



Bruin Voices

Lake Braddock Secondary

PTSA

everychild.onevoice.

Newsletter of the LBSS Parent, Teacher, Student Association

Letter from the President, Judy Dioquino

Dear Lake Braddock Teachers, Staff, Parent & Students,

Welcome to another school year filled with excitement and challenges. After all, Lake Braddock is the core to our community for all the families in our surrounding neighborhoods. Our administrators and staff are a remarkable team of individuals who prepare our students for life and give them the proper knowledge needed to live successfully. They ensure that every one of them can learn in a safe and clean environment. As hard as they try, this can't be done alone. They need our support!

We have managed a great support system through the PTSA. Collectively, our efforts have a vast impact on need-based programs for our students, staff and community. Consider joining our efforts by joining the PTSA, volunteering whenever possible, visiting our website, subscribing to our weekly enews and reading our monthly Bruin Voices.

Our General Membership meeting will be held October 24th @ 7pm in the Lecture Hall, entrance #1. At this time, administrators and committee members will unveil Lake Braddock's newly revised **Honor Code Policy** that will go into effect January 1st. Students will have seminars during the days ahead to help them understand the policy's rules and consequences. I feel it extremely necessary that our parents have the same understanding of this reform. Mr. Thomas will also have available that night a short film that the FCPS recently developed explaining to parents the Student's Rights and Responsibilities (SR&R) disciplinary procedures. **(continued on page 6)**

Arts and Crafts Showcase

This year marks the 26th anniversary of Lake Braddock's PTSA Arts and Craft Showcase. Please mark your calendars for Saturday, **October 15** from 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM. This is an indoor event so rain won't ruin our event!

Annually more than 1,200 patrons visit our ever growing craft fair. About 100 artisans will be selling homemade jewelry, pottery, woodcrafts, photography, original artwork and much more. We still have room for more crafters, too. Applications are available on our website at www.lbssptsa.org. This is one of our most significant fundraisers, with proceeds going to vital PTSA programs including teacher mini-grants. Questions? Want to help? Please send us an email at LBSSCraftShow@yahoo.com or call Marcy Mont at (703)323-9145 or Nicky Polis at (703)503-7346. We'll see you there!

Volume 22, Issue 1

September 19, 2011

Upcoming Events:

September 19, 6:30pm
Middle School Back to School Night

September 20, 2:15pm
National Honor Society Interest Meeting
Lecture Hall

September 21, 6:30pm
High School Back to School Night

September 22-23
Yearbook Pictures

September 24-25
1pm-5pm
SAT Boot Camp, Part 1 & 2
Lecture Hall

September 28, 6:30pm
PTSA Board Meeting
Lecture Hall

October 1
SAT at LBSS

October 5, 7:30pm-9:00pm
College Program with JMU
Lecture Hall

October 10
Columbus Day
NO SCHOOL

October 15
LBSS Craft Fair, 9am-3pm

Get your 2011-2012

Lake Braddock directory tonight!

Free with paid PTSA membership, or \$10. Look for our tables in the hallways.



How your shopping dollars can benefit Lake Braddock



Please remember to register your Giant and Safeway cards so that Lake Braddock will get a percentage. We have participated in these programs for many years. Giant and Safeway both contribute some of their proceeds every time you scan your store card (or type in your phone number) when you shop at their stores if you have registered your card online and chosen Lake Braddock. Even if you registered your card last year and designated Lake Braddock Secondary School as one of your schools, you must register again for this school year.

For Giant, go to: <http://www.giantfood.com/aplus> Our school number is 01848.

For Safeway, go to: <http://www.escrip.com/> Our school number is 6525530

On both sites, you can also search for Lake Braddock Secondary School. Lake Braddock's registration has been activated for both programs for the coming school year. We have been using the money for the library and technology and it benefits the entire school.



Help our Emerging Artists

Please, join us by becoming a member of "BAB"! —Bruin Art Boosters. We're a parent-run organization which provides support as advocates to the visual arts students and their teachers at Lake Braddock Secondary School. Our members chaperone field trips, assist with in-house projects such as art shows featured in the Laura Thomas Art Gallery and the Annual Juried Art Show which highlights over 100 students' talents in the spring! All in all, FUNdraising provides monetary support for department activities, art supplies, and senior scholarships.

The Art department's recent increase in student enrollment has allowed the department to hire two additional art teachers. As they continue to work diligently with our students, your creative ideas and added support as a member are warranted! A membership form is available on our website at lbspspta.org. Click on "Forms", and you can find ours listed under "Other". We look forward to welcoming you into our organization. Please contact Karen Tapper, the Bruin Art Boosters President, with your questions at karentapper@msn.com or call her at 703-455-0667.



Accepting Donations for Families in Need

The Community Relations committee is hoping you can help some of your fellow Lake Braddock families with donations of gift cards to local stores. Gift cards from Giant, Safeway, Target and Walmart can make a big difference for those in need. These cards can be in any denomination, however, we prefer increments of \$20 or \$25.

These gift cards are distributed to anyone in our Lake Braddock family that is in need, and is handled through the school's counseling offices. We distribute the bulk of them over the holiday season but help throughout the school year. We have a wonderful Lake Braddock community that has always responded generously in the past, enabling us to help many families when times are tough. Any donations can be dropped off at the main office. If you have any questions contact Shelly Bralich @ shelly999@verizon.net. We appreciate your generosity.

Reflections 2011-2012: “Diversity Is....”

Reflections is a national PTA arts program encouraging students to show their creative talents in a fun and competitive format. It provides an opportunity for students to express themselves and to receive positive recognition for their artistic efforts. All Lake Braddock Students are encouraged to participate. The theme is this year is “Diversity Is... “ By using one of the following six genres, show us what diversity means to you. There is no limit on the number of entries you can submit! Show us your best creative talents!

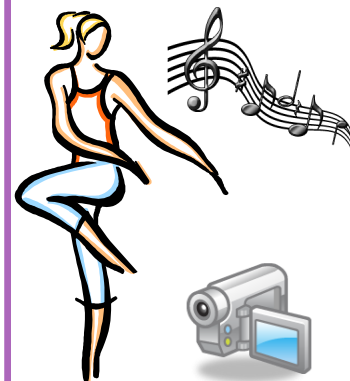
Categories:

- Dance Choreography
- Photography
- Literature
- Music Composition
- Visual Arts
- Film/Video Production

Cash prizes will be awarded and the top entries will be forwarded to the district level.

Entry forms can be found in all sub-schools, or our website at lbspspta.org

Entries are due to the main office on Monday, October 24. Questions? Please contact Reflections Chair Kathy Burke at k.burke@metroinjurylaw.com



It's Never too Early to Start Thinking about our ANGP!

Do you like to shop, maybe with a friend or two? Perhaps you like to plan and serve food to an appreciative crowd? Or is your specialty dreaming up decorations for a big celebration? The Lake Braddock PTSA All Night Grad Party committee needs your help to make our party a memorable and safe, alcohol and drug-free evening for the Class of 2012.

Each year, a committee spends months planning the graduation night event. The party takes over Audrey Moore RecCenter from 11 p.m. to 5 a.m. and fills it with food, music, games and prizes. Chairs, or co-chairs, oversee preparations for the party store, food, decorations, security, activities, set-up, clean-up and other areas.

Right now, we are most in need of a chair or co-chairs for the party store. This is where shopping with friends comes in. The store organizer, or organizers, stocks the store with items that students “buy” with prize tickets won during the party. The organizer shops throughout the year to get ready for ANGP, scouting out sales and bargains. The job also involves setting up the store, running it during the party and dismantling it after. Our previous chair has “graduated” and we are looking for a person or group to take over this key task. Chairs are also needed for food and decorations, plus other areas. Our goal is to have senior and junior/underclassmen parents co-chair each committee. This allows senior parents to attend graduation and trains junior/underclassmen parents to run party next year.

If you are interested or need more information, please email Tracy Barry, ANGP chair at tbarry61@aol.com or Jeanne Weidinger, ANGP volunteer chair, at mweiding@msn.com.

Computers for Bruins

Do you have an extra computer sitting in your house, just taking up space? Why not donate it to Computers for Bruins? Computers for Bruins is a program at Lake Braddock Secondary that makes computers available to students in need. And as a donor, besides knowing that you are helping a LBSS student, you also receive a donation form for taxes. Here are some guidelines to help you decide if your computer is what we are looking for:



- 1) The CPU can be a PC or a MAC, no more than five years old. If you can, include keyboard, mouse and power cord. LAPTOPS are acceptable!
- 2) Software - Please, if possible, include disks and license keys, especially for applications as these are too costly to purchase. Also, if possible, include productivity suites, photo software and disk burning apps.
- 3) Monitor - It should be in perfect working condition: LCD only, flat screen (no CRT)
- 4) Printers - Given it is often more economical to buy a new printer than replace ink, they should also be in working condition with a minimum of half-full tanks of ink. We will consider purchasing ink for a Multifunctional printer/ fax/ scanner however.

For more information, please contact Helene Hammer at hlhammer@fcps.edu

Thank you for considering!

Middle School Parents...

There are numerous opportunities throughout the school year to volunteer. If you are interested please send in your volunteer form, or sign up through PTO Manager (see instructions on Page 6). If you have an interest in volunteering for the MS dances please check that box or you may contact:

Darla Wiedeman at cjwiedeman@yahoo.com
or Pamela Stevens at
stevens_pamela@bah.com.

Tentative dates for the Middle School dances are November 4th and March 23.

Notes from Hospitality Committee

The Back-to-School Breakfast was held on Friday, Sept. 2nd from 7:30 am-9:00 am. The faculty and staff were treated to a continental breakfast with delicious baked goods and fruit donated by Chesapeake Bagel Bakery, Great Harvest in Burke, Swiss Bakeries in Burke & Springfield and parent volunteer bakers. Starbucks in Burke Centre donated some coffee. This event could not have happened without the help of dedicated volunteers who picked up donations, helped decorate tables, set up the food, and helped clean up and distribute the extra goodies to various offices and night time custodians. Thanks so much for jump starting the year with a wonderful breakfast!

Band Fundraiser: 2011 White House Ornaments



Support the Lake Braddock Band by purchasing a White House Ornament again this year! These fine decorations make great gifts for family, friends and business associates. The price is still only \$18 each!

The Official 2011 White House Ornament is a celebration of the holiday season with President Theodore “Teddy” Roosevelt. The ornament reflects the excitement that Roosevelt, his wife Edith, and their lively family brought to life at the White House.

The front face of the ornament is derived from a 1901 political cartoon: Conveying the anticipation of the family’s first White House Christmas, a jolly Santa Claus announces, “I hear there are some kids in the White House this year!” The reverse side captures the moment in 1903 when Roosevelt’s young son, Archie, reveals to his family a Christmas tree he had hidden in a seamstress’s closet in the White House.

To order White House Ornaments, please contact Mawi Nutley or Gretchen Grindle at whitehouseornaments@lbband.org or (703) 426-8777. Make checks payable to Bruin Band Boosters. And remember, all prior years’ ornaments, starting from 1981, are also available to complete your collection!

Support the award-winning Lake Braddock Band!

Make this beautiful ornament part of your family’s holiday tradition!

“ Parents need to fill a child’s bucket of self-esteem so high that the rest of the world can’t poke holes enough to drain it dry.” ~Alvin Price

Field Hockey Car Washes



The LB Field Hockey teams will be holding car wash fundraisers on two Saturdays this month. Come and support them either September 17 (JV) or September 24 (Varsity) from 9am-3pm at the King’s Park Exxon Station at the corner of Burke Lake Road and Rolling Road.

Volunteering– A Fun and Rewarding Experience!

It's that time of year again – with the start of a new school year comes ample opportunities and various ways for parents to get involved. Volunteering makes possible and enhances the activities of our students as well as assists the school in various areas to optimize and improve teaching, learning, health, safety and the environment within Lake Braddock.

Already, many parents have stepped up to help out: stuffing envelopes, selling and distributing PE uniforms, selling spirit wear, manning the club, organization, various booster and PTSA membership tables during Bruin Blast, contributing baked goods/food for and hosting at the PTSA-sponsored Faculty Welcome Back breakfast, and helping with pre-school sports and marching band practices, selling concessions at LBSS's home football games Friday nights.

A HEARTY THANKS goes to ALL parents who have so far given generously of their time and themselves to make these events run smoothly and successfully. To continue in this supportive vein, parents are invited/encouraged to take a few minutes to indicate their volunteer interests for the rest of this school year. Read through and complete the PTSA Volunteer Sign Form or log onto PTO Manager (see accompanying article). The form and means of accessing the PTO Manager website are also found on the PTSA website <http://lbspspta.org/> – just click on VOLUNTEERS.

How to Sign-Up Online to Volunteer

All LBSS parents should have received a PTSA Volunteer sign up form in the packet students brought home the first day of school. This form can be filled out and scanned/mailed, mailed or brought into the school. Consider making a copy so you remember what you signed up to help with.

ANOTHER WAY to make known your volunteer interests and sign up to help this year is via Lake Braddock's PTSA **PTO Manager** volunteer website, which has been set up for the 2011-2012 school year. Those who either have logged on and entered information in the past OR had their information entered by the Volunteer Coordinator upon receipt of the general PTSA Volunteer Sign Up form in the past, could already be in the system.

To indicate your interest preferences and availability for this year, using the PTO manager website, please log on to PTO Manager at <http://lakebraddockss.ptomanager.com/index.html> , using your e-mail and a password.

- If you have logged on before and forgotten your password, please indicate so and a message will be sent to you so that you can enter to update your record and specify your volunteer interests for this coming school year.
- If you have changed your e-mail address recently, you may try your former e-mail address. Once in your record, Please be sure that your e-mail address is current (updated) and entered correctly!
- If you have NEVER entered before, enter as a NEW REGISTANT, a process which quickly allows you to choose your own password. To register only takes about a few minutes.

Once in PTO Manager, please review the three screens regarding your contact info, your interests, and name and grade level of your student child(ren), make any corrections, additions, changes, etc. and SAVE. You are also encouraged to enter the name of your children who are still students at LBSS in the Student section; just listing their grade level is sufficient. **(continued on page 8)**



Mark Your Calendars for This Year's PTSA Meetings:

Wednesday	9/28/11	6:30pm	Board Meeting
Monday	10/24/11	7:00pm	General Membership Meeting– Honor Code Topic
Wednesday	11/30/11	6:30pm	Board Meeting
Thursday	1/19/12	2:45pm	General Membership Meeting – Student Inclusion
Monday	2/27/12	7:00pm	Board Meeting
Monday	3/19/12	7:00pm	Board Meeting
Monday	4/30/12	7:00pm	General Membership Meeting –Election of Officers
Monday	6/4/12	6:30pm	Board Meeting

Parents, Beware of these Telemarketers

At least one Lake Braddock parent and reportedly many others in different parts of the country have been solicited by phone to purchase SAT study materials. The calls are coming from a 214 area code. The sales people present themselves as your child's SAT advisor and sometimes even call them by their nicknames. They also claim your child has requested the study materials and say they've checked with school counselors. They are very vague about the name of the company and about their website. If you decline to purchase the study materials (\$100+), they tell you your child will no longer qualify for Merit Scholarships. This, of course, is untrue. We just wanted you to be aware of this latest deceptive telemarketing effort.



National Honor Society News

The National Honor Society prides itself on creating an organization in which all students demonstrate our four core values: Scholarship, Leadership, Service and Character. We are inviting all students in grades 10-12 who have a 3.5 GPA or higher to complete a Student Activity Information Packet. This is a platform to prove the student actively demonstrates all core values and should be selected for membership.

Join us at our interest meeting on Tuesday, September 20 at 2:15pm in the Lecture Hall. Student Activity Information Packets are available on Lake Braddock's website and must be turned in by Wednesday, October 19 at 7:15am. No late packets will be accepted.

Box Tops: 3 Ways to Help

Parents, cutting Box Tops for Education doesn't end when your kids leave elementary school. Please, continue to send in your Box Tops to the Lake Braddock office. Our goal for the 2011-2012 school year is to raise \$1,200. But there are other ways to help as well. Shop at bfe.com to support LB and shop over 100 participating retail stores. Or buy books to support our school. From the same website, click on "Earn/Shop Reading Room." Based on what you spend, cash will be automatically donated back to Lake Braddock. *Thank you!*

Letter from the President, continued from Page 1

Students will have their own version that will be shown during the school day. Knowledge of changes and reform for both of these topics is vital information to all of our LB families.

We will need your vote on future spending considerations for the senior's All Night Graduation Party during this meeting. We have some leftover funds from past years that need to be put to good use. Also up for discussion will be our LBSS PTSA standing on the so-called "Kings Dominion Law", which prohibits public schools in Virginia from opening before Labor Day. There will be another effort to do away with the law during Virginia's next legislative session in January. Your thoughts and vote are needed. Join PTSA today and come out to vote!

Sincerely,

Judy Dioquino
LBSS PTSA President
lbssptsaprez@verizon.com

Don't Miss a Thing

Get breaking PTSA news sent directly to your email. Your PTSA membership automatically subscribes you to our weekly eNews update. You'll receive the latest information on everything happening in the halls, classrooms and community of Lake Braddock.

Questions? Contact lbptsacommunications@verizon.net

We are on the web!

Visit us at

LBSSPTSA.ORG

Do you have an event or article you'd like to see in *Bruin Voices*?

Please contact editor Tina Weber at
bruinvoices@yahoo.com

Volunteering (continued from page 6)

We appreciate you taking a few minutes to update your and your students' information -- this will make it much easier to get communications to you about the events and things you are interested in helping with this school year.

If you have any questions, please contact the Volunteer Coordinator at lbssvolunteer@verizon.net. Thank you in advance for your time and attention AND for your willingness to help and volunteer. We look forward to serving together this year to support the students, teachers and programs at Lake Braddock. Wishing you an enjoyable, successful school year!

OTHER PTA RESOURCES

- Virginia PTA: vapta.org
- Fairfax County Council of PTAs: fccpta.org
- Northern Virginia District PTA: novadistrictpta.org
- National PTA (for information on the national level): pta.org