



Onevoice

An Update from the
Northern Virginia District PTA

DECEMBER 2008

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VOLUME 3, NUMBER 4

Upcoming Events/Important Dates

December 1 – 2009/09 Membership Dues for National/State PTA due

December 1 – FCCPTA Mtg, 7:30 p.m. FCPS HQs, Falls Church

December 1 – Arlington Council, 7 p.m. Education Center

December 10 – Alexandria City Council, 7 p.m. James K. Polk ES

January 21 – Northern Virginia District Mtg, 7:30 p.m., TJHSST Career Center

January 26 – VA PTA Day at the General Assembly, [Register](#) by Jan. 19

February 2 – District Student Citizenship Essay due to District Director

Feb. 2 - 2009 [Phoebe Apperson-Hearst National PTA Excellence in Education Partnership Award](#) due to VA PTA

Feb. 8-14 – PTA Take Your Family to School Week, Go to: <https://www.pta.org/tyfts/>

March 2 – VA PTA Student Scholarship applications due to state office

March 11-12 - National PTA Legislative Conference in D.C. Register in December

April 21 – District Annual Meeting and Awards Dinner, Waterford at Springfield

PTA Sponsored Parent Programs— check online under **Events/Calendar** for dates/locations or to add a parent program, email [Technology Chair](#)

The Northern Virginia District Executive Board would like to wish all a wonderful Holiday Season and Best Wishes in 2009!

Reminders and Updates for District PTA/PTSA members

December 1 - deadline for sending in all **membership dues** collected to be a “unit in good standing” a requirement to participate in many PTA/PTSA programs. Please send in your remittance today! Download the [Local Unit Remittance Form](#), complete it, save it and mail it in with payment. If you have questions, email: membership@novadistrictpta.org

Bylaws Revisions: Remember to check your unit bylaws to be sure you are on track for your five year revision as this also impacts your “unit in good standing” status. A November 2008 bylaws template will be available soon on the VA PTA web site with new amendments for state, districts, councils and local units. If you have questions, email: bylaws@novadistrictpta.org

Legislation Updates:

Legislative Action Alert - The major issue across Virginia is the state budget crisis and its effect on public education. [Read how](#) you may advocate for our children in seeking full funding.

VA PTA Day at the General Assembly will be held on **Monday, January 26th** with pre-registration **due Jan. 19th**. This is a day to talk with your elected officials about PTA issues and policy. The District will hold a Legislators Reception in the **Conference Room East on the Third floor, from 11-12 noon**. All District legislators will be invited to the reception in order to meet with Northern Virginia District PTA representatives to include students, teachers, principals, parents and PTA leaders. Please let District Director [Debbie Kilpatrick](#), or District Legislation Chair, [David Edelman](#), know if your PTA/PTSA would like to send parent or student representatives. We would like to thank Senator Janet Howell's office for assisting the district with reserving the Conference room for the reception. [Download](#) VA PTA Registration form with Monday's schedule and Sunday special hotel rate.

2009 Proposed Legislation Program and **2009 VA PTA Resolutions** were approved by PTA general members at the state convention and the **VA PTA Legislation Program** is available on the district [web site](#).

Student and Unit Programs and Awards

Student **Reflections** entries are currently being judged at council level. Please check with your council reflections chairs about awards receptions. District Reflections Reception will be held in the spring.

Congratulations for PTA/PTSA Awards at the 2009 Convention

Virginia PTA presented 20 PTA Charters at Convention and **Quander Road School PTSA** was awarded their Charter as a PTSA. **CONGRATULATIONS!**

National PTA Parental Involvement Schools of Excellence Certifications were awarded to **Lake Anne ES PTA and Lake Braddock Secondary PTSA**. Congratulations to both schools on achieving this award by meeting the extensive requirements of this parental involvement program. Five Virginia PTAs were awarded this honor and received trophy awards.



VA PTA Membership Awards

Virginia Run ES PTA earned a Superior Membership Plaque for **First Place** with 116.29%, Division 6 (700-999 students)

Langley HS PTSA earned a Superior Membership plaque for **First Place** with 137.43%, Division 7 (1000+ students)

Falls Church ES PTA earned a Superior Membership certificate for **Third Place** with 217.02%, Division 1 (1-299)

Weyanoke ES PTA earned an Outstanding Membership certificate for **Third Place** with 178.57% increase, Division 4 (500-599 students)

VA PTA Local Unit Standards Certificates presented to:

Centreville HS PTSA
Chesterbrook Elementary PTA
Clearview Elementary PTA
George C. Marshall HS PTSA
Kate Waller Barrett ES PTA
Kent Gardens ES PTA
Lake Anne ES PTA
Lake Braddock Secondary PTSA
Marshall Road ES PTA
Mount Vernon Community PTA
Newington Forest ES PTA
Oak Hill ES PTA
Oliver Wendell Homes MS PTA
George Mason ES PTA

VA PTA Student Citizenship Essay: The theme for the 2008-09 Citizenship Essay program is **"Our Earth - Our Future."** This Essay Project allows students to express their views and opinions on "Character or Citizenship." The program is open to 6th – 12th grade students with savings bonds up to \$1000 being awarded to the state 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Place winners for middle school and high school divisions. Four District division winners will be honored at the 2009 District Annual Meeting. [Download](#) the essay application and requirements for each division level. Applications deadline to District Director is **Feb. 2, 2009**. Please forward application information on to your school's principal, teachers, counselors, and career center.

VA PTA Scholarship Program: The Virginia PTA offers scholarships to graduating high school students planning to enter teaching or other youth-serving professions in Virginia and the deadline for submission to the VA PTA state office is **March 2, 2009**. There are two \$1200 special scholarships with the remaining scholarships being \$1000. [Download](#) the scholarship application and requirements. Please forward application information on to your school's principal, teachers, counselors, and high school career center.

2009 District Volunteer of the Year: [Applications are due April 1](#) to the District Director in order to recognize outstanding PTA volunteers at our District Annual Meeting. District Primary and Secondary winners will be submitted by June 1st to VA PTA Volunteer Committee for consideration for the 2009 VA PTA Volunteer of the Year award.

2009 District Annual Meeting and Awards Dinner – April 21

Please plan to attend our 2009 District Annual Meeting and Awards Dinner to be held on **Tuesday, April 21**, 7–9 p.m. in the Gibson Ballroom at the Waterford at Springfield. Registration begins at 6 p.m. with a social reception at 6:15 p.m. in the Sellier Room. Invitations will be mailed in March with more information about the program and dinner. Please put this date on your calendar. We will have guest speakers, student and unit awards, as well as a Reflections display and student musical performances.

2009-2010 Northern Virginia District Nominating Committee Recruitment – In accordance with District bylaws, Article X, Section 5: A nominating committee shall be elected at the annual meeting prior to the election year. The District is currently seeking candidates for five elected Nominating Committee Members to serve for a one year term with the purpose of recruiting district officers for the 2010-12 election. In accordance with Section 5.b., the committee should have 5 members who represent each city/county school division, if possible. If you wish to be considered for this election, please contact the [District Director](#), by **February 10, 2009**.

2008 Convention Highlights: Delegates to the 87th annual Virginia PTA Convention elected Debra Abadie of Newport News to serve as president-elect until next fall, when she will become the association's president. Following convention, the Board of Managers appointed Dan Phillips, Secondary PTA/PTSA Chair, of Fredericksburg to replace Abadie as vice president and filled the vacancy created by the resignation of Sherri Wright of Danville as Health and Safety Committee chairman with Michelle Prescott of Chesapeake, the Southeastern District director. Nominations are being accepted through **Dec. 19** for the position of Secondary PTA/PTSA Committee chairman and a Nominations Packet for this position can be found on the Virginia PTA website at www.vapta.org

2008 Reflections Award winners were honored during a Student Luncheon during convention and **Alex Park, Kilmer MS**, attended with his family to receive his award. Visit District [photo gallery](#) to view convention photos.