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## PTA Resources

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## Contact Us

CCPTA Executive Board/Chairpersons  
[Dale Proctor](#),

# Arlington CCPTA Update

December 20, 2010

[www.arlingtonccpta.org](http://www.arlingtonccpta.org)

## Greetings!

Our next CCPTA meeting is tonight at 7:00 pm at the Ed Center. Come on out to connect with other PTAs and hear about what's going on in Arlington Schools.

Please continue to share **CCPTA Take-Aways** with your PTA communities. Take-Aways for previous meetings are posted on the CCPTA website at [www.arlingtonccpta.org](http://www.arlingtonccpta.org).

**President Obama** visits one of Arlington's Elementary schools! Another APS elementary school featured in Samuel Casey Carter's book... "**On Purpose**." Check out this exciting news under **School Happenings** below.

Congratulations to 8 APS teachers who earned certification this year. The National Board for Professional Teaching Standards announced these eight APS teachers received National Board Certification.

The APS teachers who have earned certification this year are:

- **Kevin Clark** - Washington Lee High School
- **Laurie Ann Dodson** - Key Elementary School
- **Rachna Fraccaro** - Oakridge Elementary School
- **Mary Gaynor** - Jamestown Elementary School
- **Sherry Lord** - Claremont Immersion School
- **Wanda McPhee** - Williamsburg Middle School
- **Bonnie Nelison** - Wakefield High School
- **Kristina Stallings** - Oakridge Elementary School

New under "**Community Events**" information on a fun-filled **New Years Eve party just for Middle School students!**

Also under **Community Events**, information on the Dr. Martin Luther King Literary & Visual Arts Contest now underway!

**Wishing you all a safe and happy holiday!**

Dale Proctor  
 CCPTA President

## CCPTA Meeting Dates

All meetings of the CCPTA will be held at the Ed Center at 1426 N.

President  
[Laura Novak](#), Vice  
 President  
[Roxanne Lindholm](#),  
 Treasurer  
[Tracey Funari](#),  
 Secretary  
[Ted Hayes](#), Special  
 Projects  
[Cecelia Espenoza](#),  
 Reflections Co-Chair  
 CCPTA Reps  
[Wendy Carter](#),  
 Reflections Co-Chair  
[Katie Boone](#),  
 Communications  
 Chair  
[Lavonne  
 Stewart](#), Membership  
[Noah Dropkin](#),  
 Budget Advisory  
[Don Weinstein](#),  
 Facilities Advisory  
[Gladis Bourdouane](#),  
 Summer Activities

#### PTA Links

[Abingdon](#)

[ATS](#)

[Ashlawn](#)

[Barcroft](#)

[Barrett](#)

[Campbell](#)

[Claremont](#)

[Drew](#)

[Glebe](#)

[Gunston](#)

[H-B Woodlawn](#)

[Henry](#)

[Hoffman-Boston](#)

Quincy Road, Arlington, VA 22207. Meetings will begin at **7:00 pm** and end at **8:45 pm**. Times for special CCPTA events will be noted

#### **Meeting dates for 2010:**

- December 20, 2010
- January 25, 2011 - County Reflections Awards Program - W-L
- January 31, 2011
- February 28, 2011
- March 21, 2011
- April 11, 2011
- May 16, 2011
- May 18, 2011 - Teacher's Scholarship Reception - Career Center
- June 20, 2011 - Officer Training and Networking - W-L

## Draft Agenda for December 20, 2010

[www.arlingtonccpta.org](http://www.arlingtonccpta.org)

**December 20, 2010**

### Agenda

#### **Welcome**

#### **Introductions**

#### **Committee/Representative Reports**

- Don Weinstein, Facilities Advisory Committee
- Noah Dropkin, Budget Advisory Committee

#### **Report from APS**

- Dr. Pat Murphy, Superintendent
- School Board Chair, Libby Garvey
- Budget Overview by Marybeth Chambers and Noah Dropkin

#### **President's Report**

- PTA Best Practice Update

#### **PTA Business**

- Approval of December meeting minutes
- Cecelia Espenoza and Wendy Carter, Reflections update

#### **Adjournment**

[Jamestown](#)[Jefferson](#)[Kenmore](#)[Key](#)[Long Branch](#)[Oakridge](#)[McKinley](#)[Nottingham](#)[Randolph](#)[Science Focus](#)[Swanson](#)[Taylor](#)[Tuckahoe](#)[Wakefield](#)[Washington-Lee](#)[Williamsburg](#)[Yorktown](#)

## New Business

### School Happenings

#### **President Makes Surprise Visit to Long Branch Elementary School**

Long Branch Elementary School students were treated to a surprise visit by President Barack Obama. During his visit, the President read his new children's book "Of Thee I Sing: A Letter to My Daughters" to 90 second graders in the school's library.

The President told students why he wrote his book and also read the poem "Twas the Night Before Christmas." Proceeds from sales of the President's book will go to military families.

Long Branch Principal Felicia Russo said of the President's visit, "This was a wonderful holiday gift for our school community. Our students were so excited and attentive during the visit. It really was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for many of our students." She went on to say, "At Long Branch, we stress the importance of writing and this experience was important because it taught students that no matter how busy you are in life, anyone can pen a book."

In addition, he surprised more than 200 students in the multi-purpose room who were watching via the school's closed-circuit TV. Others watched the President's visit in rooms throughout the school.

Long Branch was chosen because of its proximity to Fort Myer and because many of its students are from military families. Students at Long Branch reflect Arlington's diverse and changing population, hailing from more than 25 countries and speaking almost as many languages.

#### **"On Purpose" -- A new book by Samuel Casey Carter. Discover how 12 ordinary schools achieved extraordinary results -- Arlington Traditional School featured in Chapter 8!**

"Best-selling author Samuel Casey Carter showcases 12 extraordinary schools where confident children joyfully strive to accomplish worthy goals in concert with their friends. These mainstream American institutions focus on a culture of character as the foundation of a great school, and demonstrate scalable, sustainable, and replicable models... The results are undeniable:

- Dramatically improved lives of the children entrusted to their care
- Students with lasting personal character and a strong sense of purpose
- Motivated teachers who feel rewarded for their work
- Remarkable student achievement"

Learn more about Carter's new book [HERE](#).

## Parent Education

**ADHD Parent Support Network Meeting.** 7:00pm to 8:30 pm. Washington-Lee High School Library, 1301 N. Stafford Street, 2nd Floor, Arlington, VA 22207

Parents of children with ADHD are encouraged to join this monthly session which features a presentation and group discussion, and opportunities for parents to ask questions, share resources and information, and connect with other families parenting children and teens with ADHD.

Kindly register by contacting the PRC at 703.228.2135.

Below are the remainder of the 2010-11 School Year meeting dates. All meetings will be held from 7:00 to 8:30pm.

January 26, February 16, March 23, April 27, May 25

**The Special Education Parent Resource Center** is now accepting registration for a CHADD (Children and Adults with Attention Deficit Disorder) Parent to Parent Training which will be offered on Tuesday evenings beginning on February 1, 2011.

Arlington Public Schools is partnering with CHADD (Children and Adults with Attention Deficit Disorder) and Arlington County's Department of Human Services (DHS) to offer the seven week CHADD Parent to Parent training class.

Parent to Parent: Family Training on AD/HD was developed by Linda Smith, Beth Kaplanek, and Mary Durham over a period of more than two years. Parent to Parent provides educational information and support for individuals and families dealing with AD/HD and learning to navigate the challenges of AD/HD across the lifespan. Courses are offered in communities across the country. The curriculum was developed by parents who have lived the experience, but who also have had access to the best researchers and practitioners in the country. The entire course takes about 14 hours of time and is offered as a seven-week class, meeting for two hours once a week.

Participants receive extensive materials to support them, including articles, reference materials, handouts, and homework assignments. The curriculum is very structured and includes information on:

- Overview of AD/HD
- Assessment to Multimodal Treatment
- Managing the Impact(s) of AD/HD on the Family
- Developing Parenting Strategies and Positive Behavior Interventions
- Educational Rights for Your Child with AD/HD
- Building an Education Team: Bridging the Gap Between Home and School
- Resiliency, Teen Challenges & Future Success

This class is open to parents of students with Attention Deficit Disorder who are Arlington residents. Registration is REQUIRED, and limited to the first twenty registrants.

The class dates are: February 1, February 8, February 22, March 1, March 8, March 15 and March 29 from 7-9pm. Parents are asked to register **ONLY** if they can commit to attending all seven sessions.

[Register now online.](#)

The sessions will be held at the Arlington County Department of Human Services (DHS) offices located at: 2100 Washington Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22204. Child care is available.

For additional information, please contact Kathleen Donovan at [kdonovan@arlington.k12.va.us](mailto:kdonovan@arlington.k12.va.us) or 703.228.2135.

## School Board Update

The Arlington School Board approved four items at the December 16th School Board meeting, including 2011 Summer School fees' the 2011 legislative package' the 2012-16 technology plan, and the Foreign Language in Elementary Schools (FLES) decision matrix.

- **2011 Summer School Fees** - Students enrolled in the Free and Reduced-Price Meals program will continue to pay a \$56 registration fee for remedial, strengthening, and English as a Second Language classes, while other students will pay a \$100 registration fee. The tuition for elementary level enrichment classes will decrease, while the total fees (registration and tuition) at the secondary level for "new work for credit" will remain unchanged. Fees for driver's education, the elementary Outdoor Lab residential program and Career Center enrichment classes will increase.
- **2011 Legislative Package** - The proposed legislative package for the 2011 session of the Virginia General Assembly includes a request for school divisions to start before Labor Day; a proposal to prohibit the manufacture, distribution, and and/or possession of synthetic marijuana; and an appeal for full funding of all tests required by the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (formerly No Child Left Behind). To read the entire legislative package, [click here](#).
- **Technology Plan** - The state-mandated APS Technology Plan for FY 2012-16 includes goals and strategies for the effective and efficient use of technology to improve student achievement and APS operations. The plan was also amended to ensure that every student has access to an Internet connected personal computing device during and outside school hours and to provide a flexible technology environment that may be personalized to the learning needs and physical location of the user.
- **FLES Decision Matrix** -The FLES Decision Matrix will assist School Board with future deliberations about continuation, expansion, or reductions in the program. The matrix consists of three sections: program design; fiscal impact; and criteria. The Board will hear a report on the FLES program at its January 6 meeting, and the decision matrix is expected to assist the Board in its decision-making.

## Community Events

### **NEW -- 2010 New Year's Eve Party (for middle school students)**

Dec. 31 from 8:00 p.m.-1:00 a.m. at the Madison Community Center, 3820 N. Stafford St., Cost is \$25.00 (non-refundable) with proceeds going back to Arlington youth. Sponsored by: YMCA, Arlington Dept. of Parks, Rec., and Cultural Resources, The Century Council, and the Arlington Partnership for Children, Youth, and Families. Register by Dec. 17 at 703/228-4747 or [www.arlingtonva.us/prcr](http://www.arlingtonva.us/prcr) Activity Code970004-A Questions? Contact Joe D-Emidio at 703/525-5420 or [joe.d'emidio@ymcadc.org](mailto:joe.d'emidio@ymcadc.org)

Your middle school child can dance, learn to be a D.J., try a yoga class, play Wi games and Guitar Hero, run through a Moon Bounce-type obstacle course, do art projects, play Board games, sing Karaoke, watch the ball drop on a big screen t.v., watch movies, enjoy pizza and other snacks - all at the Madison Center.

### **Healthy/FIT Relationships (in Spanish/en español)**

A two-part workshop in Spanish exploring ways to build a healthy relationship, improve communication, develop problem-solving skills, and promote positive parenting. Saturdays, Jan. 15 and Jan. 22 from 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. at the Human Services Center at Sequoia, 2100 Washington Blvd, Arlington. Couples who attend both sessions are eligible for a \$20 gift card. Childcare available and snacks provided. Contact Cheryl Fuentes at 703/228-1551 or [cfuentes@arlingtonva.us](mailto:cfuentes@arlingtonva.us) to register. Workshops provided by the Granato Group. Flyer attached.

To join APS Green Schools, send an e-mail to [APSGreenSchoolssubscribe@yahoo.com](mailto:APSGreenSchoolssubscribe@yahoo.com). Include the name of your Arlington Public School (APS).

### ***MISSION***

APS Green Schools is a group of parents, teachers, students, and citizens who are interested in helping each other educate Arlington Public School (APS) students on green issues. Our mission is to foster environmental education throughout the school year, encourage meaningful and multi-disciplinary experiences in outdoor education, and decrease the environmental footprint of schools in Arlington, Virginia. We hope to make a positive difference by reducing waste, engaging the students in active projects to protect and enhance the environment, and imbuing a life-long sense of stewardship for our natural resources. Our group shares successes and challenges we face in implementing green activities and programs in our respective schools.

### **Arlington Public Schools students are invited to take part in the "Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Literary and Visual Contest"**

Now through Fri. Jan. 7, 2011. A new visual arts category is being added to this year\*s contest. Students are being asked to describe in writing or through visual arts how the Arlington community is fulfilling Dr. King\*s

vision and dream.

The contest is open to all APS students in grades K-12. Awards will be given in four grade levels: K-2; 3-5; 6-8; and 9-12. Winners will be announced on Wed. Jan. 12, 2011.

Each first place entry along with a photograph of the winners will be published in the Sun-Gazette newspaper and on their website. In addition, all first-place winners will read their essays or poems and art pieces will be showcased as part of Arlington County\*s 42nd annual "Tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr." scheduled for Sun. Jan. 16. Contest rules and entry forms are available online and at all APS schools, Arlington County libraries and community centers which are listed below.

There is no fee to enter the contest. Entries can be submitted by email to [mlkentries@arlington.k12.va.us](mailto:mlkentries@arlington.k12.va.us) or can be dropped off at any APS school or Arlington community center.

All entries must be received by 5 p.m. on Fri. Jan. 7, at any of the following locations:

Arlington Education Center: 1426 N. Quincy St., Room 106,  
703-228-2581 Barcroft Sports and Fitness Center: 4200 S. Four Mile Run Dr.,  
703-228-0701

Carver: 1415 S. Queen St., 703-228-5706

Drew: 3500 S. 24th St., 703-228-5725

Fairlington: 3808 S. Stafford St., 703-228-6588

Gunston: 2700 S. Lang St., 703-228-6980

Jefferson: 3501 S. 2nd St., 703-228-5920

Langston-Brown: 2121 N. Culpeper St., 703-228-5210

Lee: 5722 Lee Highway, 703-228-0550

Lubber Run: 300 N. Park Dr., 703-228-4727 Walter Reed: 2909 S. 16th St., 703 228-0935

For additional information, contact Dawn Willard at 703-228-2581 or by email [dwillard@arlington.k12.va.us](mailto:dwillard@arlington.k12.va.us).

## District/State/National PTA News

**Dues** -- If you have not already done so, please submit National and State dues to state of \$2.75.

**VA PTA 2011 Citizenship Essay Project** -- The Virginia PTA is proud to sponsor a Citizenship Essay Project. The 2011 theme is "Entitlement vs. Responsibility". This Essay Project allows students to express their views and opinions on "Character or Citizenship". VA PTA is committed to promoting a sense of citizenship and responsibility in the lives of our children -- tomorrow's leaders. Essay deadline is February 1, 2011. For more information, please click [HERE](#).

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FOLLOWS"**

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