



Bruin Voices

Lake Braddock Secondary

PTSA[®]
everychild.one voice.

Newsletter of the LBSS Parent**Teacher**Student** Association

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Message from the President, Robert Shaw

I can't believe that it is October already and the first set of interim grades has been mailed out. Students, let me hope that you are pleased with your start so far and for anyone who has room for improvement, remember that it is still early and with hard work, dedication and perseverance you can finish the year meeting or exceeding your goals. Parents please remember that except for the end of year grades all subsequent interim grades will be sent home with your students so, make sure that you get your copy from your students when they bring them home.

Already we are seeing the results of a very successful partnership between members of the PTSA and team Lake Braddock. Dedicated members and volunteers have given time to serve at many activities at the school.

I want to personally thank all of our volunteers for supporting the PTSA efforts and look forward to seeing you at future events. Speaking of events our next major event is the Craft Fair which happens on October 17, 2009; it is one of our biggest fundraising events of the year benefitting our Lake Braddock teachers and students directly. By the time you get this newsletter the event will have already taken place but I am confident that due to your support it will be a resounding success.

Robert Shaw
PTSA President 09-10
rshaw@lmi.org

Mark your calendar!

- October 30
First Quarter ends
- November 2, 3
Teacher Workdays
No school for students
- November 6
Middle School Play
"Ain't Misbehaving"
- November 9
PTSA Board Meeting
Lecture Hall, 7:00 p.m.
- November 16
Winter Sports begin
- November 25
Early Release
- November 26, 27
Thanksgiving holiday
No school
- November 30
Meet the Coaches night

Bruin Voices is published by the LBSS PTSA.
Editor: Carol Ann Stanger
(ca.stanger@verizon.net).
Student Editor: Chelsea Stanger.

"No one is in control of your happiness but you; therefore, you have the power to change anything about yourself or your life that you want to change."

Barbara DeAngelis

“Caring by Sharing” Program Update

Thanks to all families who are participating in this important program, which provides school supplies for students in need. Remember, you can contribute throughout the year.

Please consider donating gift cards to Walmart or Target or these supplies: 1½ inch binders, tab dividers, notebook paper, one-subject spiral notebooks, marble composition books, ¼ inch graph paper, post-it notes, #2 pencils, dark blue or black ballpoint pens, red felt-tip pens, colored pencils, colored markers, highlighters, glue sticks, rulers, eraser, small pencil sharpeners, small staplers, student scissors, USB flash drive, large zippered pencil pouch, heavy-duty 7-pocket portfolio (canvas, not plastic), hand sanitizer or Clorox wipes, bilingual and English dictionaries, paper towels, and tissues.

For more information, please contact Shelly Bralich, 703-912-9233, shelly999@verizon.net.

Get Ready NOW for ANGP

It's never too early to start getting ready for the All Night Grad Party! The co-chairs are Tammy Kafami (a Lake Braddock Alum who still remembers her own ANGP) and Don Metcalf.

Volunteers make the party work. The graduating class is counting on all of us to create an environment filled with fun, food, and laughter—and lasting memories of their lives at Lake Braddock. The volunteers end up having as much fun as the kids. In addition, volunteers will always remember they helped provide a safe place for our graduates to celebrate.

We still need committee chairs and other volunteers. Please contact Tammy at tammykafami@gmail.com to find out more about how you can help.

The ANGP is known as one of the most exciting activities of the year. Let's help create another great memory for our seniors.

Bruins on the March!

Did you know the Lake Braddock Band has been awarded Virginia Honor Band each year for the past 28 years? Hard work and inspiring direction have made our band the only one in the state to have earned this honor each year. In recognition of their excellence, the US-China Cultural and Education Foundation has invited the LB Marching Band to perform in concerts in China in March 2010. Bravo!!

Lake Braddock Secondary School Parent ** Teacher ** Student ** Association

Nominate Your Favorite Teacher for Teacher of the Year!

The "Outstanding Teacher of the Year" Award is sponsored by PTSA, Fairfax County Public Schools, and the Washington Post. To nominate your favorite teacher, just submit a one-page letter of recommendation and draft nomination packet by October 30 to Bob Larsen at larsenva@cox.net or mail to 7105 Laketree Dr, Fairfax Station, VA 22039. Your Nominee must have completed **five** consecutive years on a full-time teaching contract in FCPS and currently teach in FCPS. He or she must also plan to continue in an active teaching status next year.

Nominees must be teachers who:

- Instill in students a desire to learn and achieve.
- Understand the individual needs of students, encourage their talents, and foster their self-esteem.
- Demonstrate a thorough knowledge of subject matter and the ability to share it effectively with students.
- Foster cooperative relationships with colleagues and the community.
- Demonstrate outstanding leadership.

The draft nomination package can be refined after the 30th October in preparation for the Lake Braddock & County Selection Committee meeting. Lastly, please summarize in less than a page why this person should be the Lake Braddock representative. For more information, call 703-942-5804.

Membership Matters

Is there a magic button that can offer your child higher self esteem, achievement, positive attitude, better grades, completed homework, improved behavior, self discipline and higher aspirations? **ABSOLUTELY!** The Lake Braddock Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA). And you can join this great organization **TODAY**. Go to www.lbssptsa.org or email Elizabeth Hurst at eahurst@cox.net to find out how.

Studies have shown conclusively that effectively organized and implemented programs helping parents to be involved in their children's education have been shown to accomplish exactly this and more. And these great benefits apply to all kids. So **JOIN TODAY!**

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Successful Arts & Crafts Showcase

A HUGE THANK YOU to all who attended the 24th Annual PTSA Arts & Crafts Showcase on Saturday, October 17. Nearly 100 crafters displayed an array of handmade pottery, dolls, jewelry, wood items, specialty foods, linens, art, and many more one-of-a-kind handmade items. Many school organizations participated in the show selling their spirit wear and other items. Hundreds of shoppers braved the rainy weather to shop at this year's show. The Silent Auction was very successful thanks to the generosity of our crafters, local businesses, and school clubs. Our Craft Show is the major PTSA fundraiser each year and all proceeds from the show are used to support the students and teachers of Lake Braddock.

Many, many volunteers are needed to make this show a success. Once again the wonderful parents and students at Lake Braddock generously donated their time and efforts to assure a successful show. Whether you worked "behind the scenes" or during the show, we appreciate all of your efforts. Thanks to the Athletic Boosters and Band Boosters for providing many parent and student volunteers to help mark the booth layout on Thursday evening. Our post show survey asks crafters "What do you like most about our fair?" Over and over the crafters comment on all of the help they receive from the friendly volunteers. A special thanks to LTC Dwight Lomax and the Lake Braddock JROTC men and women for their help. While there were too many volunteers to name each individually, we did want to recognize Frank Ahaya, a Lake Braddock parent, who cheerfully worked at any task assigned on Friday evening and all day Saturday. .

SPECIAL THANKS to the committee chairs: Mary Roth Hill - Silent Auction; Robyn Trump, Julie Lawhorn, and Shelly Bralich - Concession Stand; Ed Hartman - Signs; Mark Baran - Publicity; Lori Sage - Volunteers.

We also appreciated the assistance of the LBSS administrators and staff - David Thomas, Debbie Hernandez, Michelle Birkenstock, Mark Martino, and Su, David and the rest of the custodial staff. And REALLY BIG THANK YOUs to the PTSA President Robert Shaw for serving as "master of ceremonies" and Judy Dioquino, PTSA Treasurer, who was the craft show "banker." **We want all to know that your efforts were greatly appreciated.**

Finally, thanks to the following members of the Lake Braddock community for their generous contributions to our craft show and silent auction:

Starbucks: Huntsman location, 8408 Old Keene Mill Rd, and 8971 Ox Rd

Aladdin Restaurant

Spartan's Restaurant

Costco: Springfield and Fairfax locations

Shoppers Food: Burke location

Giant Foods: Burke Rd, Huntsman, and Ox Road locations

Mary Roth Hill

Long & Foster Realtors

Bonnie Conte & Nicky Polis, Craft Show Co-Chairs