



Sunbeams

Sunrise Valley Elementary School • Parent Teacher Association Newsletter • May 5, 2010

Dear Sunrise Valley Families,

I know that many of you took part in Sunrise Valley's 30th anniversary festivities last week. I also know I'm not alone when I say that I couldn't have enjoyed myself more at Thursday's "STARS of Sunrise" celebration or at Saturday's Hopecam 5K Walk/Run. What an amazing display of talent, community, generosity, creativity, energy, and compassion! I know I've said this before, but this Sunrise Valley community is truly remarkable!



Last week's events were the ideal celebration for a school that celebrates and encourages children, builds a strong sense of community, and reaches out to make a difference in the world. None of these things would be possible without the cooperation and collaboration that takes place every day among our administrators, teachers, parents, staff, and other community members. Certainly, the 30th anniversary planning committee and all of the various volunteers that made last week's events so successful are a prime example of this collaboration.

"Thanks" to the 30th anniversary committee, volunteers, participants, partners, and attendees that made these events possible! And heartfelt "thanks" to Dr. English, Mrs. Burns, and all the amazing parents, teachers, and staff who make community, cooperation, and collaboration "the norm" at Sunrise Valley!

Melissa Gifford

PTA President

Spotlight on Summer Reading & PTA Meeting

On Tuesday, May 11th, our talented reading specialist, Ms. Carrie Brotemarkle, and our amazing librarian, Ms. Katie Pieruccini, will join us for a Spotlight on Learning presentation on Summer Reading. They'll answer anything and everything any parent needs or wants to know about supporting their child's reading over the summer.

The presentation will immediately follow the PTA meeting, which begins at 7:00 p.m. and will feature a presentation by the Nominating Committee of the 2010-2011 slate of PTA volunteer leaders (to be elected in June). Due to the Book Fair being held in the Library, the meeting and Spotlight will be held in the Cafeteria. As always, free childcare will be provided.

PTA Needs You!

Thanks to parent and staff input, time, and talent, the Sunrise Valley PTA has had a very successful year supporting the students, families, and staff of this wonderful school. Now it's time to keep the momentum going for the upcoming 2010-2011 school year. There are a couple of slots open for PTA positions, most importantly president-elect, treasurer, and foreign language. Without someone to lead the latter, the PTA will not be able to offer foreign language for next school year.

As you know, the PTA's success depends on active parents and the nominating committee asks that you give thoughtful consideration to filling one of the following slots:

President Elect

VP Ways and Means

Treasurer

Destination Dining

Foreign Language

Audit

For more information on these positions, please go to sunrisevalleypta.webnode.com or contact Valerie Lister at svsptapreselect@gmail.com or 703-391-0303.

One Unclaimed 30th Anniversary Class Basket!

The lucky winner of Ms. Froebel's class basket (It's Party Time) was not present or did not come forward at last week's Stars of Sunrise celebration. The holder of **Orange ticket #711840** was selected to receive the basket. Please check your tickets and claim your prize in the school office no later than **Friday, May 14th!** If the winner doesn't come forward by the 14th, the students who created the basket will have a chance to draw among themselves for the prize.



Sunrise Valley Apparel Available for Purchase

We have a limited number of Sunrise Valley t-shirts available for purchase in various sizes. Just a few long and short-sleeve shirts are available in the royal blue tie-die, and a handful of the grey short-sleeve shirts are available as well. We also have several of the special basketball shirts worn by our 6th grade team in youth sizes (small and medium only). They have a logo on the front and a number on the back. Please contact Susannah Palik at suspalik@yahoo.com to find out what colors and sizes are available and to purchase shirts.

Recycle Gently Used Books

Reuse, recycle and renew can apply to anything: paper, plastics and even books. Sunrise Valley is putting the latter into practice during a book drive May 3–14.



SVES is collecting books for AV Bukani Elementary in Addo, South Africa. Northern Virginia educators Eileen and Larry Kugler are creating a library for the children at the South African school. So check your bookshelves, tables and desks! Any gently used books for primary school age children can be placed in collection boxes in the school lobby. There will even be an opportunity to purchase new books for the book drive during the SVES Book Fair May 10–14.

Remember: Books your family members may have lost interest in or outgrown have the potential to delight and excite children at this school. For more information, contact Valerie Lister at 703-391-0303 or vallister93@verizon.net.

Thank you!

A Message From Langston Hughes MS PTA to Parents of Rising 7th Graders

Parental involvement is cited as an important predictor of student achievement in schools. So how will you be involved in middle school? Here's an invitation: Join the PTA!

At Langston Hughes, monthly PTA meetings with Principal Monticchio and her staff provide a wealth of information about activities and happenings—information you may not hear from your child! In recent years, the LHMS PTA has purchased thousands of dollars of smart boards and other IT equipment, upgraded library and classroom resources, assisted with drama productions, and provided mini grants to classrooms for special projects.

Join and get involved! Positions require significantly less time than at the elementary school level. You give a little time and make a HUGE impact!

For 2010–2011, LHMS PTA has many committee positions on both academic and fundraising programs. We are also still in need of a Treasurer: the current Treasurer has said that it takes about 1–2 hours a month plus attending the meetings. Even if you are just curious, but undecided, at this point, drop an e-mail to nomcom@lhmspta.com to find out more about how you can make an incredible impact on your child's middle school years.

Thank you

LHMS PTA

**We need your
help to thank
our wonderful
teachers &
staff!!!**



Staff Appreciation Luncheon

Monday, May 17, 2010, 2:15-3:45 p.m., SVES Library

**To Volunteer, please
contact:**

Sumi Vintimilla

703-860-0491

or

**sumivan@
verizon.net**

We will be honoring Sunrise Valley's wonderful teachers and staff at the annual Staff Appreciation Luncheon on Monday, May 17th. We will need loads of volunteers to ensure that this event says a very special "thank you" for all that these wonderful people do for our children throughout the year! Let's make this day memorable!

Please contact us ASAP if you can help with any of the following:

- Providing Food – we need main dishes, salads, side dishes, desserts, breads & drinks – centerpieces are also needed
- Accepting Food Donations – during morning arrival
- Setup – 1:30 – 2:15
- Serving – 2:15 – 3:45 (any time during this window)
- Cleanup – 3:45 – until
- Childcare for Volunteer's Children – 1:30 – 2:45 or 2:45 – 4:00