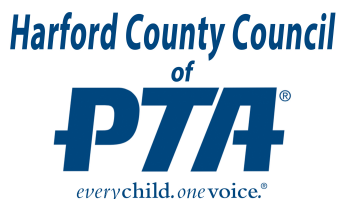


From: Renee DeBiase no-reply@user.givebacks.com
Subject: North Star and PTA
Date: October 6, 2025 at 5:01 PM
To: [REDACTED]



PTA Friends,

As my children have begun age out of the school system, I see how quickly the time passes **me** by. All of my children have been enrolled in HCPS schools throughout their K-12 educational career. And, when my kids were in kindergarten I was not directly thinking about what knowledge, skills and abilities they would need as adults. After all, they were still little... until, they weren't.

A goal for HCPS is to ensure that every student is college and/or career ready by the time they graduate high school. That foundation begins to be built in the earliest years pre-K and K. In HCPS, this is commonly referred to as "North Star." Unfortunately, on paper the North Star vision and much of the literature is focused on high school. North Star, to me symbolizes where our children are going. And now is always the starting point! Putting what they learn into practice moves each child closer to what North Star will be for them. The best part is we get to travel with them on this journey!

If you haven't heard of it, I've included a couple of links where you can find additional information about North Star:

Introduction to North Star: [YouTube](#)

North Star Overview: [HCPS Website](#)

The HCPS North Star initiative can be an abstract concept especially if you're involved in an elementary school community. College and/or career ready pathways begin to be more strongly emphasized in middle school in preparation for high school. My family and I are in that latter phase: one in college, 3 in high school.

In my years with PTA I continue to believe that PTA is a network worth supporting! As I think back, I remember supporting activities that supported future student choice emphasizing healthy lifestyles, encouraging creativity, community engagement/volunteerism, and tips for entering the workforce. I know this is the work you are doing now.

Your engagement definitely matters. The compass is pointed north. Thank you for walking with every child!

Renee

Renee DeBiase

President, HCCPTA

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