



Congressional Record

Proceedings and Debates of the 112th Congress, First Session

WASHINGTON, D.C.

House of Representatives

Statement by Representative Gerald E. Connolly Recognizing the Contributions of PTA/PTSA Organizations

MR. CONNOLLY: Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and pay tribute to the contributions of Parent Teacher Associations (PTA) and Parent Teacher Student Associations (PTSA) in Northern Virginia. These associations serve a critical role in helping to provide the best possible educational environment for our students.

Schools located throughout northern Virginia are consistently recognized as being among the very best in our country. I strongly believe one factor in the excellent education received by our students is the high level of involvement and encouragement provided by parents through PTAs and PTSAs. Parent volunteers exist in a number of capacities within each school ranging from planning and implementing social events to helping ensure that teachers have the classroom resources they need to succeed.

The Northern Virginia District PTA represents a region with more than 200 schools. Maintaining a healthy and strong organization is an important part of allowing these groups to have the greatest possible impact on the students they serve. To encourage such strength, it is important to note the individual PTAs and PTSAs that excel in this mission as well as the individual Volunteers of the Year.

I am pleased to congratulate the following on being recognized by the National PTA and Virginia PTA for 2010-2011 school year:

2010 National PTA Healthy Lifestyle Grant: Barcroft Elementary School PTA

2010 Phoebe Apperson Hearst National PTA Outstanding Family-School Partnership Award: Kate Waller Barrett Elementary School PTA, Nina Austin, President

2010 Phoebe Apperson Hearst National PTA Family-School Partnership Awards of Merit: Fairview Elementary School PTA and Lake Braddock Secondary School PTA

2010 Virginia PTA Local Unit Standards Certificate: Centreville High School PTSA, Chesterbrook Elementary School PTA, Fort

Hunt Elementary School PTA, Francis S. Key Middle School PTA, Garfield Elementary School PTA, Haycock Elementary School PTA, Kent Gardens Elementary School PTA, Langston Hughes Middle School PTA, Longfellow Middle School PTA, Mantua Elementary School PTA, Marshall Road Elementary School PTA, Oak Hill Elementary School PTA, Sydney Lanier Middle School PTA, Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology PTSA, Westfield High School PTSA

2010 Virginia PTA Superior Membership Achievement Awards: Falls Church Elementary School PTA, Nottingham Elementary School PTA, Chesterbrook Elementary School PTA, Langley High School PTSA

2010 Virginia PTA 100% Membership Awards: Chesterbrook Elementary School PTA, Falls Church Elementary School PTA, Langley High School PTSA, Nottingham Elementary School PTA, Waynewood Elementary School PTA

2010 Virginia PTA Communications Awards: Elementary - Chesterbrook Elementary School PTA; Secondary - Westfield High School PTSA; District - Northern Virginia District PTA

2011 Virginia PTA Volunteer of the Year District Nominees: Elementary Division – Denise Rogers, Orange Hunt Elementary School PTA; Kate Trussell, Union Mill Elementary School PTA
Secondary Division – Eileen Balberde, Centreville High School PTSA; Jennifer Campbell, Westfield High School PTSA; Vickie Sands, Lake Braddock Secondary School PTSA; Susie Street, Lake Braddock Secondary School PTSA

Congratulations to the 2010 Volunteer of the Year and best of luck to the 2011 Volunteer of the Year Nominees.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join with me in commending the outstanding achievements of the individuals and the PTA/PTSA organizations being recognized. Dedicated involvement from so many parents reflects a strong commitment to public education and community service that benefits all of our children and I thank them for their contributions.



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Statement by Representative Gerald E. Connolly Recognizing Outstanding Students in Northern Virginia

MR. CONNOLLY: Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of a number of Northern Virginia students. These students have participated and excelled in programs administered by their local Parent Teacher Associations and Parent Teacher Student Associations.

Parent Teacher Associations, PTAs, and Parent Teacher Student Associations, PTSAs, serve a critical role in helping to provide the best possible educational environment for our students. The Northern Virginia District PTA consists of a region with more than 200 schools. Schools located in this area are consistently recognized as being among the very best schools in our country. I strongly believe one factor in the excellent education received by our students is the high level of involvement and encouragement provided by parents through the PTA and PTSAs.

I am pleased to congratulate the following students on being recognized by the National PTA and Virginia PTA for their outstanding achievements:

2011 District Citizenship Essay Award Finalists: *"Entitlement vs Responsibility"*

High School Division:

Katherine Dempsey, 12th Grade, Robinson Secondary School PTSA;

Meredith Zettlemoyer, 12th Grade, West Springfield High School PTSA

Middle School Division:

Alison Miller, 8th Grade, Swanson Middle School PTA;

Sandra Webb, 8th Grade, Edgar Allen Poe Middle School PTA

2011 Virginia PTA Citizenship Essay Award :

Katherine Dempsey, Robinson Secondary School PTSA

2011 Virginia PTA Scholarship Award:
Jihye Yoon, Robert E. Lee High School PTSA

2011 Virginia PTA Reflections Awards - Dance Choreography:
Primary Division - Mia Shenkman, Tuckahoe Elementary PTA
"Together Wherever We Go"
Middle/Junior Division - Kayla Delardi, Rose Hill Elementary PTA
"Look In to My Eyes and Please Help"

2011 Virginia PTA Reflections Awards - Literature:
Primary Division – Oscar Lloyd, Douglas MacArthur Elementary PTA *"Together, Two-gether"*
Middle/Junior Division – Eliza Malakoff, George Washington Middle PTA *"A Palette for Maia"*

2011 Virginia PTA Reflections Awards – Photography:
Intermediate Division – Avery Dahl, Kent Gardens Elementary PTA *"Out for a Spin"*

2011 Virginia PTA Reflections Awards – Visual Arts:
Senior Division – Ivy Ni, Langley High School PTSA *"Together We Can Build a Better World"*
Middle/Junior Division – Amy Ahn, Sidney Lanier Middle School PTA *"Together We Can Unite So We Can Protect"*

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join with me today to recognize the outstanding achievements of these students. I also ask that we recognize the Northern Virginia District PTA, in partnership with the Virginia PTA, as they work diligently to develop the diversity of talents and skills of students attending schools throughout Northern Virginia. It gives me great pleasure to acknowledge the achievements of these students and the Parent Teacher Associations that support them.