address is Cockeysville Middle School, 10401 Greenside Drive, Cockeysville, MD, 21030. When using interschool mail, please clearly indicate Attn: PTA Council, Cockeysville MS on the envelope. The Council “office” number, **410-666-6637**, is a voicemail-only system. Leave a message and we will return your call. Of course you can always reach us by email.

**PTA COUNCIL DIRECTORY**

Four copies of the directory are sent to the PTA president upon receipt of Council dues. One copy should be retained by the president, one copy given to the principal, and the other copies given to board members who most need the information.

**Directory information CANNOT be shared with vendors or other non-PTA organizations.**

Please notify Marilyn Ryan at [directory@bcptacouncil.org](mailto:directory@bcptacouncil.org) or 410-665-4450 regarding any errors or changes in directory information. Periodic directory updates will be included in future Bulletins.

***WHAT DOES A COUNCIL DO?***

The council is a key link in the line of communication between local units, MD PTA and the National PTA, providing information, inspiration and instruction for its member units.

Responsibilities of a council:

- Strengthen local PTAs
- Develop leadership
- Promote membership
- Give service to the local school community

***Members of the Board of Directors are expected to attend all regular and special meetings of the board of directors, assigned committee meetings, and the general council meetings.***

**PTA COUNCIL BULLETIN**

The PTA Council Bulletin is the official line of communication between PTA Council and local PTAs. Each local PTA receives one copy of each issue of the Bulletin via interschool mail. Current and past issues will be archived on the PTA Council website.

**PTA Council Board of Directors  
Always Looking for Exceptional People**

The PTA Council 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](mailto:nomination@bcptacouncil.org).

**BOARD OF DIRECTOR CONTACT INFORMATION CAN BE FOUND IN THE DIRECTORY AND AT [www.bcptacouncil.org](http://www.bcptacouncil.org)**

**FINANCIAL**

**REVIEW:** Every PTA/PTSA is required to conduct an annual financial review for its financial year and to 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 a Sample Report.*

**IRS 990:** Every PTA/PTSA 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 Maryland PTA/PTSA is required to have insurance coverage through BB&T. Enrollment forms for 2014-2015 coverage were previously sent to all PTA/PTSAs. This form can also be downloaded at [www.mdpta.org](http://www.mdpta.org) *Current coverage ends on 6/30/15; do not let your insurance coverage lapse.*

**BYLAWS:** Need to be reviewed at least every 3 years and submitted to MD PTA for approval. *A copy of the new Bylaws Template was included in the "White Box" leadership mailing sent to local PTAs.*

**INCORPORATION:** All local PTA/PTSAs must be incorporated in the state of Maryland. 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](http://www.dat.state.md.us). *If your PTA/PTSA is not incorporated or the incorporation needs to be revived, contact MD PTA at 410-760-6221.*

**LOCAL PTA BYLAWS UPDATE**

Do you know where your bylaws are? Are they up to date? Do your board members have copies?

Our Council goal is to have all 153 local PTAs in Baltimore County appear on the MD PTA Standards of Continuing Affiliation report as current with bylaws.

**WHY EACH PTA/PTSA****IS GOVERNED BY ITS OWN BYLAWS**

**Legitimacy:** Bylaws give the members assurance of the mission, structure, and policies of the group. The IRS requires bylaws on file for 501(c)(3) status.

**Efficiency:** Your bylaws include procedures for decision making so your PTA can conduct all its business according to the rules and as efficiently as possible.

**Consistency:** Rules and policies that have been documented in the form of bylaws can be applied consistently so that emotion and personalities do not get involved.

**Protection:** Bylaws help protect the group from internal conflict and financial risk.

**For assistance revising your bylaws, contact Bylaws and Procedures Chair Marilyn Ryan at 410-665-4450 or [bylaws@bcptacouncil.org](mailto:bylaws@bcptacouncil.org). Bring a copy of your bylaws to the PTA Council Fall Reception and Workshops on 10/23; a Bylaws Workshop will be offered during both sessions.**

**PTA COUNCIL BYLAWS AMENDMENTS**

Proposed Council bylaws amendments require 30 days notification prior to membership vote on 10/23/14 (by 9/23 bylaws will be emailed and posted on the council website)

**REMINDER:** When sending PTA correspondence (email or mail) do not include business/professional information with your signature, which uses the PTA for personal gain, a violation of the non-commercial provision of our tax-exempt status and of our bylaws.

**National and Maryland PTA Training****National PTA E-Learning**

<http://www.pta.org/members/content.cfm?ItemNumber=3090>

*Username and password are located on the back of your PTA membership card.*

**BACK-TO-SCHOOL KIT RESOURCES ONLINE**

<http://www.ptakit.org/>

**Back-to-School Kits** will be shipped to PTA units that did not register for a preferred shipping date. Kits will be shipped to the address on file with National PTA.

*If you did not pre-register, please check at your school for delivery of the BTS Kit; the kit will be sent within a white outer carton. All pre-registered kits were sent to the requested mailing address as indicated on your online registration form*

**MARYLAND PTA IS ON FACEBOOK**

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/53457603877/>

**MD PTA MANDATORY FINANCIAL ONLINE TRAINING**  
[http://www.mdpta.org/bridge\\_training.html](http://www.mdpta.org/bridge_training.html)

***LAST OFFERING NOVEMBER 24, 2014!***

**Online Resources**  
**“RUNNING A PTA”**  
 at [www.pta.org](http://www.pta.org)

**ADVOCATE THE PTA WAY**

PTA is the oldest and largest volunteer child advocacy association in the US. Founded in 1897, PTA has a long, successful history of influencing federal policy to promote the education, health, and well-being of all children—resulting in kindergarten classes, child labor laws, school lunch programs, a juvenile justice system, and strengthened parent-teacher relationships. PTA continues that legacy today by fighting for change under its federal public policy priorities.

**Learn more about how to advocate with PTA.**

**<http://www.pta.org/advocacy/?&navItemNumber=505>**

**PTA Marketing Tools: PTA/PTSA Logos**

When used properly, PTA logos and tagline create a consistent message, help unify all PTAs, and set PTA apart from the competition.

Create a customized logo:  
[http://www.pta.org/about/content.cfm?](http://www.pta.org/about/content.cfm?ItemNumber=3097)

[ItemNumber=3097](http://www.pta.org/about/content.cfm?ItemNumber=3097)

**NATIONAL PTA'S ANNUAL REFLECTIONS PROGRAM**  
**2014-15 THEME: "The world would be a better place if ..."**

*Designed to enhance a quality arts education, the Reflections Program provides opportunities for students to express themselves and to receive positive recognition for their artistic efforts.*

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

**Local PTA/PTSA Eligibility:** A local PTA must be "In Good Standing" to participate.

**Deadlines:** The deadline to forward local PTA entries for Council level judging is **Monday, January 5, 2015**. A local PTA must set its deadline well ahead of this date to provide adequate time to complete judging and to properly prepare any entries for **delivery to Cockeysville MS**.

A total of four 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 six art categories can be submitted by a local PTA/PTSA to the Council for county-level judging.

Entries receiving county Awards of Excellence are forwarded to MD PTA for state judging. The state then forwards Outstanding Interpretation entries for national PTA judging. Participants are recognized at each level of judging. **Students must adhere to General Student Participation Rules as well as the rules for their specific arts area.** Please refer to the MD PTA Reflections booklet sent to each local PTA/PTSA President or download at [www.mdpta.org](http://www.mdpta.org); click on the link for "Reflections".

**PLEASE submit your Reflections Coordinator's name, email, and phone number to**  
**president@bcptacouncil.org**

**PTA COUNCIL FALL RECEPTION AND WORKSHOPS**

**Thursday, October 23, 2014**

**New Town High School (4931 New Town Blvd., Owings Mills 21117)**

Whether your unit is new, rebuilding, growing, or well-established, there is always a need to learn and do more to fulfill the mission and purposes of PTA. PTA Council can offer information, support, guidance, and training. To be a more effective PTA Council, we need your input and involvement. Our children's academic success depends on building and maintaining a strong partnership between family, school and community.

Workshop topics are carefully selected to address the education and welfare of our children as well as PTA operational issues. To advocate effectively at the school, county, or state level, you will need to inform, involve, and motivate your members. We will provide you with the tools. **NOTE:** registration fee is a legitimate PTA expense.

**This event meets all six PTA National Standards for Family-School Partnerships Programs:**

*Welcoming All Families, Communicating Effectively, Supporting Student Success, Speaking Up for Every Child, Sharing Power, Collaborating with Community*

**2014-15 MD PTA Membership Information**  
[http://www.mdpta.org/bridge\\_membership.html](http://www.mdpta.org/bridge_membership.html)

**National PTA  
 Membership Toolkit**  
<http://www.pta.org/members/content.cfm?ItemNumber=3107>

MEMBERS CAN BE ENROLLED AT ANY TIME DURING THE YEAR

*Remember to sign your membership card and bring it with you to PTA Council General Meetings to be eligible to vote!*

EACH ENROLLED MEMBER MUST BE ISSUED THEIR MEMBERSHIP CARD IN A TIMELY MANNER

2014-2015 PTA MEMBERSHIP VALID UNTIL SEPTEMBER 30, 2015  
 ON EACH ISSUED PTA CARD ENTER THE EXPIRATION DATE AS 9/30/15

*For just over a penny a day, each PTA member has an abundance of resources and services available to them.*  
[www.pta.org/pta\\_member\\_benefits.asp](http://www.pta.org/pta_member_benefits.asp)

**MEMBERSHIP CARDS**

Membership Cards were mailed from MD PTA in August to locals who had provided updated officer contact information; cards were sent to each PTA c/o the school address. An invoice, billing your PTA for these 2014-2015 membership cards, was enclosed in this mailing.

The MD PTA 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.

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 dues are \$1.75 per member per year and National PTA dues are \$2.25 per member per year (a total of \$4 per member per year).

***MEMBERSHIP IS THE STRENGTH OF PTA***

The strength of your PTA lies in its membership—the parents, teachers, administrators, business leaders, and community members, who devote themselves to making a positive difference in the lives of children. Members are the lifeblood of PTA and provide the passion, leadership, and hard work needed to fulfill PTA's Mission.

Every individual who joins PTA is giving something not only to his or her child, but to every child. Imagine how much stronger your community could be if every parent, community member, and business leader who could be involved in PTA *did* get involved.

Attracting new members and retaining current ones are among the most important duties of a PTA. A strong membership is essential for PTA to be a force in decisions involving the welfare and education of children.



# BULLETIN

PTA Council President: Emory Young  
410-935-8927, [president@bcptacouncil.org](mailto:president@bcptacouncil.org)  
BULLETIN Editor: [editor@bcptacouncil.org](mailto:editor@bcptacouncil.org)  
WEBSITE: [www.bcptacouncil.org](http://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

Sep 23 Board of Ed Meeting, 6:30pm  
Oct 2 PTA Council Board of Directors Meeting, 7:30pm  
Oct 7 Board of Ed Meeting, Woodlawn HS, 7pm  
Oct 8 SE Area Advisory Council Meeting,  
Dundalk/Sollers Point HS, 7pm  
Oct 14 NW Area Advisory Council Meeting,  
Owings Mills HS, 7pm  
Oct 15 SW Area Advisory Council Meeting,  
Woodlawn HS, 7pm  
Oct 21 Board of Ed Meeting, 6:30pm  
Oct 23 PTA Council Fall Reception, Workshops, and  
General Meeting, New Town HS, 6pm  
Oct 27 Central Area Advisory Council Meeting,  
Hampton ES, 7pm  
Oct 29 NE Area Advisory Council Meeting,  
Perry Hall HS, 7pm  
Nov 5 (Wed) Board of Ed Meeting, 7pm  
Nov 6 PTA Council Board of Directors Meeting, 7:30pm

\*Program for all October Area Advisory Council Meetings:  
Operating and Pre-Capital Budget Planning

\*\*All BOE meetings held on Tuesdays at Building E, Greenwood Complex, 6901 Charles St., Towson unless otherwise noted ([www.bcps.org/board](http://www.bcps.org/board))

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

\*\*\*\*All PTA Council BOD meetings held on Thursdays at Building E except for Wednesday, April 1, 2015

### **EVENT NOTICE: "RAISING DRUG-FREE KIDS"** **with former Baltimore County Drug Czar Mike Gimbel**

Hosted and Sponsored by Maryland Addiction Recovery Center

A monthly educational seminar for parents, children, families, educators, and professionals to learn about new trends in street drugs, preventive education, treatment resources, and drug testing.

**First seminar begins Wednesday, October 8, 2014 at 7pm**  
Maryland Addiction Recovery Center, 110 West Rd., Suite 410, Towson, MD 21204  
Each seminar following on the first Wednesday of each month

For more information, 410-773-0500 ext. 101