

# Bruin Voices



Lake Braddock Secondary

**PTSA**<sup>®</sup>

everychild.one voice.

[www.fcps.k12.va.us/LakeBraddockSS](http://www.fcps.k12.va.us/LakeBraddockSS)

Volume 14, Issue 8

June 4, 2004

## From the President . . .

### To the Lake Braddock Community:

My sincere thanks to the faculty, parents, and students who have dedicated their time and attention to make Lake Braddock a wonderful place to learn. I have thoroughly enjoyed working with the PTSA Board and the many parent volunteers these past two years. Without a doubt, the little extras that the PTSA has provided have positively touched the lives of our students and made our school a stronger and more pleasant academic center.

Although I cannot recognize all volunteers, I want to identify and thank the members of the 2003-2004 PTSA Board: the officers, Trenda Jacocks (1st VP), Nancy Clements (2nd VP), Anita Lagasse (3rd VP), Mary Doyle (Secretary), and Reecie Ford (Treasurer), donated countless hours to the overall functioning of the Board; Patricia Stephens organized the "Teacher of the Year" and other student and faculty awards; Donna Gomez planned the Senior Baccalaureate, and Anita Lagasse organized the Senior All Night Grad Party; Susan Pehrsson followed budget and school board issues; Trish Moncada, assisted by Jill Landsman, created and edited the Bruin Voices newsletter; Pat Fausser and Trenda Jacocks reached out to the greater Lake Braddock community through the Community Relations/Outreach Committee; Lecia Dorfler planned the Reflections and other cultural arts programs; Susan Conant and Nancy Clements awarded the teacher mini-grant funds; Rosaleen Gray planned programs for parents; Susan McCannell carefully followed legislation issues; Susie Schoen enrolled new members and published the directory; Beverly Magida administered the MentorWorks program; Lilian Ancalle represented the Minority Parents Group; Ronnie Oppenheim, Carol Brigleb, and Susie Schoen provided treats to the faculty throughout the year; Aida Mort contacted hundreds of volunteers to help with school activities; Susan Howlett, Susan Becker and Susie Schoen organized the annual Craft Fair; Susie Boyle and Helene Hammer represented the teachers; and finally, Linda Burke and Scott Brabrand informed and advised the Board on various school issues. I have appreciated the support of the entire Board and consider each member to be a friend and partner in education.

I will miss serving as President, but I am pleased that I will be leaving the Board in excellent and experienced hands. Trenda Jacocks was elected President for the 2004-2005 school term at the general membership meeting in May. She will be looking for volunteers to complete the Board and can be reached at [PTATrenda@aol.com](mailto:PTATrenda@aol.com).

My best wishes for a fun and safe summer. Good luck to the Class of 2004!

Warmest regards,  
Karen Allison

### Dates to Know

June 5  
SAT  
8<sup>th</sup> Grade Dance  
June 7  
HS Chorus Concert Awards  
June 8  
7<sup>th</sup> Grade Awards  
June 9  
8<sup>th</sup> Grade Awards  
June 12  
Prom  
June 13  
Baccalaureate  
June 14  
Senior Awards  
June 16  
Graduation  
June 18  
Last Day of School



Editor, Bruin Voices  
Trish Moncada  
[moncadap@aol.com](mailto:moncadap@aol.com)  
Assistant Editor  
Jill Landsman  
[jillmlandsman@cox.net](mailto:jillmlandsman@cox.net)



## From the President-Elect . . .

### To the Lake Braddock Parents and Community:

Are you interested in making a difference at Lake Braddock for our students and the community? Volunteer to be on the PTSA Board next year. We still have openings for Reflections chair, All Night Grad Party chair, Baccalaureate chair, Mulch Sale chair, Giant/Safeway promotions chair, Ways and Means chair, Awards chair, and Language Ambassadors for Back-to-School Night. Perhaps you are not interested in chairing but want to serve on a committee or co-chair a project with a sidekick. Serve with us! Many hands mean less work and a better community. We are also looking for a volunteer auditor to assess our books this summer.

We are happy to sign you on to our PTSA team—Go Bruins! We need you! Contact Trendera Jacocks, President Elect 2004-2005, at [ptatrenda@aol.com](mailto:ptatrenda@aol.com), 703/440-1088.

## LBSS MentorWorks Program Seeks Mentors for School Year 2004-2005

If you have an interest in providing support to middle and high school students at Lake Braddock, consider becoming a mentor in the PTSA MentorWorks Program this coming fall. If you can give one-half hour per week of undivided attention and non-parental support to a student, either during their lunch or after school on late bus days, this is the volunteer opportunity for you. Monthly training is provided by PTSA volunteer staff. All interested mentors will be required to attend an orientation meeting scheduled near the end of October. To request more information and an application, please contact Kathy Zupan, MentorWorks Coordinator at 703/978-7049, [VAZupans@aol.com](mailto:VAZupans@aol.com).

To refer students to the MentorWorks program, contact MS guidance counselor Susan Martinez at 703/426-1033 or HS guidance counselors Gary Ranallo at 703/426-1051 and Lynda Samek-Smith at 703/426-1053.

## School FAQs: What Parents Need to Know

Do you have a question about Lake Braddock Secondary School—parent to parent—that other parents may be asking, too? Contact [PTATrenda@aol.com](mailto:PTATrenda@aol.com) or [NSCPTA@yahoo.com](mailto:NSCPTA@yahoo.com) with your questions. With the help of LBSS staff, we will try to find the answers. Questions and answers will be featured in School FAQs.

It is never too early to start researching college and career opportunities. Don't forget our greatest resource at Lake Braddock for college and career planning: our on-site Career Center, located inside the cafeteria, which is staffed by Career Center Specialist Judy Edwards. Summer is a great time to make college campus visits and research fields of study and future opportunities. Happy surfing this summer!

Below are informative websites to aid you in your research:

[Collegeboard.com](http://Collegeboard.com)

[Schev.edu](http://Schev.edu)

[PrincetonReview.com](http://PrincetonReview.com)

[Tutor.com](http://Tutor.com)

[Fafsa.com](http://Fafsa.com)

[EcampusTours.com](http://EcampusTours.com)

[Act.org](http://Act.org)

[Commonapp.org](http://Commonapp.org)

[Ncaaclearinghouse.net](http://Ncaaclearinghouse.net)

[Ncaa.org](http://Ncaa.org)

[Usnews.com/usnews](http://Usnews.com/usnews)

[Loans4students.org](http://Loans4students.org)

[Collegefunds.com](http://Collegefunds.com)

[Collegenet.com](http://Collegenet.com)

[Collegeview.com](http://Collegeview.com)

[Ed.gov](http://Ed.gov)

[Fastweb.com](http://Fastweb.com)

[Finaid.org](http://Finaid.org)

[Findcollegeaid.com](http://Findcollegeaid.com)

[Gocollege.com](http://Gocollege.com)

[Vpep.state.va.us](http://Vpep.state.va.us)

“The primary purpose of education is not to teach you to earn your bread,  
but to make every mouthful sweeter.”

James R Angell

## 2004 Baccalaureate

June 13, 2004 ~ 7:30 p.m. ~ Holy Spirit Church

Graduation Week is here! Congratulations Class of 2004!  
Students, join your senior class for this special event. Parents, bring family and friends to share in this milestone of your student's school years.

### Thank You to the Baccalaureate Committee:

Co-Chairs: Carla Bergner  
Donna Gomez  
Treasurers: Jennifer Pritchett  
Joanne Gibson  
Previews & Program:  
Tony and Leslie Prince  
Invitations: Nancy Wachtenheim  
Marty Crabtree  
Decorations: Teresa Gelinne  
Ushers: Jim and Ruth Wagner  
Publicity: Dorian Smith

A BIG thank you to those students who are sharing their talents during Baccalaureate. Join us for rehearsal on Thursday, June 10, 6 p.m. at Holy Spirit Church, 8800 Braddock Road.

Thank you to those who have sent contributions. Contributions are still being accepted. Please send to: Donna Gomez, 5814 Mersea Court, Burke, VA 22015. Make checks payable to: LBSS PTSA Baccalaureate.

Questions? Contact Carla Berger at [bergnex4@cox.net](mailto:bergnex4@cox.net) or Donna Gomez at [OKGOMEZ@aol.com](mailto:OKGOMEZ@aol.com)

## ANGP Volunteers Needed

Graduation time is right around the corner, and plans for this year's senior class All Night Graduation Party are in full swing. Now that spring break is over, it is time to start focusing on our ANGP volunteers. Many of you have already volunteered, and we truly appreciate your doing so earlier this year. However, we are still in need of many more volunteers for both shifts for the night of June 16. We need to fill volunteer slots for security, decorations, games and activities, clean-up, and the store. We really need junior parents (and even sophomore parents) to help set up, especially during the time of the actual graduation ceremony. We need about 150 more people to fulfill our staffing needs for the party that night. If you haven't signed up yet, please get in touch with Mary Doyle at 703/440-8121, [RyeMGD@aol.com](mailto:RyeMGD@aol.com), or Diane Mauthe at 703/266-3099, [mauthe@direcway.com](mailto:mauthe@direcway.com), as soon as you can. They will answer your questions and place you in a suitable job. Congratulations to our graduating seniors and their families. We look forward to hearing from you soon



## Box Tops for Education Comes to Lake Braddock

Great news! Lake Braddock is now collecting Box Tops for Education. Each box top is worth 10¢, and all money goes directly to PTSA teacher grants for next year, thus benefitting all grades at Lake Braddock. We hope to raise \$1,000 in box tops by 2005. That is only 10,000 box tops! With our generous population at LBSS, we should achieve this goal easily. Just clip and save from the tops of General Mills/Betty Crocker products, such as cereals, Fruit Rollups, cereal bars, and muffin mixes, to name a few. Go to your cupboard right now. Get your students involved, too. Have them help you clip and save. A collection box will be located under the sign-in table in the main office.

Collect box tops during the summer—start a collection box at home. When school starts in September, we will have a drawing for gift certificates and prizes. More incentives will follow. Put your name on the back of each box top clipped.

Thanks for your help. Direct your questions to Trendera Jacocks, 703/440-1088, [ptatrenda@aol.com](mailto:ptatrenda@aol.com). Clip and save for LBSS !



**Does your child hate to read? Here are some suggestions from parent representatives of the Literacy Action Force (LAF) at Lake Braddock.**

## **Getting Your Child to Read . . .**

is a challenge at best but an essential building block to their success. When your child reaches middle school, reading instruction is very different. Students are asked to use reading to understand content, to make connections and to draw conclusions. Finding time to read for pleasure becomes more difficult and students lose interest.

The results of a research study show the correlation between standardized test scores and the amount of time students read for pleasure at home:

<b>Standardized Test Scores</b>	<b>Minutes Per Day Spent Reading</b>
90 <sup>th</sup> percentile	40.4 minutes
50 <sup>th</sup> percentile	12.9 minutes
10 <sup>th</sup> percentile	1.6 minutes



### **So what can a parent do to encourage reading?**

**Display reading material** – Place a forgotten book or old favorite in your family room, or leave a new magazine on your child's bed.

**Read on the go** – Keep reading material in the car. Your child may have time to read a chapter of a book or an article on the way to soccer practice or while waiting for an appointment.

**Find out what other kids are reading** – Have your child get reading suggestions from someone they trust; ask friends and siblings what books they would recommend. Try trading favorites with other kids.

**Encourage short stories** – When your child complains that books take too long, suggest a collection of short stories. Better yet, surprise him or her with a collection for a job well done or just for fun.

**Lead by example** – Let your children see you reading. Share interesting things you're reading, or discuss current events found in the newspaper. Be involved.

## **A Special Thank You from the PTSA Volunteer Coordinator**

After five years as the PTSA Volunteer Coordinator, I must say "so long" to a wonderful group of parents who dedicated endless hours of their time to volunteer at Lake Braddock and thus helped make it a better place for our children.

Throughout the years, what often began as a simple phone call turned into a pleasant conversation, exchange of ideas, and sometimes into lasting friendships. Many of you I never had the pleasure of meeting in person, but it sure feels sometimes as if we had. When the meeting did take place, it felt as if I had already met you. For all your work and especially for your kindness, I will always be grateful.

I would also like to thank the members of the PTSA Board for their constant support and willingness to step in whenever needed.

To the LBSS staff, thank you for giving us the opportunity to volunteer but, most of all, for making us feel that volunteering at the school is not just needed, but very highly appreciated.

Last, but not least, after all these years, I do wish to express my thanks to my family—my husband Jim for his constant support and help, which has been a key factor in making the volunteer program a smooth operation, and my sons Christopher and Jason for their help and understanding that volunteering at the school has been a cause I cherish, one close to my heart.

I wish there was a better way to express my feelings for the wonderful experience you all helped me enjoy all these years. All I can say to you is a heartfelt thank you. I'll cherish the memories.

With my best wishes for all your future endeavors,

**Aida Mort**

Aida,

On behalf of all families at Lake Braddock, it is we who owe you countless thanks! We will miss you! Trish & Jill

*Thank You!*