



Onevoice

An Update from the
Northern Virginia District PTA

OCTOBER 12, 2007

WWW.NOVADISTRICTPTA.ORG

VOLUME 2, NUMBER 2

Upcoming Events/Important Dates

October 15 – VA PTA Convention
Regular Registration Due (vapta.org)

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

October 19 – 2008 Proposed
Legislation Program Tally Sheet due.
Download the tally sheet at our
website.

October 26-28 – Virginia PTA State
Convention, Portsmouth, VA

October 26 – Deadline for Health and
Fitness Grant applications.

Reminders...

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

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

100% VA PTA Membership Award

As the school year gets into full swing, we'd like to wish your PTA much success this year and assist you by providing reminders under the Events/Important Dates section to help you meet your PTA goals. Information and forms can be found on our district or Virginia PTA web site, so please visit often to become familiar with PTA programs.

Healthy Lifestyles Award

Congratulations to Beech Tree Elementary School PTA and Barcroft Elementary School PTA for winning awards under the National PTA's Healthy Lifestyles program. These competitive awards are given to PTAs that promote healthy lifestyles in the community, promote parent and family involvement, and emphasize the connection between healthy lifestyles and student achievement. Beech Tree ES and Barcroft ES PTA's are two of only four in the state of Virginia that received such awards. Congratulations!

American Education Week 2007

The National Education Association's (NEA's) 86th annual American Education Week (AEW) begins November 11, 2007. The week spotlights the importance of providing every child in America with a quality public education, and the need for everyone to do his or her part in making public schools great. This is a great opportunity to bring educators, parents, and the community together on behalf of our children. Below is a calendar of events and links to great resources you can use to promote and facilitate this event at your school.

Calendar of Events

Monday, November 12: American Education Week Kicks Off.

Tuesday, November 13: Invite Parents to School Day

<http://www.nea.org/aew/nationalinviteparentstoschooldayhistory.html>

Wednesday, November 14: Education Support Professionals Day

<http://www.nea.org/aew/nationalespdayhistory.html>

Thursday, November 15: Educator for a Day

<http://www.nea.org/aew/teacherforadayhistory.html>

Friday, November 16: Substitute Educators Day

<http://www.nea.org/aew/substituteeducatorsdayhistory.html>

Use NEA's online tools <<http://www.nea.org/aew/toolkit.html>> including their 2007 poster, to plan your celebration.

* You are free to use NEA material or create your own. If you use their material, please credit NEA as the creator of content.

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).



Debbie Kilpatrick, NOVA District Director, introduces VAPTA President, Dianne Florence, at the NOVA District PTA's Leadership and Training Workshop, September 15, 2007

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



FCPS Inviting support from School PTAs

Help Resolve the FCPS Bus Driver Shortage

The Superintendent and the Chief Operating Officer of Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) are inviting FCPS affiliated and non-affiliated PTA School Units to team with them in an effort to help resolve its critical bus driver shortage being experienced as its school population grows.

FCPS is offering a financial reward to any FCPS affiliated PTA that recruits a successful driver candidate and invites other non-affiliated PTA units to spread the word on a great employment opportunity to the parents and families in their schools and as a public service to FCPS families and for the greater community.

FCPS affiliated PTAs will be rewarded \$1,000 by FCPS for each successful bus driver that you have recruited during this school year that is employed for 90 work days. This school money could be used to help fund many of the local PTA projects at your school.

Please visit our web site (<http://www.novadistrictpta.org>) for information on how your PTA may participate in this program. Additional questions about the program may be directed to Norm Gottlieb, PTA/PTO Program Coordinator, norman.gottlieb@fcps.edu, (571) 432-7808.

Membership Ideas

Are you looking for some new ideas to increase your membership? Here are a couple of quick places to check out:

- Watch D.O.G.S. (**D**ad's **o**f **G**reat **S**tudents)- a great starting point to explore ways to get more men involved in PTA.
(http://www.fathers.com/content/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=21&Itemid=60)
- National PTA's "Great Idea Bank" – deposit and withdraw ideas shared by PTAs from across the nation
(http://www.pta.org/local_leadership_program_1157578195781.html)

2007-08 Membership Dues Deadline is December 1, 2007

You do not have to wait until the deadline to pay your dues. Remember, A PTA unit must be in good standing for students to participate in Reflections, Citizenship Essay, and Scholarship Awards, and for PTA organizations to qualify for district, state, and national unit awards.

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.