

**PTA COUNCIL HOWARD COUNTY GENERAL MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY, May 6, 2024**

**Homewood**

**Board Members and Committee Chairs in Attendance**

Terri Marcus, President  
Karina Fisher, Executive Vice President  
Glenda Hernandez-Tittle, Vice President of Issues  
Angela Shiplet, Secretary  
Laurie Ramey, Treasurer  
Brent Loveless, Legislative Committee Chair  
Lisa Loveless, Policy Committee Chair

I. **Call to order** - The meeting was called to order at 7:30; quorum was established.

II. **President's report** - Terri Marcus presented the President's report.

A. Free State had a town hall to discuss a \$1.00 proposed dues increase. The board of National PTA voted to propose a \$1.00 dues increase to be presented and voted on at the National Convention. This would increase dues from \$2.25 to \$3.25. National dues have not changed in 13 years.

B. This week is Teacher Appreciation week. Last week PTACHC made a donation to support the teacher lunch at Homewood, they were thankful for our support.

C. Teacher contract negotiations have stalled. HCEA is encouraging people to attend a rally on May 9, 2024. A post has been shared on the PTACHC Officers Group Facebook page.

III. **Vice President's report** - Karina Fisher Presented the Vice President's Report.

A. Karina Fisher reported that James Obasiolu has been elected as the new Student Member of the Board.

B. The Capital Criterion Workgroup has finished meeting. Their report will be presented to the Board of Education on May 23, 2024 with board action scheduled on June 20<sup>th</sup>.

C. HB14-40- Howard County Public Schools- Differences in Capital Budget-Proposals- Report was passed and signed by the Governor. The bill will go into effect on July 1, 2024.

IV. **Secretary's report** - Angela Shiplet presented the minutes from the last meeting. *A motion was made to approve the minutes with correct spellings for Karina Fisher and Lisa Krausz's names. The motion was seconded and approved.*

V. **Treasurer's report**- Laurie Ramey presented the [Treasurer's report](#). She announced that PTACHC will need to form a financial review committee at next month's general meeting. She also informed the delegation that their PTAs will need to form financial review committees for their local units. Committees need three members who are not signers on the account or related to signers on the account.

**VI. Guest Speaker, Dan Lubeley Acting Chief Operating Officer and Director of Capital Planning and Budget** - Mr. Lubeley provided an overview of the Capital Budget process and took questions from the audience.

**VII. Legislative report** - Brent Loveless presented the [Legislative report](#).

**VIII. Board of Education Report** - Dr. Chen presented the Board of Education Report.

A. The County Executive released his budget on April 16, 2024. The budget was \$3.8 million less than the board's request. This has allowed the board to restore some programs. On May 16<sup>th</sup> there will be a hearing, you can sign up to testify or email a copy of your testimony to the County Council.

B. Bill Barnes has shared transportation updates. Dr. Chen requested that people let the board know if they have any concerns.

C. James Obasiolu has been elected as the new Student Member of the Board.

D. The board voted to keep the same school start times next year. The board also requested a timeline for implementing a change in start times to no earlier than 8:00 a.m. and no later than 9:25 a.m.

E. On April 29<sup>th</sup> the Capital Criterion Workgroup wrapped up. On May 23<sup>rd</sup> the report will be presented, the hearing will be on June 6<sup>th</sup>.

F. The superintendent search is underway; there are three semifinalists. The new superintendent will be announced in June, with start in July.

**IX. Howard County Educator Association Report** - Ben Schmidt presented the HCEA report. He reported that contract negotiations have stalled, and teachers do not have a contract. HCEA is requesting a multiyear contract and contracts comparable to surrounding counties. Mr. Schmidt reported that over 40% of HCEA membership live outside of Howard County.

**X. Superintendent's Report** - James LeMon was not able to attend the meeting but sent in a [report](#).

**X. Adjournment**- the meeting was adjourned at 9:26 p.m.