December 2024 Volume 32



## Baltimore City Public School Administrators and Supervisors Association

# PRINCEPS

### **President's Corner**

Dear PSASA Family,

As we approach the holiday season, I wanted to take a moment to extend my warmest wishes to you and your families. This time of year is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on our accomplishments and the progress we have made together this school year.

The dedication and hard work of our members is crucial in fostering a positive work environment in our schools, offices, and for all students. Your outstanding leadership, compassion, and commitment have not gone unnoticed, and I truly appreciate all that you continue to do for Baltimore City Schools.

As we head towards the end of the calendar year, I look forward to continuing and strengthening our collaboration as we work together to overcome any challenges that still may arise. Let us remain united in our efforts to make this year a successful and enriching experience for all. Together, PSASA continues to grow into a formidable and respected body of educational leaders both locally and across the national landscape.

Wishing you a joyful holiday season filled with peace, happiness, and time to recharge for the coming months.

#TUT In solidarity,

Karl E. Perry

#### The 5 C's of Mental Health



- Connection: Positive relationships with others and institutions
- Compassion: A key component of well-being
- Coping: A way to deal with mental health challenges
- Community: A supportive environment
- Care: An important aspect of mental health



### Officers

- Rhonda Richetta, Vice President
- Donnae Bushrod, Secretary
- Valerie Stamper, Treasurer
- Tanyaneka Lipscomb, Public Relations
- April Myrick, Parliamentarian

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### <u>Members-at-Large</u>

- Danielle Henson, K-8
  Kyle Gatchalian, District Office
- Kendra Jacox-Paige, K-8
  Tanya Crawford-Williams, District Office
- Kamala Carnes, High
  Reginald Robinson, Executive Director
- James Sargent, High
- Christopher French, Assist. Principals

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#### **Tuition Reimbursement**

As a reminder, outlined in our new contract with City Schools, all members are eligible for up to \$7500 annually in tuition reimbursement. The agreement requires the district to allocate \$360,000 to be used by PSASA members for tuition reimbursement which is a significant increase from the past. It is imperative that we exhaust this allocation as it has not been typically done in past years. Use this opportunity when advancing your degree or undertaking re-certification courses.

In addition, AFSA membership provides all PSASA members access to participate in the many advantages associated with Union Deals. Discounted coursework is offered with several universities. For additional information log onto Union Deals or you may even access it by way of the AFSA website (www.theschoolleader.org).

### **Vacation Policy**

Several questions have arisen pertaining to vacation leave use. As outlined in Appendix B of our contract, "An employee who wishes to use accumulated vacation leave must obtain prior approval from their immediate supervisor. Vacation requests for a period of one week or longer must normally be made two weeks in advance. A vacation request for less than one week must normally be made one work day in advance. However, these time requirements may be waived by the employee's supervisor.

All reasonable vacation requests will be approved; however, requests which would be detrimental to the proper operation of an agency may be denied. Conflicting requests for vacation will be resolved on the basis of seniority."

There is no policy regarding the use of vacation leave immediately prior to or following a district holiday.





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Or Go To: www.mypsasa.org

"We have a powerful potential in our youth, and we must have the courage to change old ideas and practices so that we may direct their power toward good ends."

-- Mary McLeod Bethune, Civil Rights Activist and Co-founder of Bethune-Cookman University