



## OneVoice Newsletter – December 1, 2009

Serving Alexandria City, Arlington County, Fairfax City,  
Fairfax County and Falls Church City PTAs and PTSAs

<http://www.novadistrictpta.org>

### The Northern Virginia District Executive Board would like to wish all a wonderful Holiday Season and Best Wishes in 2010!

NOTE: Please share this information with your Executive Board Members. Newsletter is available on web site for download.

#### 2009 Convention Highlights

Delegates to the 88th annual Virginia PTA Convention attended excellent workshops, raised scholarship funds, networked with other PTA leaders, adopted bylaws amendments, resolutions, and elected new officers to serve a two year term until 2011. **Debi Abadie** assumed her position as President during the installation of the new officers: **Anne Carson**, President-Elect, Henrico County; **Brenda Sheridan**, Vice-President, Loudoun County; **Robin Groves**, Secretary, Christiansburg; **Phyllis Ayers**, Treasurer, Hampton.

Following convention, the Virginia PTA Board of Managers voted to merge the Technology and Public Relations Committees into a single Communications Committee and elected **Carla S. Rogers**, Richmond, to chair it. **Committee Chairs** elected were **LaTonya Miller** of Roseland, Bylaws; **Debbie Kilpatrick** of Clifton, Education; **Jean Farrar** of Newport News, Field Service; **Michelle Prescott** of Chesapeake, Health & Safety; **Rebecca Poma**, of Penn Laird, Membership; **Scott Rhyme** of Chesapeake, Parental Involvement; **Whitney Aimee Justice** of Roanoke, Secondary PTA/PTSA, and **Wendy Logan** of Henrico County, Volunteers. **Nicole Sheppard**, Roanoke, was elected (non-voting) Historian.

If you are interested in serving as a Member-At-Large Committee Member for any of these state committees, please [download the Letter of Interest](#) and submit your information to: [info@vapta.org](mailto:info@vapta.org)

**2009 Convention Award Luncheon** honored the following District award winners: All seven VA PTA Reflections Outstanding Interpretations Award winners attended the luncheon along with their families. Each student was awarded a special Reflections commendation medal in honor of their accomplishments. Those attending were: **Alexander Kopenhaver**, Literature, Washington-Lee HS PTSA; **Pierre Quan**, Music Composition, Forestville ES PTA; **Kyle Gatesman**, Music Composition, Canterbury Woods ES PTA; **Courtney Brown**, Photography, Bull Run ES PTA; **Kaitlin Phan**, Visual Arts, Colin Powell ES PTA; **Jamie Chang**, Visual Arts, Union Mill ES PTA;

#### Action Items

**December 1 – deadline for sending in all membership dues** collected to be a "unit in good standing" a requirement to participate in 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 chair](#): **Reminder:** Copies of audits and **990s** should be submitted to the VA PTA office in accordance with local unit bylaws.

**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 2009 bylaws template will be available soon on the VA PTA web site with recently adopted amendments for state, districts, councils and local units, but the [November 2008 template](#) can be used until the new one is available. If you have questions, [email Bylaws Chair](#).

**2010 District Volunteer of the Year:** Applications are due April 7 to the District Director in order to recognize outstanding PTA volunteers at our District Annual Meeting on April 26th. District Primary and Secondary winners will be submitted by June 1st to VA PTA Volunteer Committee for consideration for the 2010 VA PTA Volunteer of the Year award.

and William Park, Visual Arts, Langley HS PTSA. Congratulations to William Park, Kyle Gatesman, and Pierre Quan for being awarded National PTA Reflections Awards! We hope to see William's artwork on display at the Department of Education early next year.

2009 Student Citizenship Essay 1st Place Winner for Middle School Division, Ji Soo Song, Rocky Run MS PTA (current TJHSST freshman) was honored and read the introduction paragraph from his essay. Sue Bernstein, 2009 VA PTA Elementary Volunteer of the Year, was honored with many of her Hollin Meadows ES PTA family and friends in attendance. Congratulations to all!!

## District PTA/PTSA Awards at the 2009 VA PTA Convention

During the Convention General Sessions, Northern Virginia District PTA/PTSAs were honored with a National PTA Healthy Lifestyle Award, Membership Awards, and New Unit Charters.

The District would like to congratulate the following units for receiving awards during Convention:

**National PTA Healthy Lifestyle Grant Award of \$1000 was presented to the following newly chartered PTA:**

- Laurel Hill ES PTA, Lorton, Michele Fick, President

## Membership Awards

**VA PTA Superior Membership Achievement Awards:**

- Falls Church ES PTA, Falls Church City, – 3rd Place, Division 1 (1–299 students), 136.40%
- Nottingham ES PTA, Arlington County – 1st Place, Division 3 (400–499 students), 103.85%
- Flint Hill ES PTA, Fairfax County – 3rd Place, Division 5 (600–699 students), 111.86%
- Langley HS PTSA, Fairfax County – 1st Place, Division 7 (1000 & more students), 111.29%

**VA PTA Outstanding Membership Achievement Awards**

- Peyton Randolph ES PTA, Arlington – 2nd Place, Division 2 (300–399 Students), 127.27%

## New Unit Charters Presented

Virginia PTA presented 15 PTA Charters at Convention and the following four District new units were awarded their Charters:

- Cedar Lane School PTSA, Vienna – accepted by Principal Brenda Baldwin-Marshall;
- Laurel Hill ES PTA, Lorton – accepted by President Michele Fick;
- Lutie Lewis Coates ES PTA, Herndon – Debbie Kilpatrick accepted the charter on behalf of the PTA;
- Drew Model School PTA, Arlington – Nina Austin accepted the charter on behalf of the PTA.

## VA PTA Local Unit Standards Certificates awarded to:

- Colin Powell ES PTA, FCPS
- Fairfax Villa ES PTA, FCPS
- Lake Braddock Secondary PTSA, FCPS

[Download application form.](#)

**2010-2012 Northern Virginia District Officers Nominees for Election**—The District Nominating Committee currently seeks candidates for five elected officers positions to serve for a two year term. [View Officer positions and duties.](#) If you wish to be [considered for this election](#), please contact any member of the District Nominating Committee, by February 10, 2010.

**2010 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 1, 2010. 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.

**2010 VA PTA Student Citizenship Essay:** The theme for the 2009–10 Citizenship Essay program is "**Strong Citizens – Strong Communities.**"

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. 1, 2010. Please forward application information on to

- Langston Hughes MS PTA, FCPS
- Oliver Wendel Holmes MS PTA, FCPS
- Terra Centre ES PTA, FCPS
- West Potomac HS PTSA, FCPS
- Patrick Henry ES PTA, Arlington

## 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 by subscribing to receive the Action Alerts.

**VA PTA Day at the General Assembly** will be held on Monday, February 1st with pre-registration due Jan. 23rd. 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 parents 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 Day Registration form](#) with Monday's schedule and a Sunday special hotel rate (there will be a Sunday afternoon special presentation at the hotel for the General Assembly visits).

**2010 Proposed Legislation Program and 2010 VA PTA Resolutions** were adopted by the PTA general membership at the state convention and they are [available on the state 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.

**2010 District Annual Meeting and Awards Dinner – April 26** – The Waterford at Springfield. Please plan to attend our 2010 District Annual Meeting and Awards Dinner to be held on Monday, April 26, 6–9 p.m. at the Waterford at Springfield. Registration begins at 6 p.m. with a social reception at 6:15 p.m. in the Sellier Room, followed by a buffet dinner at 6:45 p.m. in the Gibson Ballroom. Registrations will be mailed in early March with more information about the program and dinner menu. Cost is \$35 adults; \$25 children. **Please put this date on your calendar as this is a legitimate PTA expense. Guest speakers will include Chuck Saylor, National PTA President, and a Virginia PTA officer representative.**



your school's principal, teachers, counselors, and career center.

## Contact Us

### District Executive Committee

- [Debbie Kilpatrick](#), District Director
- [Nina Austin](#), 1st Asst. Director
- [Rob Horvath](#), 2nd Asst. Director
- [Angela Nesley](#), Secretary
- [Donald J. Cantwell](#), Treasurer

### District Board Chairpersons

- [Marie Landwermeyer](#), Annual Meeting
- [Denise Bolton](#), Reflections
- [Sonia Guzman](#), Bylaws
- OPEN, Communications
- [Terri Flowers Bull](#), Education
- [David Edelman](#), Legislative
- [Delia Valentine](#), Membership
- OPEN, Parliamentarian
- OPEN, Newsletter
- [Lisa Lombardozzi](#) & [Patricia Franck](#), Special Projects
- [Alana Heng](#), Technology  
(If interested in any of the open positions, please contact the [District Director](#))

### Council Presidents and Representatives

- [Jeff Zack](#), Alexandria Council of PTAs
- [Dale Proctor](#), Arlington County Council of PTAs
- [Michele Menapace](#), Fairfax County Council of PTAs
- OPEN, City of Fairfax PTAs Representative
- OPEN, Falls Church City PTAs Representative

### VA PTA Board of Managers

- Ex-Officio  
[Debi Abadie](#), VA PTA President  
[Anne Carson](#), VA PTA President-elect

Awards and recognitions will include students, volunteers, and unit awards, as well as a Reflections display and student musical performances during dinner. District Business Meeting will include Officer Elections, budget approval, and the 2011 [Proposed Preliminary Legislation Program \(PPLPs\) presentation.](#)

Happy Holidays,  
Debbie

Debbie Kilpatrick, District Director  
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