



HENRICO COUNTY COUNCIL OF PTAs **CONNECTIONS**

October 2011

www.hccpta.com

Upcoming Dates:

October – Virginia Family Involvement in Education Month

10/1 – submit 2010-11 audit reports to Sharlene Wrenn, CPA (HCPS) and VA State PTA Office

10/18 – HCCPTA Leadership Training – Fairfield MS – 7pm

10/21 - suggested Reflections deadline for the students at the local unit level.

10/23 – PLP tally sheets for each unit due to richmondDD@vapta.org

11/4-11/5 – VA PTA Convention (Holiday Inn, Kroger)

11/9 – Reflections deadline for outstanding entries to HCCPTA

11/15 – File your 990's

11/15 – HCCPTA General Meeting (School Board Breakout Sessions) - Godwin HS – 7pm

12/1 – National/State membership dues deadline
County Council Dues

TOGETHER EVERYONE ACHIEVES MORE

Henrico County Council PTA's,

I would like to personally thank each of you for your service to the children and families in your community. I know the last couple of months have been stressful thanks to Mother Nature, but we all made it through even stronger than before. I wanted to make sure you know how much we appreciate everything you all are doing. Please know that the entire Henrico County Council Board is here to help you and answer any questions you have.

Also please remember that we have a few web sites that can be tremendously helpful:

National PTA- www.pta.org

Virginia PTA- www.vapta.org

Henrico County PTA- www.hccpta.com (we are a dot com)

I look forward to seeing everyone at our County Council Leadership Training on Tuesday, October 18 at 7pm at Fairfield Middle School. Remember that any PTA member may attend a County Council meeting. Again, welcome to the 2011-12 school year!

LaShawn Payne, HCCPTA President

www.hccpta.com

Together Everyone Achieves More

HCCPTA Goals:

"PROVIDING A WORLD-CLASS EDUCATION"
HCPS' Vision

- HCCPTA Executive Board attending Principal meetings – building stronger partnerships
- Scheduling more Presidents Meetings with Dr. Russo
- PTA becoming more involved with Internet Safety awareness and Rachael's Challenge.
- Involving Parents of Tech Centers and Specialty Centers more with PTA.
- Encouraging students to attend Open Houses and Apply for Specialty and Technical Centers.
- School Uniform Policy
- More community involvement
- Better relationship with School Board and attending School Board meetings.
- Gifted Education Plan Workshops
- SOL's and more

Henrico County Council of PTAs Leadership Training
Tuesday, October 18, 2011 - 7-9pm
Fairfield Middle School Auditorium/Gym
(Registration and Refreshments – 6:45pm)



7:00 – 7:05pm – Welcome

- *Fairfield Middle Principal – Dr. Dana N. Bost and Fairfield Middle PTA President – Renada Lewis*

7:05 – 7:15pm – HCCPTA Goals and Upcoming Dates

- *HCC PTA President, LaShawn Payne*

7:15 – 8:00pm - PTA Money Matters

- This is a financial workshop that you don't want to miss. Everyone on your Board should know what it takes for your PTA to become a financial success. We will walk you through what is needed for a Budget, Audit and Filing your 990. Where do your dues really go? What is Sensible FUN-draising & the 3-to-1 Rule? Come learn about what is considered to be a legitimate PTA expense and more

8:05- 8:50pm - Benefits of PTA Membership

- Membership in a local PTA means: Investing in our children's future. How do you increase membership and awareness? What is the HCCPTA Membership Challenge? How do I go from PTA to PTSA in my Middle and High School? How can Just Between Friends make things a little easier? Bylaws, PLP Votes, and Reflections – OH MY !!! Come share ideas and learn ways to involve Parents, Teachers, Community and more [I am Virginia PTA.](#)

UPCOMING LAY ADVISORY MEETINGS:

Oct. 24	7:00 @ Moody MS
Nov. 15	6:00 @ Freeman HS (School Board Breakout meeting at 7:00)
Jan. 9	7:00 @ Moody
Jan. 31	6:00 @ Highland Springs HS (School Board budget meeting) -- tentative date
Feb. 27	7:00 @ Moody
March 19	7:00 @ Moody
April 23	7:00 @ Moody
May 21	7:00 @ Moody



If you would like your email to be added to the
HCPS Communications email distribution,
please submit your request to Natalie Allen
(nnallen@henrico.k12.va.us)

HCCPTA Membership Challenge

The HCCPTA Membership Challenge are based on the FINAL numbers that are submitted by March 1st. HCCPTA compares against the previous year deadline with State PTA of June 30th.

So whatever membership amount was posted on the June 30, 2011 report will be compared for the HCCPTA Membership Challenge from the numbers turned in by March 1, 2012.



The VA PTA level has separate criteria. Go here for great info on Membership: <http://www.vapta.org/membership.html>

100% Membership Award A local unit is eligible for this award when their membership number is the same as the unit's ADM number. The ADM number is the number reported to the Department of Education by the principal on September 30. Traditionally, this number is not available until January. The VAPTA Membership Committee is now using the ADM number from the previous school year. We want our local units to know what their 100% membership goal is at the beginning of the school year.

President's Challenge At the 2009 Virginia PTA Annual Convention, the President issued a challenge to our local units to increase their membership by a 10% in 2010. The percentage increase was based upon the unit's membership number as of June 30. Check out the [2010 VA PTA President's Challenge Winners](#) to see if your PTA met the challenge!

Membership Drive Award This is an award for units who develop new ideas and get creative with their membership drives. Winners will be determined by the membership committee, at the Elementary, Middle and High School levels, based on those entries sent in to the Great Ideas Bank in June/July. Each local unit winner will be awarded two LTC registrations.

Email us at membership@vapta.org with any questions.



Imagine Believe Achieve

VOLUNTEER!

The VAPTA Convention needs you!

November 4–5, 2011

Holiday Inn Richmond Koger Center

Hey Richmond PTA friends,

Are you available to be a part of our local Convention team?

Help is needed to:

stuff bags Nov. 1
registration Nov. 4
registration Nov. 5
moderate Nov. 4
moderate Nov. 5
decorations

Name: _____ email: _____

Number: _____ unit: _____

Please contact Sarah Gross at sarahgross1@verizon.net with questions!

HENRICO COUNTY LIBRARIES



MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOLS

Read and Review Online Book Club - Students who are interested in earning community service hours may now do so through the Read and Review Online Book Club at the Henrico County Public Library. This program is open to all teens in middle or high school or the equivalent. Teen librarians will sign for either one or two hours of community service credit for each book review. Reviews that comply with all of the written guidelines will earn one credit, and those that are accepted for publication on the Teen Scene blog will earn one additional credit. Limit is 10 hours per semester. For complete details and to view the online form, see the Teen Scene blog Read and Review page at <http://hcplteenscene.org/read-review>. Please note that by pre-arrangement with the HCPS Community Service Coordinator, Mr. Mike Hasley, these hours do not need pre-approval. All other school rules and guidelines must be followed. For further assistance, please contact a teen librarian at any Henrico County Public Library location, or email pmuller@henrico.lib.va.us.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Early Intervention Services in Henrico – Join Bernita Sykes, Early Intervention specialist with Henrico County Dept. of Mental Health and Developmental Services at the Glen Allen Library on Tuesday Nov. 15 at 6:30pm, for a program about services and resources for children with special needs. This program is part of our child care provider series, but parents may also register online with a library card. See our events page at www.henricolibrary.org for details.

Read to Me Kits – Parents of preschool children are invited to check out a Read to Me Kit from the Henrico County Public Library. Each early literacy kit contains a variety of materials for a themed story time, such as books, music, videos, items for educational play, and a tip sheet for parents or caregivers. Kits are available for browsing at either the Tuckahoe or Fairfield libraries, or may be placed on hold through the library catalog by searching for “read to me kit.” The library owns over 50 kits on such topics as Rescue Heroes, Snow Days, Your Five Senses, New Sibling, Animal Music, and many other subjects that are fun for young children. Ensure that your child has the skills he or she needs to enter kindergarten ready to learn. Pick up a Read to Me Kit today, with your Henrico County Public Library card.

Celebrate Halloween at the Library – Henrico County Public Library is offering a wide variety of family programs during October, in celebration of Halloween. Fairfield and Twin Hickory will be hosting a magic show with the Amazing Mr. B; Fairfield and Glen Allen will present Haunted Henrico a multimedia show, with Beth Brown, author of Wicked Richmond; visit North Park for their annual Scare-o-Thon; Tuckahoe teens will host a Halloween Fair; Varina will host a Halloween Party; and Sandston is offering a Halloween evening story time. For a complete listing with dates and times, please see the library events calendar which can be accessed on the library home page at www.henricolibrary.org.

Patricia Muller
Youth Services Coordinator
Henrico County Public Library
1001 N. Laburnum Ave.
Henrico VA 23223
804-290-9027

Promethean Will MATCH YOUR FUNDS!

For the 2011–2012 school year, PTAs can support their schools in a meaningful way by raising funds to acquire state-of-the-art classroom equipment for students!



Promethean, a Proud National Sponsor of PTA, will match the amount raised by the PTA, up to \$3,800, towards the purchase of any combination of qualifying ActivClassroom products. Qualifying products include select Promethean interactive whiteboards (ActivBoards), award-winning student assessment devices (ActivExpression, ActiVote), and ActivSlates for use in the classroom.

If your school is raising funds for interactive classroom technology this school year, please visit PrometheanWorld.com/PTA for full details on Promethean's matching funds promotion!

A minimum of \$200 must be raised through your PTA's fundraising efforts to take advantage of this promotion.

So Your PTA is considering becoming a PTSA?

Commonly Asked Questions & Steps to Implementation

Click here to read more: -->

<http://www.vapta.org/home/51-membership/654-pta-to-pts.html>

Why involve students in your PTA?

- To put the PTA objective into action.
- To provide a new perspective on your PTA's Ideas and Programs.
- To provide students the opportunity to participate in planning and implementation of PTA programs.
- To provide your unit with information regarding student interests and problems.
- To increase the number of skilled volunteers in your PTA so you can conduct more programs to benefit the students.
- To give students a better understanding of adults, and adults a better understanding of students.

How does involvement in PTA help students?

- To teach students useful skills... think conflict resolution, program planning, public speaking, team work, consensus building, community service and decision making!
- To introduce students to the legislative process through your PTA's involvement in legislative activities.
- To encourage students' personal growth and development.
-
- To allow them time with adult mentors.

Sign up for Virginia PTA Newsletters:

<http://visitor.r20.constantcontact.com/d.jsp?llr=hw7o4bab&p=oi&m=1101641155271>

or at www.vapta.org, click on e-newsletter – sign up

A message from GODWIN HIGH SCHOOL

"Race To Nowhere" is a documentary film that wrestles with the notion of "how much is too much" for our teenagers to handle in academics & extra-curriculars. In a highly competitive time, it's hard to find balance. This film challenges parents, students, educators, and community leaders to think through the reasons behind the "push".

If this topic is of interest to you, then mark your calendars now for Thursday, November 17th... the Godwin PTSA will host a 7 PM showing of "Race To Nowhere"... more information on how to purchase tickets will be forthcoming within the week.



Reflections

2011-2012 Theme “Diversity Means...”

PTA REFLECTIONS

The National PTA has made some important procedure changes in the way art work is submitted. Students must title their works, and the title must be included on the Student Entry Form. All entries must also include an artist statement that describes how the piece relates to the theme. Each entry must be the original work of one student only. An adult may not alter the creative integrity of a student’s work. There are other changes in regards to labeling and filling out the entry form. To find out what these changes are, please go to <http://vapta.org>; other website resources are:

HCC Website-

County Reflections Recent Announcements, News, and Deadlines

<http://hccpta.com> Click on Cultural Arts. The Cultural Arts webpage will be updated regularly with Reflections information.

Virginia PTA Reflections Website Flyers, Entry Forms, Rules, and other How Tos

<http://vapta.org/statecommittees/arts-in-education-homepage.html>

Nation PTA Reflections Website

Download Logos, Poster Templates, Flyers and to see past winners artwork and to learn and explore the National PTA Reflections

<http://www.ptareflections.org>

Deadlines:

Oct. 21, 2011- The suggested deadline for all entries from the students to be turned into you.

Nov. 9, 2011 - The outstanding interpretation entries to be dropped off to the county. The drop off locations will be announced at a later date. They will be posted on the website as well.

TBA – District Awards Program

Feb. 21, 2012 – HCC PTA Reflections Awards Program - 7pm Deep Run High School

If you have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us. Our contact information is listed below:

Linda Wettstone & Deborah Gardner
Henrico County Council Cultural Arts Co-Chairs
reflections@hccpta.com

What is the PTA Reflections Program?

The PTA Reflections Program is designed to enhance a quality arts education by providing an opportunity for students to explore their artistic talents and receive positive recognition for their efforts. Students participate in the Reflections Program by submitting entries to their schools’ local PTA or PTSA. In Virginia and nationally, the program has six arts areas—dance choreography, film production, literature, musical composition, photography, and visual arts—and four grade divisions—primary, intermediate, middle/junior, and senior.

LOCAL UNIT NEWS

CONGRATULATIONS Varina High School
Year to Date membership is 515. Year-end last year was 482!
That's a 9% increase already this year!

Join Varina High School PTSA for a fun filled night of fun and bowling
Saturday, October 22nd 2011
Enjoy a smoke free environment with friends & family for bowling and a dinner buffet.
21 & up WITH PROPER ID
AMF Shrader Lanes 8037 Shrader Rd. Richmond, Va
9:30pm - 2:30am
\$25.00 per ticket
Thank you for your support!!!
For more PTSA fundraising please see our website at www.varinahs-ptsa.com



Back to School Night was a huge success, with about 400 parents. The PTSA took a family survey on what programs the Parents want to see at their school. We feed the Faculty Dinner, Voted on PLP, had a flag ceremony by Boy Scout Troop 528. The mascot Elko Eagle appeared to top off our evening. We have been busy getting ready for a great year. We are implementing new programs for our students and parents this year. The Greeting Committee comes to school every morning and says good morning to the students as they get off the bus or out of cars. Our emphasis this year is to reach out to our community and have them partner with our school. Area churches are providing snacks for students who stay after school for tutoring. We are also providing tutors, mentors, helpers and greeters. Being a new PTSA we had students apply to be student representatives on the PTSA Board, 2 students were chosen to represent each grade level. They came to our September Board meeting to be introduced and then helped pass out flyers at the General Meeting. We will be taken them to the General Assembly Day for PTA.

Student will be recognized in awards assemblies this year for:

P---Positive Attitude Award (with school work & classroom behavior)
T---Teacher Choice Award (caring, sharing, respect)
S---Spectacular Choice Award (Behavior, School work, & Community Service)
A---Academic Improvement Award (Most Improved)
Go Eagles!!!!

Elko is also networking with their community! <http://soaringeagles.powweb.com/id20.html>

Check out Sandston Elementary School's Skyhawk Flyer (Monthly Newsletter):
http://henrico.k12.va.us/global/images/Skyhawks_Flyer_Sept_2011.pdf

The Glen Allen High School PTSA is having a great membership drive this year!

Be Involved. Be Inspired. Be Invested. BE IN: The PTSA

Check out their student membership video: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1z8Q0JM73Z0>

They have increased their membership #'s from 495 last year to 694 so far this year with almost 200 of these members being students!

Glen Allen High School will be hosting a **Candidates forum for the Brookland District** the night before the election, Monday, 11/7. Final details have not been confirmed but all 3 candidates will be in attendance. For more information check out their website: www.gahsptsa.com. You can also ask to be added to the contact list by emailing Programs@gahsptsa.com.

Donahoe Elementary • Fall Festival

Games, Prizes, Pumpkins, Bounce House, Slide, Face Painting, Snow Cones, Cotton Candy, Hog Dogs, Popcorn, Silent Auction, Specialty Vendors, Cake Walk and Much, Much More!

Fun for the Whole Family!

Saturday, October 15, 2011 • 10am-2pm

THREE CHOPT DISTRICT NEWS

Colonial Trial ES-Rated the Best New ES by the SouthEast Conference

Deep Run HS-The Key Club will be trying to raise \$10,000 for the Susan G Komen Foundation. Tees will be on sale for \$10.00 for Breast Cancer Awareness.

Davis ES-Will be walking the Red Carpet to Success this school year.

Holman MS-Rachel's Challenge-A incredible story of courage and hope. Rachel Scott was the first person killed in the Columbine High School tragedy. She left behind a legacy and a simple challenge for anyone that will accept it-treat other people with kindness and compassion and you just may change the world you live in. Come listen and learn October 5th 7pm.

Pocahontas MS-PRIDE Committee is sponsoring Student Movie Night on October 7th 7-9:30

Rivers Edge ES-October 5th was their International Walk + School Day

Shady Grove ES-will have their Fun Run for Fitness on October 20th. Registration and warm ups will begin at 5pm. Also SGEES Anniversary Cookbook submissions are due October 28th! Reserve you copy of some yummy recipes.

Short Pump ES-Fun Fact: Did you know that SPES is the oldest elementary school in the county? For the past four years, the Short Pump community has supported American troops in combat areas by collecting items to be included in packages sent by the Blue Star Families of Richmond. This year we will have our collection at the end of October. Look for more information in a few week about specific items needed. Thanks in advance for your support. Please visit <http://www.bluestarrichmond.org/> for more information on this wonderful organization.

Short Pump MS- October 22nd: Short Pump Ruritan Club Craft Show at SPMS, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

Springfield Park ES-now has a school Blog and on Twitter!

Three Chopt ES-Congrats to the Green Machines. They participated in the LEGO Robotics Regional Tournament and won 1st-Robot Performance and 2nd-Champion Awards

Tuckahoe MS-TMS students were encouraged to show their support for the **Invisible Children in Central Africa**, because there are middle school aged students in Congo being kidnapped and trained to be child soldiers. TMS partnered with students and individuals around the world to bring awareness to this campaign by participating in **25 hours of silence on Monday, April 25, 2011.**

Tucker HS- Spirit Night @ Creepy Hollow Scream Park October 9th, 50th anniversary meeting 10/11 at 7pm

Twin Hickory-Twin Hickory is a recipient of the 2011 Governor's Award for EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE.

FINANCE TIPS

The current president and treasurer sign off on the audit report. They are certifying that it was presented to the board and general membership on dates noted. The past officers do not sign it.

Audit reports are due to HCPS as soon as you have it approved by your general membership. Please submit to: sawrenn@henrico.k12.va.us and copy fddavis@henrico.k12.va.us

**Sharlene A, Wrenn, CPA
Director of Internal Audit
Henrico County Public Schools
Telephone 804-652-3714
Fax 804-652-3856**

The following links are found on our website: www.hccpta.com, click on training topics and then treasurer:

[Local Unit Audit Report 2011](#)

[Local Unit Audit Checklist](#)

HCC PTA DIRECTORY UPDATE

* Only 28 of 70 local units have submitted their PTSA board information. Thanks to all that have provided the information.

* We would like to have all boards submitted no later than 10/20 for inclusion in the published directory. We will continue to take directory information beyond that date however any information collected after 10/20 WILL NOT be included in the published directory.

* To submit your directory information please submit online @ www.hccpta.com or submit directly to the directory@hccpta.com email address using the 2011 - 2012 Directory Form also located on the www.hccpta.com website. Really, ANY format sent to the email address will do. We just want to make sure your unit is included!

What can I find on the www.hccpta.com website?



- Contact information for the HCC PTA board
- County council meeting dates and other activities in the community
- Links to State and National PTA as well as forms needed
- HCC PTA meeting minutes and reports
- Connections: The HCC PTA newsletter
- Links to our districts, local schools and PTAs
- A president's checklist
- Information about the HCC PTA scholarship program
- Information/Links to the school board
- Training topics to include fundraising ideas, legislation, membership ideas, program ideas, reflections guidelines and treasurer information.
- Easy links to contact the HCC PTA board

Tips for Getting PLP Votes

As each new PTA year begins it is important that PTAs present the Preliminary Legislation Program (PLP) to the members and encourage each member to vote. An annual legislation program is developed by the state Legislation Committee and adopted by the membership to represent the 'official' position of the Virginia PTA on a wide variety of issues affecting children and youth. Your local unit votes are important because each and every vote counts.

EVERY UNIT CAN GET VOTES!

1. **You do not have to hold a live vote.** Members may vote electronically. Keep in mind, though, there are no proxy votes and only PTA members are allowed to vote.
2. **You do not have to use this ballot.** As long as your members have access to the entire PLP documents, especially the Rationales for each LAI or PS, you don't need to copy the whole thing.
3. **Your District Director may simply want an e-mail with your unit's tally.**
4. **You may present the PLP as many times and in as many ways as necessary to get the votes!**

Votes are due to your District Director by October 23rd. A ballot template is provided in the PLP. The PLP is available on the website at www.vapta.org or by contacting the state office at info@vapta.org. For more information on the Virginia PTA Legislation Program or if you need any help getting out the PLP vote, go to www.vapta.org or contact the Legislation Committee Chair at legislation@vapta.org.

VOTING ON THE PLP IS THE RIGHT OF EVERY MEMBER OF VIRGINIA PTA!

Henrico County Council of PTAs Budget 2011/2012

OPERATING

Beginning Balance: \$ 500.00

INCOME

Council Banquet	\$ 6,000.00
Interest Income	\$ 100.00
Local Unit Dues	\$ 2,021.00
Miscellaneous	\$ 129.00
Total Operating Income	\$ 8,250.00
	\$ 8,750.00

EXPENSE

Administration (Incl copying)	\$ 480.00
Banquet	
Food Services	\$ 5,000.00
Other Banquet Expenses	\$ 1,000.00
Cultural Arts	\$ 500.00
Hospitality	\$ 250.00
Insurance	\$ 200.00
Leadership Development	\$ 1,000.00
New Unit Start Up	\$ -
Summer Start-Up (next year)	\$ 250.00
Website	\$ 70.00
Total Operating Expense	\$ 8,750.00

SCHOLARSHIP

Beginning Balance \$ 20,005.71

INCOME

Community Contributions	\$ 100.00
Interest Income	\$ 75.00
Local Unit Donations	\$ 9,000.00
Scholarship Income - Other	\$ -
Total Scholarship Income	\$ 9,175.00
	\$ 29,180.71

EXPENSE

2009 Rollover	\$ -
2010 Scholarships	\$ 2,500.00
2011 Scholarships	\$ 11,200.00
2012 Scholarships	\$ 11,200.00
Excess Fund Carryover	\$ 4,280.71
Total Scholarship Expenses	\$ 29,180.71

Submitted by: Ingrid Johnson 9/28/2011

If you have any questions about money handling procedures feel free to contact our County Council Treasurer, Ingrid Johnson at treasurer@hccpta.com. Make sure your treasurer has a copy of money matters from National PTA and that the president and other board members have reviewed these procedures. Your PTA/PTSA insurance may have additional requirements for money handling procedures.