



Beach Tidings

Virginia Beach Council of PTAs Newsletter

Volume 6 Issue 4 December 2011/January 2012

Important Dates:

PTA Day at the
General Assembly
January 22nd - 23rd

Reflections Celebration
February 23rd
Landstown HS

Vendor Fair
March 22nd
Christopher Farms ES

Council Annual Dinner
May 23rd
Ocean Lakes HS

Spring LTI
June 7th
College Park ES

President's Corner

Happy Holidays! It's hard to imagine that Christmas is just around the corner. From Breakfast with Santa to Christmas Concerts, many of those PTA Holiday Events are in full swing. It is truly a season of reflecting, celebrating and spending time with family.

As time is of the essence, it is important that you begin to plan now for upcoming local unit as well as Council events. Continue to utilize those monthly checklists as well as make sure you are sharing deadlines and the newsletter information with your board and principal. Please do not forget to remit your dues to VA PTA as well as to Council; even if it is late.

What a wonderful time we had at the PTA State Convention which was held in Richmond! Elections were held for our new state officers. There were numerous membership awards given to Tidewater District PTA units; many of those units were from Virginia Beach! Not to mention, we had three students to be awarded Outstanding Interpretation for their 2010-2011 Reflection entries. I am so proud of the good work and talent associated with this Council!

As parents, we entrust our children daily to the fine staff at their respective schools. We look to them not only to educate our children but to also provide a safe and supportive environment where our children are encouraged and education blossoms. As PTAs and PTSAs we support our schools in their many endeavors while also advocating for children in a positive manner. As the holiday season approaches, let us take a moment to reflect on the purpose of PTA and the responsibility we have to all children. We have so much to be thankful for. I wish you and your family a safe and joyous holiday season.

I look forward to seeing you in 2012!

Shelly

Reminders

General Membership Meetings start at
6:30pm.

Registration begins at 6:00pm.

Scholarship Central

Send applications and the Scholarship Central Form to Nancy Hollingsworth at Nancy.Hollingsworth@vbschools.com

Principles of American Citizenship Award

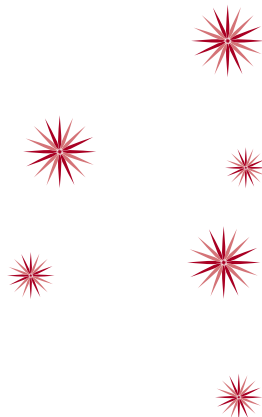
Character Trait: Diligence

Allanah Scarlett – Birdneck Elementary

Malcolm Windom – Salem Middle School

Hannah Lewis -Ocean Lakes High School

Congratulations!



CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR HARD WORK!!

Scholarship 411

We need your help getting the word out to your graduating seniors that the Virginia Beach Local Council of PTA's has posted all of its 14 Scholarships on the Virginia Beach School's Scholarship Central. All of the details can be found at www.vbschools.com/scholarship - the Scholarship Name/Title is: *Virginia Beach Local Council of PTA's Scholarships*. Thank you very much for your help!

Alanton
Brookwood ES
Christopher Farms ES
Floyd Kellam HS
Green Run ES
John B Dey ES
Kemps Landing Magnet
Landstown ES
Ocean Lakes HS

Parkway ES
Pembroke Meadows ES
Red Mill ES
Salem MS
Tallwood ES
Thalia ES

Reflections Program

February 23rd

Landstown High School

Reflections Theme Search

Congratulations to the following students whose Theme Search Entry has been chosen by the VA PTA Arts in Education Committee to go on to National PTA for consideration as the 2013-2014 Reflections theme

Joseph Cheri, IV- Cox HS
"My Reflection Shows"

Kara Walters, North Landing ES
"Sometimes I Wish"

National PTA is to announce the winning theme sometime in January. Stay tuned. We will keep you posted.

Schools with Reflections winners (1st, 2nd, 3rd, & Honorable Mention) that placed at Council Level will be notified directly. Please be sure you have announced your local unit winners by February 1 (or let us know so we are not first to let them know!) Students will be notified by Council by invitation through the US Postal Service that they have placed at Council Level. How the student actually placed will be announced at the Reflections Ceremony that evening.

*Presidents and Principals Attendance is required for Exemplary Award.

Treasurer's Corner

Providing information to the VA PTA is usually one of the first duties of a President and Treasurer. The VA PTA requires submission of the following: a list of officers and their contact information, copy of 990, audit, current bylaws (if copy is not on file with VAPTA), and local unit number and EIN number. The VA PTA, upon receipt of this information, will send the local unit a "letter of determination." This letter allows the unit to be considered as a non-profit organization under VA PTA. Each unit is provided their own non-profit number and status. To obtain a current copy of the non-profit letter or "status" from the Virginia Department of Taxation; the local unit must submit a copy of the "letter of determination" that was mailed to the unit from the VA PTA. This only needs to be filed with the Virginia Department of Taxation every 5 years. It is important that each unit takes a look at the letter they are using to identify their non-profit status to organizations. If the date is older than 5 years, then the letter is no longer legal to use. It is important to get a new one from the Virginia Taxation Department. This will ensure that there is no question about the non-profit status of a unit. If there are any questions regarding this information please contact Alanna Bobulinski, Council Treasurer or Shelly Jones, Council President.

We're on the Web!

Visit us at:
<http://www.vbpta.org>

PTA Day at the General Assembly

Sunday, January 22, 2012

Virginia PTA's Annual PTA Day at the General Assembly will be held January 22-23, 2012.

Mark your calendars to attend Advocacy Training in Richmond on January 22. Then on January 23, advocate with your legislators and participate in a Rally at the Capital with other education groups.

*Note this is a change in the date.

Bylaws Update

Are Your Bylaws Due for Revision?

Listed below are those local units whose bylaws are due for revision this school year.

Green Run HS 5/11
Malibu ES 5/11
Seatack ES 12/11
Fairfield ES 1/12
Linkhorn Park ES1/12
Strawbridge ES 1/12
Windsor Oaks ES 1/12
Lynnhaven MS 2/12
First Colonial HS 3/12
Shelton Park ES 3/12
Alanton ES 4/12
Green Run ES 6/12
Parkway ES 6/12

What Do Our Bylaws Say?"

Perhaps you have heard this question raised at a PTA meeting. This question is a good one to ask, but the real benefit occurs when it is followed up by referring to your local unit bylaws. Your bylaws can quickly resolve matters that your PTA may speculate about such as: what are the required elected officer positions; what month elections should be held; how many consecutive terms elected officers may serve; how to appoint committees and committee chairpersons; and how many executive board and general membership meetings are required just to name a few. These are just some of the many useful pieces of information that your bylaws can provide. They are a valuable asset that can help your PTA run smoothly. If you have not yet read your bylaws, you are encouraged to do so. You might be surprised at how easy they are to read and how informative they are!

A Few Council Tips

- Make copies of any forms sent to VA PTA or Council PTA
- Mark date and time talked to any state or Council Member for later reference
- Monthly hour count should be kept by volunteer chair - time to update now
- Forms change yearly - please make sure the Principles of American Citizenship Awards are being sent to Salem High School
- Volunteer of the Year forms will be available in early 2012.

Resources
National PTA
www.pta.org

Virginia PTA
www.vapta.org

Citizenship Essay Project

2011-2012 Theme
Community Responsibility

Applications and complete rules can be found at www.vapta.org.

All applications must be postmarked by February 1, 2012 and mailed to our District Director.

Savings bonds will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners.



December Checklist

- Complete November check list
- Submit dues to VA PTA and VA Beach Council of PTAs by December 1st
- Hold a board "function" - celebrate success & volunteer work
- Newsletter - watch for Gifted Application Dates /Guidance Dates for 2012
- Thank and honor the Reflections Chairperson for a job well done
- Submit application for Phoebe Apperson Hearst Award by December 16th deadline
- Submit Principles of American Citizenship Nomination - pony to Salem HS
- Enjoy the Holidays

January Checklist

- Complete December Checklist
- Gather scholarship information and post on Scholarship Central (vbschools.com)
- Update Council on any changes in officers
- Begin to update Procedure Books
- Hold Board meeting to finalize spring plans
- Make plans to attend PTA Day at the General Assembly, January 22-23, 2012 in Richmond
- Middle & High Schools, promote CITIZENSHIP ESSAY PROJECT...2011-2012 THEME: **“Community Responsibility”**. (check vapta.org for details)
- Submit Principles of American Citizenship Nomination - pony to Salem HS