

## *Priority Input Worksheet*

### PTA Council of Howard County

At its first meeting of the 2008-09 year, the leadership of the PTA Council of Howard County determined that it would be useful to develop a set of priorities on which the Council could proactively take action beginning in January 2009 and beyond. These priorities would seek to fulfill at the County level the mission of the PTA: speaking on behalf of every child to ensure that children are safe, healthy, and successful in school and in life. Once these priorities are established, Committees and other working groups will be established to work on them.

Ideally, 3-5 priorities will emerge from this process. The leadership of the Council is committed to involving Council delegates and leaders in local PTAs in establishing these priorities. In its initial discussion of priorities, the Council leaders identified the following items as possible priorities.

- Augmenting teacher involvement in PTA activities and support of teacher needs;
- Enhancing community and parent involvement in local PTAs;
- Enhancing communication, collaboration, and advocacy at various levels of the public education system, including the County Board of Education;
- Increasing the capacity of parents to be involved in their child(ren)'s education and school(s);
- Increasing attention within local PTAs on activities related to education improvement, and diminishing the need for them to be fund raising to meet local school needs.

Before further developing this list, however, the Council leadership wants to hear from YOU. Please help us by answering the following questions:

- a. What hopes do you have for the broader PTA movement in Howard County during the next 18 months – 2 years?
  
- b. What does your local PTA need to be more successful during the next 18 months – 2 years?
  
- c. What needs do you see among children with regard to being safe, healthy, and successful in school and in life, and how would you recommend that the Council address them?
  
- d. What priorities would you recommend for the County PTA Council for the next 18 months to 2 years?

Please send your responses to the Council at: [ptachc@gmail.com](mailto:ptachc@gmail.com). Thanks!