



Onevoice

An Update from the
Northern Virginia District PTA

SEPTEMBER 1, 2007

WWW.NOVADISTRICTPTA.ORG

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Upcoming Events/Important Dates

September 15 - District Leadership Training Workshops and 2007 Fall Legislation Meeting. 9-12pm, Thomas Jefferson HS for Science and Technology

October 17 – NOVA District PTA Board Meeting, TJHSST, 7pm

October 19 – 2008 Proposed Legislation Program Tally Sheet due

October 26-28 – Virginia PTA State Convention, Portsmouth Waterfront Hotel and Convention Center

October 26 – Deadline for Health and Fitness Grant applications.

Check the District Website for more information on the following District, Virginia PTA, and National PTA recognitions and awards:

2008 VA PTA Citizenship Essay Theme: "Education, the Foundation of Freedom" Students in Grades 6-12
Deadline: Feb 1 to District

2008 Phoebe Apperson Hearst National PTA Excellence in Education Partnership Award
Deadline: February 1 to VA PTA

2008 District Volunteer of the Year
Deadline: March 10 to District
Primary and Secondary Nominees will be submitted by June 1 to Virginia PTA VOY

Virginia PTA Scholarship Award for students - Deadline: March 1 to VA PTA

Welcome to the 2007-2008 school year! Our district would like to wish your PTA good luck as you begin the new school year. We understand how exciting and sometimes even overwhelming the beginning of school can be for a PTA leader. We want to let you know that the Northern Virginia District is here to support and assist your PTA throughout the entire year. If your PTA has a web site, please provide a link to our district web site in order to provide district, state, and national PTA information to your membership.

Leadership Training Workshops and Fall Legislative Meeting

Join us Saturday, September 15th, from 9am-12pm, at Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology for our fall leadership training and legislative meeting. The legislative meeting will be held from 9:30-10am. Leadership training workshops begin at 10:30am and are offered for Presidents/Vice-Presidents, Treasurers, and Secretaries, as well as sessions on Reflections, Bylaws, Membership (that will include an overview to the new Online Membership Database Reporting – OMDR), and Volunteers. Trainers include Dianne Florence, VA PTA President, VA PTA Secretary, Michele Menapace, VA PTA Treasurer, Bill Levey, VA PTA Bylaws Chair, Phyllis Ayers and Co-Chair Debi Abadie, VA PTA Arts in Education Chair, Patricia Franck, as well as our District officers and Committee Chairs. Registration for the workshops can be done in advance by registering online at our website or by contacting District Secretary Nina Austin (secretary@novadistrictpta.org). Onsite registration begins at 9am. Registration fee is \$5.00.

District Board Members Honored

Two Northern Virginia District board members have been selected to participate in National PTA programs. Alana Heng, Technology Chair, has been chosen to be a Virginia PTA delegate to the 2nd Annual Emerging Minority Leaders Conference in Dallas, Texas. The conference goal is to identify and develop PTA's future leadership by recognizing and reinforcing the importance of ethnic minority leaders in PTA's future growth. Rob Horvath, Communications Chair, has been chosen to be a participant in the first class of the PTA Training/Capacity Building Initiative (TCBI) in Chicago. Participants from all 50 states will attend a four-day training of trainers course aimed at developing a cadre of nationally certified trainers who will be available to hold training sessions on various topics for local units within their states. Congratulations Alana and Rob!

New Officers Contact Information

Remember to contact the state office with your new officers' contact information. This is imperative for us to have in order to effectively communicate with units regarding developments within the PTA organization. FCCPTA units submit info to: http://www.fccpta.org/forms/contact_form.htm

Newsletters

Do you publish a newsletter? Do you need some ideas on how to spice it up? [Click here](#) to view some award winning newsletters.

OMDR

As a non-profit organization, the PTA is required to maintain a current listing of its membership. If you haven't registered your unit for the program yet, please do so as soon as possible. Don't forget to update your new officers within the system, also. If you have any questions regarding OMDR, please contact Rob Horvath (communications@novadistrictpta.org).



Northern Virginia District display board of 2006-07 events and activities with pirate theme for Virginia PTA LTC Longwood University

District Board Executive Committee

Please welcome new officers
September 2007

[Debbie Kilpatrick](#), District Director
[Deborah Aceto-Milton](#), 1st Asst. Director
[Lisa Lombardozi](#), 2nd Asst. Director
[Nina Austin](#), Secretary
[Vickie Cattaneo](#), Treasurer

District Board Chairpersons

[Lesley Aschenbach](#), Annual Meeting
[Denise Bolton](#), Arts in Education
[Liz Bradsher](#), Legislative
[David Edelman](#), Education
[Alana Heng](#), Technology
[Rob Horvath](#), Communications
[Sharon Sneed](#), Bylaws/Membership

2007 Outstanding PTA Newsletter Awards

VAPTA recently announced the winners of its annual Outstanding PTA Newsletter Awards. Out of 58 entries received, 9 were honored for their communications excellence. Three Northern Virginia District schools received honors. **Westfield High School** received a Gold award and **Oak Hill Elementary** and **Robinson Secondary** both received Silver Awards. Congratulations to all of the awardees.

2007-08 Membership Dues Deadline is December 1, 2007.

Please remember that membership dues must be paid in order to participate in any Virginia or National PTA program, including Reflections. Dues may be submitted monthly after ten paid PTA memberships have been received by the unit. Unit Bylaws must be current and meet state requirements in order for a unit to be considered in good standing with the VA PTA.

Virginia PTA "VOICE"

The VAPTA VOICE is the official electronic newsletter of the Virginia PTA. It is published twice a month on the first and third Monday's. Let the Public Relations Committee bring highlights of the Virginia PTA to your e-mail box. This is a subscription service and you may unsubscribe at any time. Sign up for the VOICE at: <http://vapta.org/Information/enewsletters.htm>

This Week in Washington

Learn about what's happening on Capitol Hill, and about legislative issues that affect families, schools, and communities through this informative National e-newsletter. This is a great source of information for your legislative chairs. Subscribe to this newsletter at: http://www.pta.org/ia_newsletters.html

2007-2008 Reflections - "I can make a difference by ..."

The 2007-2008 has begun with the theme *I can make a difference by...* Now is a great time to get your flyers completed for Back To School Night. It is also not too early to begin arranging for your Reflection's judges. For those of you in Fairfax, the deadline for submission of your entries to the FCCPTA is Friday, November 16, 2007. The other councils will have a similar deadline date. If you would like more information, visit our website or contact Denise Bolton, Arts in Education Chairman. (artseducation@novadistrictpta.org). FCPS PTAs may contact Ramona Morrow, FCCPTA Reflections Chair (reflections@fccpta.org). Better yet, join us at TJHSST in Alexandria on September 15th for the Reflections training and receive a copy of 2007/08 Reflections Handbook.

Fitness Grants Available – Deadline October 26 to VA PTA

Virginia PTA units are invited to apply for one of ten \$300 grants to plan and implement family fitness programs during the 2007-08 school year. The Virginia Association of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance is providing the \$3,000 to support this Virginia PTA program. Local PTAs, PTA council and districts are eligible to apply if they are in good standing, with dues paid and bylaws current. A health or physical education teacher must be included in the program planned. Units must describe their school communities, outline a goal, provide a description of the activities, their locations, timetables and provide other information. For more information, contact Sherri Wright, VA PTA Health and Safety Committee Chair at healthandsafety@vapta.org.