

**HCC BOARD
2009-2010**

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President's Message

Happy November! I am excited to report that PTAs and PTSAs across Henrico County are rocking and rolling and doing amazing work for the students and families they serve. I cannot tell you how proud I am of everything that is going on all around me. There are literally hundreds of PTA leaders and thousands of PTA volunteers doing great work in our schools and communities. Thank you all!

Our first meeting with our PTA/PTSA Presidents and Dr. Russo, Superintendent HCPS, was extremely successful. About 25 Presidents came out on a cold, rainy night to get an update from Dr. Russo on H1N1, the budget and the new dress code. Dr. Russo and I are working together to determine the best way to increase dialog with the county's PTA Presidents. Be on the look out for more information about our plans.

Speaking of Dr. Russo, he will be a panelist at a session at Virginia PTA's State Convention this month. He will participate in the Superintendent, School Board, Principal forum. This forum will give PTA leaders the opportunity to talk about working with school leaders at all levels, it should be a great session. VA PTA Convention will be held from Friday, November 13th through Sunday, November 15th at the Fredericksburg Expo and Convention Center. We have a few PTAs from Henrico County who will be attending. The Expo Center is located right off of I-95 so it is an easy drive if you are still considering attending. Please visit the VA PTA web site to learn more- **www.vapta.org**.

Make sure you bookmark the PTA web sites. Answers to many of the questions you have can be found on these web site and they are all loaded with great information and program ideas.

Please remember that **990 forms are due by November 15th**. All PTAs must submit regardless of the total of their receipts. The rule that only PTAs with receipts over \$25,000 needed to file expired in 2007, now all PTAs must submit a 990. You can visit the IRS web site to learn more- **www.irs.gov**.

As we move towards the end of this month, we are asked to think about what we are thankful for. I am thankful for all of the amazing children who live in Henrico County, I am thankful for the great schools system our children attend, I am thankful for the HCPS leadership who realize the value of parental involvement, I am thankful for all of the PTA leaders and volunteers who work tirelessly for our communities, and I am thankful to have the opportunity to meet and work with all of you. Please make sure you take this opportunity to thank all of the volunteers who work at your schools and with your PTAs.

Have a wonderful November! I hope to see many of you at VA PTA Convention!

Important web sites:

National PTA: **www.pta.org**

Virginia PTA: **www.vapta.org**

Henrico County Council of PTAs: **www.hccpta.com**

Kathy Burcher
President 2009-2010
president@hccpta.com

Submit Local Unit Happenings

We love to hear what is going on with your local unit and want to share your happenings with others. Please send your recent and upcoming events (with or without photos) to your district contact below:

Vice President - Brookland	Sonja Kinney	Brookland@hccpta.com
Vice President - Fairfield	Barbara Adkins	Fairfield@hccpta.com
Vice President - Three Chopt	Cheryl Rilee	ThreeChopt@hccpta.com
Vice President - Tuckahoe	Michelle West	Tuckahoe@hccpta.com
Vice President - Varina	Tammy Gartrell	Varina@hccpta.com

HCC PTA Meeting Schedule 2009-2010

*****All meetings are held on Tuesdays unless otherwise noted*****

General Membership Meetings:

November 10	7pm	Henrico HS	School Board Update
February 9	7pm	Highland Springs HS	HCPS Budget Review
March 9	7pm	Deep Run HS	Reflections Night
May 4	6pm	Hermitage HS	HCC PTA Banquet
May 25	7pm	Pemberton ES	Incoming President's Meeting

PTA President's Meetings with Dr. Pat Russo, HCPS Superintendent:

March 16	5pm	Central Office
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Board Meetings:

January 12	7pm	Tuckahoe Library (not Tuckahoe Elementary)
March 16	6:30pm	Central Office
April 13	7pm	Tuckahoe Library (not Tuckahoe Elementary)
May 18	6:30pm	Belmont CC - Board Transition Meeting

National Parental Involvement Day—Thursday, November 19

National PTA (www.pta.org) has always advocated for increased parent involvement which we all know increases student achievement. Please consider using that day to remind parents of the importance of being involved by:

- offering a program to bring parents in
- hanging a banner
- have special volunteer opportunities that day
- send home a list of ways to be involved (many of which don't mean coming into the school building and is available on National PTA's web site- 100 Ways to Help Your Child and School Succeed)

PTA President's Checklist

November

- Attend Virginia PTA's Convention.
- Remind your Treasurer that all dues must be sent to the State Office by December 1 so your Local Unit remains in "Good Standing".

December

- Enjoy the holidays and rejuvenate yourself for the remainder of the year.

Save the Date and Deadline Reminders:

2009

November 1	Pre-registration deadline for Convention heart/flu clinics on November 14
November 6-8	Emerging Minority Leaders Conference, National PTA, Atlanta
November 13-15	Convention 2009, Fredericksburg Expo & Conference Center
November 15	IRS Form 990 due for PTAs whose fiscal year ended 6/30
December 1	Membership dues deadline for 'good standing'

2010

February 1	PTA Day at the General Assembly
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Virginia PTA Citizenship Essay Contest

The Virginia PTA board of managers on Sunday selected "**Strong Citizens - Strong Communities**" as the 2009-10 Citizenship Essay Project theme. Essays reflecting this theme will be accepted from students grade 6-12 beginning in September. More information and rules are available at <http://www.vapta.org>.

HCCPTA Email Alerts



We want to keep you updated on the latest HCCPTA news and information. Presidents, please ask your board and committee members if they received this newsletter. If they are having any issues receiving notices from HCCPTA, please ask them to do the following three steps:

1. Contact us at subscribe@hccpta.com to inform us of the problem.
2. Add newsletter@hccpta.com to their address book.
3. Visit <http://www.hccpta.com> for the latest information and newsletters.

DISTRICT NEWS

Varina District News

Submitted by Tammy Gartrell, Varina District Vice-President

Elko Middle School is at the highest PTA membership since the school opened its doors in September 2007. The **Elko Middle School PTA** has 340 members to date. Mrs. Perera and her administrators will get a dunking booth when they reach 450 members. Also Chick-Fil-A will give them 450 free sandwich coupons. Go Eagles!

Elko Middle School PTA will also help host a community event on **November 7, 2009**. The 1st Annual Elko Bizarre will be from **9 am to 2 pm** in the school parking lot. If you have a business, a craft, mini-yard sale or an organization to promote, you can get a spot for only \$10. Proceeds go to The Elko Middle School Art Department, the Wings of Excellence Program and the Elko Middle School PTA.

Varina Mehfood Elementary PTA hosts dinner for teachers on all PTA nights because the teachers have such a long day. This past PTA meeting on October 15th their program was Kim and Jimbo Cary. They brought all kinds of instruments and the children performed in a band. The students were even able to do a parade around the auditorium.

Seven Pines Elementary School celebrated their 50th Birthday on October 11, 2009 at Seven Pines; special guests included Dr. Russo, John Montgomery, and Dr. Cheryl Thomas. A slide show of past years was shown, Mr. Llewellyn presented a history of the school. Displays of Seven Pines through the years were set up, students made decorations and, of course, there was cake. Many past and present principals, students, parents, teachers, staff, PTA members and officers celebrated this event.



Three Chopt District News

Tucker High School PTSA is looking for a couple of schools to join us and HCMS for a visit from Chris Skinner in February. His website is www.chrisskinner.org. You will find details on there about his motivational speeches.

The more schools that participate, the lower the per PTA cost will be.

These programs will be in school for students and JRT will host an evening event free to the entire county.

Tuckahoe District News

Godwin High School will host the **HCPS College and Career Night from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. on November 10, 2009** for all county residents. Over 150 colleges, universities, businesses and armed services/public service (fire/police/EMT) will be represented.

On **November 16, 2009**, GHS will host an evening with Dr. Russo open to all.

The Nutcracker Suite

*A 45-minute abbreviated version of the original production.
Just perfect for younger audiences!*



**Moody Middle School
7800 Woodman Road**

**Saturday, November 21
2:00 pm and 4:00 pm**

**Seniors &
Children 11 & under \$5
Ages 12 & older \$7**

**Contact: Susan Manning
346-8465**



VA State PTA Convention

Reprinted from VA PTA Voice newsletter

WHO SHOULD ATTEND CONVENTION?

Once a year, individual PTA members have the opportunity to directly affect the business of Virginia PTA, energize their leaders, hear top-notch presentations, obtain excellent training, network with leaders and peers from across the state and have fun.

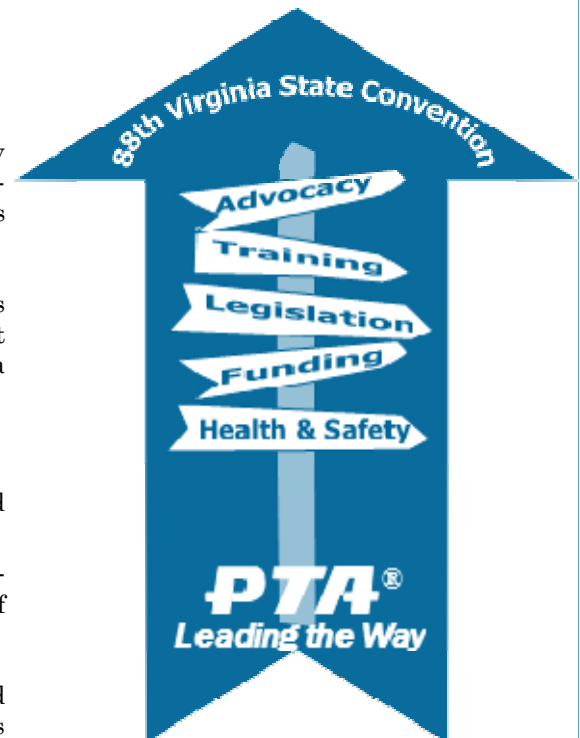
Convention is an investment in the future leadership and success of PTA. We recognize that time and money are scarce, but we must invest in ourselves to develop our potential so that PTA can ensure a better future for all children.

- Bring your board members to Lead the Way!
- Bring principals, teachers and school board members to help Lead the Way!
- Bring any members who have demonstrated that spark of leadership potential and who want to learn more about the benefits of PTA.

Attending Convention is a justifiable PTA expense. Every unit should have at least one representative present to represent the interests of its members!

Hope to see everyone **November 13-15**, Fredericksburg Expo & Conference Center, Fredericksburg.

For more information go to <http://www.vapta.org/state-convention.html>.



Reflections—Thank You

by Diane Lail and Jessica Goode, HCCPTA Reflections Chairs

We want to thank all the Reflection Chairs and volunteers who helped with this program at their local unit PTAs. We are looking forward to seeing all the winning entries from your schools.

Frequently Asked Questions:

- Send in only the Outstanding Interpretation winners from each category and age division to the county level.
- Do not send us any of the judging sheets from your local unit programs.
- Please include with your entries the Local Unit Participation Form and the Tracking Form. Both of these forms are available online. www.hccpta.com
- Drop off information: You have two choices to drop off your Outstanding Interpretation winning entries to the county level.

1. Put the entries in your school's "Pony Mail" Send it to Jackson Davis Elementary School attn: Jessica Goode **by Friday, Nov. 13th**.

2. You may drop off entries in person on **Thursday, Nov. 12th** at Jackson Davis Elementary School. We will be there from **5:30 to 6:30 p.m.**

We will process these entries and have them judged. **The HCCPTA Reflections Program will be on Tuesday, March 9, 2010 at Deep Run High School at 7 p.m.** The entries that do not move onto the District level will be available for pick up the night of the March program.