



Princess Anne
Middle School

The Panther Pride

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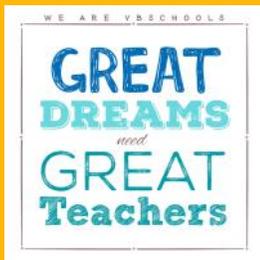
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If you would like to share your story about a Great teacher you currently have or had at PAMS please email your story to GreatTeachers@VBSchools.com

President's Corner

Dear Parents:

This year we opened our doors to approximately 1480 students including 460 sixth graders. We were certainly excited to welcome our new Panthers as they began their middle school journey, and excited to welcome back our returning students another year wiser. The energy the students bring to the school is a wonder to behold, and it is precisely the reason why I am excited to come to work every day.

As we begin our second year in our not as new location, the new environment has truly begun to feel like home. One of our goals for the year will be to warm up the building and make it feel like the home of the Panthers. We would love your input and assistance as we implement our plans. Even as our students continue to achieve at high levels, we are committed to continuing to evolve how we undertake the business of education. One exciting addition this year is the launch of our STEM-learning project-based 7th grade EDGE team, a pilot we hope to expand going into next year. In addition we will continue to focus on student-centered classrooms, mastery learning, and fair and equitable grading practices where the focus is on learning, not rewards and punishments. Because we believe the penalty for not doing work should be that you have to do

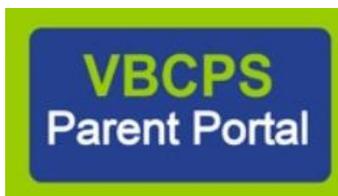
the work, teachers will continue to have the option of using an academic non-disciplinary detention to get work from students. Students will be assigned the detention for the week following the week their work was due. They will then have the week to submit the missing work in order to avoid detention. Those who do not will be required to complete the work in the detention. As a result of our efforts, homework completion rates rose significantly last year.

As always, I encourage you to take an active role in your child's education. *Make sure your child knows that his or her academic progress is important to you.* On a daily basis, engage in conversation with your child regarding what was learned in school each day (Do not accept "nothing" for an answer. Continue to probe with questions regarding each subject area ... here are some other approaches you might take: <http://www.simplesimonandco.com/2014/08/25-ways-ask-kids-school-today-without-asking-school-today.html>). Know when each grade reporting time occurs, and if you do not see progress reports or report cards,

contact the school without delay. Ensure you are registered to access Parent Portal. Parent Portal will give you access to your child's grades and absences 7 days a week, 24 hours a day. To register for Parent Portal, go to www.princessannems.vbschools.com and click on the Parent Portal link on the upper left hand corner.

Be available to help and guide. Examine your child's planner. Your child should keep a daily record of homework assignments. Review your child's homework and ensure that your child is completing his or her A-day homework on A-day and B-day homework on B-day (keeping this consistent pattern will prevent your child from falling behind on assignments). Set aside a regularly scheduled time and a quiet study area at home and monitor your child as he or she studies, providing assistance as needed. Don't give more help than is wanted. Keep in mind it is your child's responsibility to be organized, to get homework done, and to prepare for tests. Ensure that the cell phone, television, and other distractions are eliminated during study time. Also, examine the planner passes located on each week of the planner. This will provide you with a record of your child's time out of the classroom.

..... Continued on page 2.....



PTA BOARD

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Pride**

President’s Message, continued

..... Continued from page 1....
Of course, it is important that time out of the classroom be minimized.

Maintain regular communications with teachers through written communication (notes or email), phone calls, and/or conferences. Progress reports will be issued on Friday, October 8, 2015. If your child is experiencing difficulty in his or her academics, contact your child’s guidance counselor to arrange a conference. You will find an email link for all of our teachers, counselors, and administrators on Princess Anne Middle’s website www.princessannems.vbschools.com. You may also wish to contact Mrs. Bell, School Improvement Specialist, to discuss opportunities for additional assistance through our recovery programs. Our before

and after school tutoring programs begin in October, and our AM and PM Homework Centers have already begun. Send your child a message that learning is not an option.

To keep open communication between home and school, Princess Anne is continuing with our weekly electronic mail service (My School Mail) for our parents. This service provides parents, via email, school specific information such as announcements of important dates, special events, and volunteer opportunities. Please subscribe to this service so we can keep you up-to-date. Subscription directions are available on our school website at www.princessannems.vbschools.com. In addition, ensure your cell phone and email information are up-to-date so

you will receive important messages sent via our mass communication system.

appreciate all of your support this year as we establish expectations for student behavior and dress in order to support a powerful learning environment. Please read through the dress code and code of conduct in the student planner, and review key items with your child.

Please call on any member of the administrative team or me should you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

D. Alex Bergren
Principal

Homework Center

The Homework Center provides students a quiet, monitored place to complete homework and projects or to study. Laptops are available for students who have the need.

Before School: M-F / 7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. in the cafeteria
After School: M-TH / 3:55pm – 5:30pm- Room 106 (Activity Buses are available after school)



Library Offerings

The Library Media Center Before School @ Your Library program is available for all students. Students may come to the

library on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:00 AM to 9:00 AM to check in/out books, research, print from flash drive, work on a group project, or BYOD.



Updated Volunteer Procedure

Virginia Beach City Public Schools has issued a new volunteer procedure. Please note that if you intend to



volunteer in any capacity at any time

during the school year, please download and complete this volunteer agreement link, complete the form and return it to the PAMS security desk prior to volunteering. All forms must be

verified in advance. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation

[REQUEST TO VOLUNTEER](#)



Log Your Volunteer Hours

Princess Anne Middle School and their PTA are grateful for all of their parent volunteers. Please remember to log your volunteer hours!! Logging your volunteer hours has now been made easier. You can access

the mobile friend website where you can log your volunteer hours quickly and easily. Should you not have access to a smartphone, tablet or computer, the Volunteer binder is still available at the security

desk for your convenience. New Volunteer Website -

[LOG YOUR HOURS HERE](#)

Student Volunteering

HARD WORK REALLY DOES PAY OFF!!! ARE YOU A STUDENT WHO'S MAKING A DIFFERENCE THROUGH VOLUNTEERING?
If so, you may be eligible to win a cash prize, a trip to

Washington, D.C. and a chance to inspire other young people to get involved in volunteering. All applications must be completed online <http://spirit.prudential.com/media/managed/SOC-How-To-Apply.pdf> by November 3rd so that Ms. Tynes in Guidance can certify it for you. Come by Guidance if you have any questions!

[VA PTA](#)

[2015](#)

Proposed Legislation

Reflections



Please see a quick newsletter submission regarding the Reflections

Program for the 2015-16 school year.

Reflections Program 2015-16 - Let Your Imagination Fly... (graphic is listed on the PAMS website if you would please include it)

Are you creative. Do you love the arts? If you have any interest in Visual Art, Literature, Music, Photography, Film or Dance? Consider taking time to create a Reflections Contest entry. The theme for the 2015-16 contest is "Let Your Imagination Fly". Please bring completed submissions to the library at 9:00 am on Thursday, October 22nd.

If you have any questions, please contact Amber Sloan at sloanys4@cox.net. Good Luck!!

Student submission form...

http://www.vapta.org/new-unit-document-package/doc_download/4380-15-16-student-entry-form.html

PLEASE VOTE!

Subscribe to the VB School calendar for the 2015 / 2016 school year by clicking here



Please Join the PTA!

First of all, a HUGE THANK-YOU to all who have joined our PTA and/or donated to our Stress Free Donation drive. We have 609 members at this time.

You are always asked to join the PTA, but WHY should you join?

With your \$5 membership, \$3.75 of it is sent to the state and national PTA. That means PAMS only keeps \$1.25. With 1500 potential memberships, that is \$1,875 for our school.

This is why the \$20 Stress Free donation is so important. Selling wrapping paper or chocolate only nets us maybe 20% of

the total sales. By participating in Stress Free, we don't have to deal with selling, hitting up our family and neighbors and delivering. With approximately 1500 students in the school at \$20 per child, that is \$30,000 that goes right to our bottom line! And what do we use it for? EVERYONE! We make it a point to spread our (YOUR) money to all grade levels. The biggest chunk goes to teacher grants. Any teacher is eligible to apply for a grant. They submit a proposal, which is reviewed by a grant committee. Let us know if you would like to be on this committee—we welcome more input.

We have already approved the following 3 grants this year:

\$1100 for Math Class-



marker - a web based program for math that gives instant results for students to monitor themselves in math
\$650 for 7th grade social studies
\$950 for 7th grade EDGE kids to go on a weekend trip to study environmental issues at False Cape

We are committed to using the resources you provide to benefit our school, so PLEASE JOIN

School Store

The school store is located in the Library Media Center and is open daily from 8:55am until 9:10am. Supplies include: pen-

cils, lead refills, flash drives, spiral notebooks, rulers, etc. A [Click on picture for a list of items ---> --->](#)



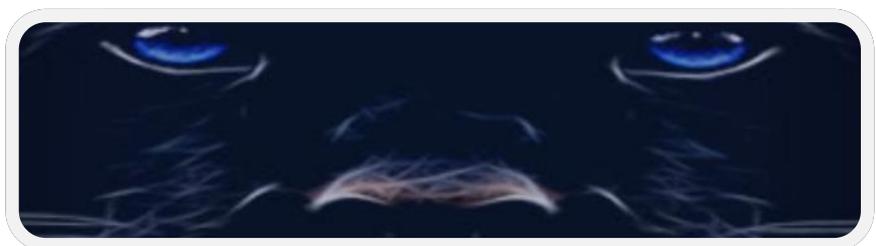
SPIRIT... SPIRIT... LET'S HEAR IT!!

Get your PAMS Spirit Wear now and make a statement loud and clear. We're Panthers and We're Proud!!

[Click on picture for a list of items ---> --->](#)



The Panther Pride



Like PAMS PTA Facebook page by clicking here



Harris Teeter

Lend a helping hand.



Re-Link your VIC card. Visit www.harristeeter.com or give the number 6741 at the register. Either way works! Harris Teeter will donate a percentage of your purchase to Three Oaks. We have to re-link every year after August 1st.

Target

Raising funds for our school is as easy as using your RED-card. Designate our school through Take Charge of Education to give our kids a boost. And save 5% every time you shop. REDcards are available as a debit or credit card. The new Chip-and-PIN cards will need to be enrolled. The account numbers are different from the original REDcards. Enroll at

Target.com/TCOE or call 1-800-316-6142.

**TAKE CHARGE
OF EDUCATION™**

Reward your school.™



The REDcard™

Farm Fresh



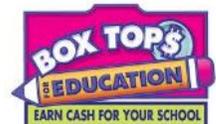
No more receipts! Key tags have already gone home. Parents and supporters scan your key tag to help our school earn free educational equipment.

Both Harris Teeter & Target send us a check to support student activities. Farm Fresh provides a list of educational equipment for us to order. Encourage extended family and neighbors to support these programs. This is a simple process and a win win for all.

Labels for Education



From soup, cereal and snacks to dairy products, beverages and food storage – your kitchen's probably full of eligible *Labels for Education*® items. Get clipping and start earning free stuff for your school! Turn them in to your homeroom teacher



**OCTOBER
22nd - 30th**



October 2015



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27	28	29	30	Oct 1	2	
	5:00 PM - G So Beach FC Socce	5:00 PM - Footb	6:00 PM - Open Beach FC Socce	1:20 PM - Adjust 4:00 - Seconda	Beach FC Socce Girl Scout Meet	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	6:30 - Girl Scou Beach FC Socce	5:00 PM - Footb	4:00 - Seconda 5:00 PM - Cityw 5:00 PM - G So Beach FC Socce	1st Quarter Act	Beach FC Socce Girl Scout Meet	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	Beach FC Socce	5:00 PM - Footb	5:00 PM - G So Beach FC Socce	4:00 - Girl Scou 4:00 - Seconda	Beach FC Socce Girl Scout Meet	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	5:00 PM - G So 6:30 - Girl Scou Beach FC Socce		Beach FC Socce	Scholastic Book Fair 5:30 PM - B So 5:30 PM - G So	Beach FC Socce Girl Scout Meet	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
	Scholastic Book Fair					
	Beach FC Socce	6:00 PM - Footb	6:30 PM - G So Beach FC Socce	6:00 PM - Haun	6:00 PM - Haun Beach FC Socce Girl Scout Meet	



Princess Anne Middle PTA Membership Form

Please remember that the Stress-Free Fundraiser option eliminates product sales with 100% of your donation going directly to the PTA so that we may bring great programs to our school for all students. Further the Stress Free donation is tax-deductible. We appreciate your support of the Princess Anne Middle PTA.

	Stress Free w/Membership (\$25.00/ea.)	Member Only (\$5.00/ea.)
Parent's Name _____ M__ F__	_____	_____
Parent's Name _____ M__ F__	_____	_____
Parent's Phone # (____) _____ - _____		Grand Total:
Parent's Email _____	\$ _____	
Student Name _____ M__ F__		
Grade _____ Teacher _____		
Student Name _____ M__ F__		
Grade _____ Teacher _____		
Student Name _____ M__ F__		
Grade _____ Teacher _____		

Three ways to join: Cash, Check or Credit Card via PayPal!

Credit Card: You can pay in person at Open House on Sept 30th!
Membership with Stress Free: <http://tinyurl.com/PAMSPTACombo>
Membership Only: <http://tinyurl.com/PAMSPTAmembershiponly>

By check or cash:
Please make your check payable to: Princess Anne Middle PTA

Cash _____ Check# _____

You can drop this form at the school or mail it to: PTA at 2323 Holland Road, Virginia Beach 23453