

**From:** [Bill Barnes](#)  
**To:** [Jolene Mosley](#); [Michelle Catherine](#)  
**Cc:** [Robyn Scates](#); [Jennifer Mallo](#); [Jacquelin McCoy](#); [Student Board Member](#); [Yun Lu](#); [BoE Email](#); [Steven Fleming](#); [April Harrison](#); [Donna Forton](#); [David L. Clark](#); [Ombudsman](#); [Niki McGuigan](#); [Missy Lemke](#); [Karalee Turner-Little](#); [Jen Robinson](#); [Diane Morris](#); [Robert A. Motley](#); [Patrick Arnone](#)  
**Subject:** Re: [External] Request from the HoHS PTSA President, on behalf of numerous parents  
**Date:** Thursday, October 17, 2024 11:18:02 AM

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Good morning,

Thank you for looping me into this request. I think it is a great idea to pull together members of my team (including our security team and student services team) to engage in a community discussion to provide answers to the many questions concerning families, students, and staff alike. We can certainly invite representatives from the police department as well. I will be participating in a joint press conference with the Chief of Police later today and sending out a summary statement following that event. I am fully committed to providing answers to questions from our community AND, I am fully committed to taking immediate steps to improving the safety of students and staff. We will work with school administration to identify and then schedule time to meet.

Bill

Bill Barnes (he/him/his)  
Superintendent  
Howard County Public School System

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**From:** Jolene Mosley <Jolene\_Mosley@hcpss.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 16, 2024 8:59 PM  
**To:** Michelle Catherine [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Robyn Scates <Robyn\_Scates@hcpss.org>; Jennifer Mallo <Jennifer\_Mallo@hcpss.org>; Jacquelin McCoy <Jacquelin\_McCoy@hcpss.org>; Student Board Member <Student\_Member@hcpss.org>; Yun Lu <Yun\_Lu@hcpss.org>; BoE Email <boe@hcpss.org>; Steven Fleming <Steven\_Fleming@hcpss.org>; April Harrison <April\_Harrison@hcpss.org>; Donna Forton <Donna\_Forton@hcpss.org>; David L. Clark <David\_Clark@hcpss.org>; Ombudsman <ombudsman@hcpss.org>; Niki McGuigan [REDACTED]; Missy Lemke [REDACTED]; Bill Barnes <Bill\_Barnes@hcpss.org>; Karalee Turner-Little <Karalee\_TurnerLittle@hcpss.org>; Jen Robinson <Jen\_Robinson@hcpss.org>  
**Subject:** Re: [External] Request from the HoHS PTSA President, on behalf of numerous parents

Hello.

Thank you for writing, I am adding in Superintendent since you wanted to make sure he received the email.

Jolene Mosley (she/her)  
Howard County Board of Education Member

Maryland Association of Boards of Education (MABE) Board of Directors Member

Audit Committee Chair

On Oct 16, 2024, at 7:12 PM, Michelle Catherine [REDACTED] wrote:

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [REDACTED].  
[Learn why this is important](#)

**! CAUTION: This email originated from outside of HCPSS. Do not click links or open attachments, unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.**

Good evening, Mr. Barnes and the BOE (hoping Mr. Barnes is on the BOE group email address)

My name is Michelle Horner, DO. I am the PTSA president at Howard High School.

Parents are reaching out to me (and other PTSA members) by volume and we have a request.

First, I greatly appreciate that everyone is trying to do their best and this is awful. But this situation calls for a bit more than what has been offered to the community thus far and we are asking you to please, get the support you need to better hear and address our community concerns. See below for details.

**Bottom line up front:**

**Request:** The HoHS parent community is requesting an **in-person meeting with HCPSS leadership**, including the safety team, the police department, BOE members, county stakeholders who can attend.

**What:** A listening session that starts off with an honest discussion about how this student was allowed to be at Howard given his previous charge(s). There is fear of how much more of this is at the school, given the policies and of course the police and news reports.

**Time:** soon (i.e., in the next few days, at least schedule it).

**Who:** Planned by HoHS/HCPSS and invite the community. As a PTSA, we considered having a meeting ourselves but it's clear the community at large wants to hear from you. People from other schools are also asking for discussion.

**Location:** HoHS auditorium or cafeteria or another community location that makes sense for the HoHS community. Please offer zoom to allow for more representation. Let us know if we can be supportive.

I am happy to provide more details regarding the dismay and disbelief being

conveyed to me so you can anticipate the questions. But in short, parents are feeling like there is an uncomfortable attempt at redirection (e.g., odd focus on what parents/kids are supposed to do and think and feel, counselors, FAQs, reflection) instead the issue at hand: there are circumstance that allowed this all to occur, and the active, real fear of parents remain regarding another accomplice and the police statements/WBAL reports of the reason the student had an ankle bracelet. The sentiment is overwhelming and I hear it over and over again.

I want to be transparent that I'm a child psychiatrist and I've worked in juvenile detention and in the Baltimore City schools as a child psychiatrist. No one is saying that juve students don't deserve an education but no one can understand how this student was in a school that wasn't designed to offer safety or support for students with that kind of history.

Again, I am happy to give more detail if you are interested. In the meanwhile, please schedule a community meeting. Unfortunately, the absence of this discussion is fueling speculation, and increasing frustration and fear.

Thank you,

Michelle Horner, DO, DFAACAP  
PTSA President for HoHS  
Child psychiatrist

My opinions are my own and do not represent the opinions of my employer