



# Onevoice

An Update from the  
Northern Virginia District PTA

JUNE 2008

[WWW.NOVADISTRICTPTA.ORG](http://WWW.NOVADISTRICTPTA.ORG)

VOLUME 3, NUMBER 3

## *Upcoming Events/Important Dates*

June 2 – BOE Public hearing, Oakton HS, Vienna, see [web site](#) for information

June 7 – [Enough is Enough](#) Internet Safety filming – McLean Bible Church

June 15 – Submit new officer contact forms to VA PTA office [click here](#)

June 20 – Early LTC Registration due

June 21-June 23 – [National PTA Convention, San Diego](#)

June 30 – Final 2007-08 Membership dues to VA PTA deadline [Download form](#)

July 11-12 – Virginia PTA Leadership training Conference, Deep Run high School, Glen Allen. [Register](#)

Sept 20 – District Leadership Training

November 7-9, 2008 – [Virginia PTA State Convention](#), the Hotel Roanoke, Roanoke, VA

**No password needed for Virginia PTA web site!** Password protection has been removed from what had previously been the Members-Only section of the Virginia PTA web site! Readers are invited to enjoy the [expanded web content](#) but are reminded of restrictions on use of Copyright materials under federal law.

**Questions about unit requirements (dues, bylaws, officers information form), please [contact](#) District Officers and/or Committee Chairs**

**View District Photo Gallery for Awards, Annual Meeting, & VA Lottery Super Teacher Winner**

## **2008 Annual Meeting and Awards Dinner**

The 2008 District Annual Meeting and Awards Dinner was a great success this year and the District would like to thank all who attended. The Old Town Hall was beautifully decorated with fresh flowers, donated by Karin's Florist. The social reception upstairs in the Library and Fairfax Art Gallery was wonderful with delicious appetizers served by Edison HS **Culinary** students and we were entertained by Nick Starr, TJHSST student, on the baby grand piano. The Reflections program was celebrated through art displays alongside the artwork of local artists. Several Fairfax Art League members served as hosts for the reception. The Purple Onion Caterers served an outstanding dinner in the Main Banquet Hall. The Awards Program was filled with student, PTA unit, and volunteer recognitions. The messages our guest speakers, Melissa Nehrbass, VA PTA President, and the Honorable Virginia Delegate Brian Moran, delivered were inspiring and informational.

During our awards ceremony, we honored the Volunteer of the Year nominees and District winners, Student Citizenship Essay winners for District and VA PTA, and meritorious PTA units. The evening concluded with our business meeting, including the election of the 2008-10 district officers.

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### **The District would like to acknowledge the following Award Winners:**

**Volunteer of the Year/Primary** – *Mimi Carter, Mt Vernon Community School, Alexandria City Council*

**Volunteer of the Year/Secondary** – *Sonia Guzman, Marshall HS, Fairfax County Council*

**District Outstanding Achievement Award** – *Lisa Kenworthy, Haycock ES*

**National PTA Unit Achievement Award** – *Delia Valentine, PTA President of Colin Powell ES, presented by Kimberly Barnes-O'Connor, National PTA*

**District Award of Appreciation** – *Nassmah Brooks, PTSA President, TJHSST, for their support in sponsoring district events and board meetings*

**VA PTA Citizenship Essay District Awards – High School:** *Carly Stephens, Westfield HS; Elliot Eggan, TJHSST; Middle School:* *Stephanie Phillips, South County Secondary; Pierce Eggan, Frost MS. **Pierce Eggan** won VA PTA 3<sup>rd</sup> Place, Middle School, and received a \$250 savings bond.*

The theme for the 2008-09 Citizenship Essay program is "**Our Earth - Our Future.**" The VA PTA Citizenship Essay program is open to middle and high school students. See the web site for details. District deadline is **Feb. 1, 2009**

### *VA PTA President-Elect Nominee*

The Nominations and Leadership Development Committee nominated **Debra Abadie** of Newport News for election to VA PTA president-elect to fill an unexpired term. Election must be by the membership at Convention 2008 in Roanoke, Nov. 14-15. Debra Abadie, currently the association's Vice-President, has served in unit, council, district, and state PTA leadership roles.

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**Dr. Billy Cannaday, Virginia Superintendent of Public Instruction** was selected as 2008 VA PTA Child Advocate of the Year.

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**VA Lottery presented the Super Teacher Award to Hanna Tomhave, K-1 teacher at Mantua ES, on May 21.** The presentation was held in her classroom with representatives from Virginia Lottery, Virginia PTA, Supply Room, and a member of the judging panel. 1800 teacher nominations were submitted and 8 teachers were selected. Awards include a \$2000 check and \$2000 gift card from the Supply Room Company. **Congratulations!**

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**Congratulations to Quander Road School PTSA on their inauguration as a PTSA on Tuesday, May 27, 2008!** District Director Debbie Kilpatrick assisted the PTSA Planning Committee with adopting unit bylaws and conducted the elections and the installation of the new officers: **Kelly Greenwood, President; Linda Schaeffer, Secretary; and Dan Graifer, Treasurer.** Please join the District in welcoming this new PTSA to our high school community. Quander Road School is an ED high school and provides FCPS students with necessary skills to be successful upon their return to their base high schools. **Welcome to the District, Virginia PTA, and to National PTA!** [View Photo Gallery](#)

**District Students earn Virginia PTA Reflections Outstanding Interpretations and entries submitted to National PTA:** *Kristin Stephens, Canterbury Woods ES; Alex Park, Kilmer MS; Amiee Cho, Kilmer MS; and Sarah Crossland, Westfield HS.* **Congratulations to Alex Park and Sarah Crossland for both being awarded National PTA Reflections Award of Merit!** Their entries are available for viewing on the district web site and will be on the National PTA web site this summer.

**Virginia PTA 100% Unit Membership Awards:** The following units have been recognized by the VA PTA for achieving 100% membership: **Chesterbrook ES, Deer Park ES, Flint Hill ES, George Mason HS, Haycock ES, Langley HS, Nottingham ES, Virginia Run ES, Tuckahoe ES, and Waynewood ES.** **Congratulations to these outstanding units!**

**Megan Lowry, senior at Centreville HS,** was awarded a \$1000 Virginia PTA Scholarship. Megan will be attending Virginia Tech in the fall. District Director Debbie Kilpatrick presented Megan a recognition award on May 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Exemplary District PTAs Receive Recognition** This school year, 339 local PTAs from across the nation received the **National PTA Unit Achievement Award.** These PTAs showed that they promote greater parent involvement, engage more and more families in the school, drive student achievement, and make PTA an even stronger voice for children. Three units from the district received this outstanding award: **Colin C. Powell ES PTA, Lake Braddock Secondary PTSA, and South County Secondary PTSA**

### *Other news....*

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**June 2: Board of Education Public Hearing on Special Education Regulations** will be held on June 2, 6:30 - 9:30 p.m., Oakton High School, 2900 Sutton Rd., Vienna 703-319-2700. Sign-ups for speaking will begin at 6 p.m. This is every parent's concern. There are proposed regulations to limit parent involvement in partnering with schools to deliver appropriate services to students with disabilities. For more information visit [district web site.](#)

**June 7: Enough is Enough - Internet Safety 101** Virginia PTA members are encouraged to register to attend a free live studio audience presentation on internet safety that will be included in the Internet Safety 101: Empowering Parents video program of Enough is Enough and its partner Virginia PTA. The program is targeted to launch in Virginia with the fall back-to-school season. Nationwide launch is scheduled for 2009. Lunch and registration will begin at 11:30 with the program running from 12:30 - 4:30 p.m. It is very important that parents and community members attend and participate in this opportunity to play a role in shaping this video program. Register at [www.enough.org](http://www.enough.org) or call 1-888-744-0004. **Thank you!**

**July 11-12, Richmond: VA PTA Leadership Training Conference - V.I.T.A.L. to ALL!** LTC is designed for both outgoing and incoming officers, committee chairs, principals, superintendents, school board members, as well as any PTA members. An extensive list of workshops will be presented by qualified and experienced Virginia PTA leaders. Pick up unit membership cards, Local Unit Resource Guide CD, visit vendor exhibits, and socialize with PTA members from around the state. Training begins at 1 pm, Friday and concludes by 6 p.m. Saturday. Fee includes lunch on Saturday & door prize drawing. For more information and registration forms visit [www.vapta.org](http://www.vapta.org)