

September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2012  
Issue 1

# The Panther Pride

## Princess Anne Middle School

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## Mark Your Calendars

September 18:  
7th and 8th Grade  
OPEN HOUSE 6pm

September 25:  
School Pictures

October 8:  
6th Grade  
OPEN HOUSE 6pm

*Distributed by the Princess Anne Middle School PTA*

*"Success comes when we all pull together"*

## A Note from the PTA President

It's been a solid week and now that the buses know their routes, the family schedules have gone back into place, the line at the guidance office is not around the corner and the teachers ALMOST know all of their kid's names we can all take a collective deep breath and say "School is IN!"

We have another year of fabulous thing happening in and around Princess Anne Middle. To our new families – **WELCOME!** You have chosen to send your children to one top-notch school. They are probably pros at navigating the halls and how they keep their schedules straight is a mystery to me...but they get it! And we are thrilled to have them here.

Your PAMS PTA has been working diligently for a good part of the summer creating the budget and thinking of ways to assist the school with projects, programs and just good old plain fun for the kids. First order of business... **JOIN!** My message is simple: We need everyone's help to achieve our goals. Like any other school in the country we need additional monies to supplement what our fine city and state allot for the school system. And it does not take much from each family; \$20 per student would bring in almost \$30,000 in pure profit for the PTA to do our wonderful programs....AND MORE! Membership is not a big chunk....since we only keep \$1.75 out of every membership that comes to less than \$3,000 which is helpful but not so much ☺ Please consider joining and taking part in the stress free fundraiser. We will ask no more of you for the rest of the year.

I am happy to be your PTA President this year. I hope you will join us at PTA meetings. They are held the second Tuesday's of the month at 5:30 in the library. If you have a burning desire to get involved we have space for you! We love our volunteers! Make sure you fill out the top portion of the gold form that came home last week that is specifically for volunteers. And there are TONS of opportunities to do things from home if you cannot come into the school! We need bakers and cooks to help out with teacher lunches! Our Volunteer coordinator – who I throw under the bus all the time roping her into things! – is excellent at communicating what is needed and when it is needed. She will keep you in the loop on all volunteer opportunities.

Happy Back to School time! If there is anything I can help you with please let me know.

Janine Sarach  
PTA President  
[jsarach@mac.com](mailto:jsarach@mac.com)




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“Success is not final, failure is not fatal: it is the courage to continue that counts.”

~Winston Churchill



## “The Magic of the Moment!”

Have your child start to think about their most magical moment and begin working on their PTA Reflections project!!!

Celebrate your talents through photography, musical composition, visual arts, literature, dance choreography, and/or film production. All entries will be due back to school by **mid-October!**

## Be Happy, Get Creative!

For more information, contact Kristin Sprauer at [kasprauer70@yahoo.com](mailto:kasprauer70@yahoo.com) or visit the Virginia PTA website at [www.vbpta.org](http://www.vbpta.org) for rules and regulations.

## About Independent Reading...

*From Ms. E. Chevalier, MSRS*

The Independent Reading class provides a wonderful learning environment with state-of-the-art technological tools and instruction to address the problems some students have with reading.

Read 180 is one of the tools used at Princess Anne Middle to improve student reading deficits. It provides a comprehensive, three-pronged approach consisting of (a) the use of instructional technology to facilitate leveled instruction to students (b) small group instruction, where the teacher works with a small group of students to augment reading skills and comprehension, and (c) the reading of novels, audiobooks, and eReads so students can practice good reading behaviors, build background knowledge, and foster a love of reading.

### BE PROACTIVE

**To Students:** If you realize you need help reading, please speak with your parents, teachers, or guidance counselor about improving your skills.

**To Teachers:** If you observe that a student may be having trouble reading or understanding what they're reading, please email me about your concerns; [emcheval@vbschools.com](mailto:emcheval@vbschools.com). Helping children is what we do! If we agree that it is important that students stay on track in all their subjects, then reading well is tantamount to making that happen.

## Gifted Identification Testing

Dates for the Gifted Identification testing at Princess Anne Middle School for the 2012-2013 school year are as follows:

- November 29
- February 15 (Kemps Landing testing)
- May 13

Virginia Beach City Public Schools uses the “profile approach” in determining whether a student is in need of a differentiated education beyond that offered by the school’s regular curriculum. Students may be referred for testing by staff members, parents, other students, and the student himself.

Once a request has been submitted, the Gifted Resource Teacher (GRT) will begin the paperwork necessary for the referral to be processed. Parent input, teacher narratives, grades, scores on standardized tests, and student work samples are reviewed by the committee. A determination is made by the committee for placement in the VBCPS gifted program.

Referrals for testing and a completed Parent Information Form are due to Ms. Cathy Peterson (GRT) two weeks prior to the testing date.



## How to Join the National Junior Honor Society

Princess Anne Middle School is home to the Panther Pride Chapter of the National Junior Honor Society. Many parents and students want to know how a student can join the NJHS.

Here’s the scoop on the application process:

- **Seventh and eighth grade students** may apply by invitation-only **after the third quarter grades are posted.**
- A **3.5 grade point average** for the current school year is required to be invited.
- A complete application with teacher recommendations must be submitted by the due date in May.
- A selection committee composed of teachers and school counselors reviews the applications and makes the decision whether to extend an invitation to join the society. **Through the application process, applicants must show evidence of outstanding citizenship, character, leadership, and service to school and community. The advisors do not have a vote in the process.**

If students have any questions about NJHS, they may ask Mrs. Solheim or Ms. Peterson (NJHS advisors). Eighth grade students new to PAMS who were inducted into an NJHS chapter at their former school, should see the PAMS advisors for information about joining the group now!

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“All our dreams can come true, if we have the courage to pursue them.”

~Walt Disney



## SCA Collective Drive

In October, the National Junior Honor Society will be sponsoring a personal items collective drive to benefit Samaritan House residents during **Domestic Violence Awareness Month**. Start locating all those unopened bottles of shampoo and bars of soap from your summer vacations!



More information will follow!

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“Instructions for living a life:  
Pay attention.  
Be astonished.  
Tell about it.”

~Mary Oliver

## Volunteers....



We need **YOU**!!!!

If you would like to volunteer in various areas of our school throughout the year and have not signed up yet, please send an e-mail to Bobbi Vinsand (Volunteer Coordinator) at [vinsand@cox.net](mailto:vinsand@cox.net)

## Labels for Education & Farm Fresh

We are collecting “Labels for Education” and Farm Fresh receipts!!! This program helps the school to purchase additional supplies that are used to help further the learning process of all students at Princess Anne Middle School.



Please make sure to save these items and send them to the office. Every receipt and label helps!

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“Anyone who stops learning is old, whether at twenty or eighty.”

~Henry Ford

## PAMS PTA is on Facebook!!!



"Like" our page at: [www.facebook.com/PAMSPTA](http://www.facebook.com/PAMSPTA) or search for **Princess Anne Middle School PTA**

## Check Out Our New Website!!!



Visit Princess Anne Middle School PTA's new website for PTA News:  
[www.pamsptavb.com](http://www.pamsptavb.com)

## Have Something to Say?

Do you have any questions or comments concerning the newsletter?? Or perhaps there is something you would like to see included?? I would love to hear from you!

The next deadline to submit an article is **September 28<sup>th</sup>**. Email Tiffany Jones at: [jonesfamilyfour@live.com](mailto:jonesfamilyfour@live.com)



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### Princess Anne Middle School PTA

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