



# Bruin Voices

Lake Braddock Secondary

**PTSA**<sup>®</sup>  
everychild.one voice.

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

September 22, 2008  
Volume 19, Issue 1

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

### Message from the President

Hi Everyone,

Welcome to the beginning of another school year. This is always an exciting, if not slightly chaotic, time while students and families settle in to a new routine. So far, we're off to a good start, and with a little effort we'll keep the momentum moving us forward.

The PTSA has lots on its agenda for the coming year. There will be a host of events and programs sponsored and supported by the PTSA, starting with our annual Craft Fair, October 25, 2008. This is always one of our biggest fundraising events of the year, and directly benefits our Lake Braddock teachers and students. I hope you'll stop by and check out the various arts and crafts being offered for sale.

If you're not currently a member of the PTSA, I'd like to encourage you to consider joining. It is through our membership and volunteers that the Lake Braddock PTSA has gained national recognition and certification as a National School of Excellence for Parent Involvement. As a member of the PTSA, you'll receive a Lake Braddock directory and the weekly E-news to keep you advised of what's happening around the school. You'll also be supporting an organization devoted to ensuring our kids have the best possible school experience.

Best wishes for a great year, and I hope to see you soon.

John Long, PTSA President 07-09  
[lbptsapres@verizon.net](mailto:lbptsapres@verizon.net)

### Mark your calendar!

**Sept 22**

HS Back to School night

**Sept 24**

MS Back to School night

**Oct 13**

Columbus Day (no school)

**Oct 17**

Homecoming activities:  
Pep Rally, Bite of Braddock,  
Parade, Game

**Oct 18**

Homecoming Dance

**Oct 20**

Reflections entries due

**Oct 25**

Annual Craft Fair  
9 am to 3 pm

**Oct 31**

End of Quarter

**Nov 7**

Nominations for Teacher  
of the Year due

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"Give to the world the best you have, and the best will come back to you."

Ella Wheeler Wilcox, 1855-1919, Poet and Journalist

## Membership Matters

Have you heard the latest news?

- *"I wanted to do everything I could to ensure that my son's educational experience at Lake Braddock would be fulfilling."*
- *"I just wanted the free cool directory that comes with membership."*
- *"My mom made me join, she said it would be good for my college resumé."*
- *"I love the copying program for teachers. Thanks."*

These are just some of the benefits of membership in LBSS PTSA. Your dues support programs for students throughout the year. Your membership matters!

Join at Back to School Night or online at [www.lbssptsa.org](http://www.lbssptsa.org). Or mail a membership form to

LBSSPTSA membership  
PO Box 11252  
Burke, VA 22009-1252

Dues are a bargain again this year:  
Adults: \$15, students: \$5, and teachers/  
staff: \$10.

For more information, contact Elizabeth Hurst at [eahurst@cox.net](mailto:eahurst@cox.net) or 703-440-0868.

Tune in next time for:

- *PTSA Membership: What's in it for me?*
- *Which Subschoo has the most Teacher members?*

*The Bruin Blast was a great success! Join us for other family activities all year.*

## Community Service Opportunity

**Sew Much Comfort** is a non-profit service organization that adapts clothing to provide more discrete coverage and ease of movement for those undergoing rehabilitation at Walter Reed, Andrews and Bethesda military hospitals.

Please donate new or like-new clothing to the collection box located in the Main Office: basketball shorts (Large and XL), boxers (M, L and XL), heavy weight T-shirts (L, XL - no undershirts) and polo shirts (L-XL). To learn more, visit the website at [SewMuchComfort.org](http://SewMuchComfort.org). For more information, contact Andrew Rothwell, 703-451-9312 or [rothwellb@cox.net](mailto:rothwellb@cox.net).

## Make a Difference at LBSS!

To all who volunteer at LBSS PTSA: **Thank you** for all your support of our programs during the year!! Our programs are strong because of the extraordinary support of our wonderful volunteers. You are the best.

If you haven't already, please consider becoming a volunteer. It's not just a job—it's a Bruin Adventure!

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

### **LBSS PTSA Arts & Crafts Showcase on October 25**

Join us for the LBSS PTSA Arts & Crafts Showcase on Saturday, October 25, from 9am to 3pm at Lake Braddock. Admission is \$3 for adults, \$2 for seniors, and free for children. Come support the Lake Braddock PTSA.

The crafters and artisans will be displaying their crafts, fine arts, and holiday merchandise. Approximately 100 exhibitors will display handmade jewelry, decorative items, personalized gift items, quilted and knitted items, pottery, woodcrafts, photography, original artwork, and much more. School clubs will be participating and selling Lake Braddock merchandise, food items, etc. You will be able to bid on craft and other items at our Silent Auction. Bring the family and enjoy a delicious lunch at our concession stand. This event will be held at the school in the cafeteria and adjoining hallways.

Volunteers are what make this event great. Visit [www.lbssptsa.org](http://www.lbssptsa.org) or contact Bonnie Conte at [lbsscrafftshow@yahoo.com](mailto:lbsscrafftshow@yahoo.com) or 703-425-5652 for more information.

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### **Subscribe to PTSA Enews!**

LBSS PTSA's weekly enews provides information on Lake Braddock and PTSA events. Email a photo of Bruin pride moments--parents, students, or teachers--and it may be featured as Photo of the Week! All PTSA members should receive enews as part of membership. If you are not receiving your copy, email [ptsaenews@verizon.net](mailto:ptsaenews@verizon.net).

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### **Reflections 2008-2009: WOW!**

All Lake Braddock students are encouraged to participate in Reflections this year. The theme is "WOW!" Compete in any (or all) categories—there is no limit on the number of entries you can submit.

Dance Choreography  
Photography  
Literature

Music Composition  
Visual Arts  
Film/Video Production

Entry forms available in English and Spanish at [www.lbssptsa.org](http://www.lbssptsa.org) ALL entries are due Monday, October 20, 2008 in the Reflections box in the Main Office. Cash prizes for 1st, 2nd, 3rd and honorable mention. All 1st place entries will advance to the county level. WOW!

## **The Yellow Pages of Lake Braddock!**

The 2008/2009 Lake Braddock Secondary School PSTA Student/Staff Directory is now available!

A directory is free with a PTSA membership. Directories may also be purchased for \$5.00. The directories are available at the HS Back to School Night on September 22nd and at the MS Back to School Night on September 24<sup>th</sup>. Directories will also be available at the Craft Fair on October 25<sup>th</sup>.

Stay in touch with the best directory in town.

## **An Updated System for Volunteering for LBSSPTSA!**

Great news, volunteers. You no longer need to fill out a form every year!

Sign up on the PTSA website ([www.lbssptsa.org](http://www.lbssptsa.org); click on volunteers in the left column), get a password, and you will have access to your information and be able to make changes anytime: availability, where you want to help, e-mail addresses, etc. OR fill out a volunteer form and you can make changes all year.

If you have any comments, questions, or concerns please contact Kathy Carson at 703-912-9041 or [lbssvolunteers@rcarson.com](mailto:lbssvolunteers@rcarson.com).

## **Teacher of the Year**

How do you thank a teacher for all the effort made on your behalf? Nominate your favorite teacher for the Agnes Meyer "Outstanding Teacher of the Year" Award. This award is sponsored by PTSA, Fairfax County Public Schools, and the *Washington Post*.

Write a letter explaining why your teacher should be recognized as "outstanding." All nominations are due by November 7 to Suzanne Klein at [vakleins@cox.net](mailto:vakleins@cox.net) or mail to 7725 Gingerbread Lane, Fairfax Station, VA 22039.

For more information, call Suzanne Klein at 703-249-1334.

## **Share Your Skills with LBSS Students**

Wanted: Career Envoys. What's that? Parents willing to talk to middle school students for 1/2 hour about their career. Wide variety of careers and interests encouraged.

Counselors will give you support and tips on what would be interesting to students of this age. Please contact the Office of Middle School Counseling Services at 703-426-1030 for information. Reggae singer, real estate agent, reporter -- whatever it is you do -- it is exactly what we are looking for!