



Bird's Eye View

Matoaka Elementary School | 4001 Brick Bat Road , Williamsburg, VA 23188

SEPTEMBER 6, 2016

For detailed, up-to-the-minute Matoaka PTA news see <http://www.matoaka-pta.org> and <https://www.facebook.com/MatoakaElementary/>

Welcome from the PTA President

The PTA welcomes our new and returning Matoaka families. We have been working hard this summer planning events for the upcoming year. The PTA's goal is to work, in cooperation with our school administrators and staff, to create an atmosphere where families are engaged in activities that promote health, well-being, and educational success.

You can help us reach this goal by supporting the PTA's work in a variety of ways. First, you can **become a member** of the PTA. Your \$6 individual membership or \$10 family membership dues help support our local PTA as well as the state and national PTAs. Second, you can **donate your time** as a volunteer at a PTA-sponsored event and/or serve on a PTA committee. We have many opportunities for volunteers, including our largest fundraiser, the Walk-a-thon. This event along with our spirit nights, merchandise sales, box tops, and shopping programs raise money to support various programs, such as the cultural arts assemblies, author-in-residence, school musicals, the garden and Living Wedge, Healthy Lifestyles events, Matoaka Dads, Veteran's Day reception, Reflections, the Chesapeake Bay Experience, and other school gifts. Finally, you can **donate toward the Enrichment Fund** with 100% of the funds going directly back to PTA-supported programs. If you haven't already joined the PTA, look for a membership form in your child's folder.

Our **Ice Cream Social and General Membership** meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, September 15th**. Please come out and enjoy some ice cream with the entire family and learn more about your PTA. Wishing all a great school year and looking forward to your continued support of Matoaka and the PTA. Sincerely, Karen Talley, Matoaka PTA President, ketalley4@gmail.com

Get Ready to... Walk the Wave!

Join us Friday, Oct. 14 for our biggest fundraiser of the year! During the annual walkathon, our school community comes together for a fun-filled day of exercise and entertainment. For more information, contact Michelle Alexander chele.alexander@gmail.com or Robin Bennett, robin_bennett@gmail.com.

Matoaka is a National PTA School of Excellence!

National PTA has recognized Matoaka Elementary School as one of the 173 schools and PTAs from across the country as [2016-2018 National PTA Schools of Excellence](#) for their leadership and accomplishments nationwide in building strong, effective family-school partnerships.

National PTA School of Excellence is a recognition program that supports and celebrates partnerships between PTAs and schools to enrich the educational experience and overall well-being for all students.



September

- 9/15, 6:30 pm:
Ice Cream Social,
PTA Meeting
- 9/26-9/30,
Spirit Nights
at Papa
Murphy's 
- 9/29, 6-7:30 pm:
Back-to-School Night

Mark your Calendar

- 10/12: Turn in
those Box Tops!
- 10/14: "Walk the
Wave" Walkathon
- 10/19: General
Membership PTA
Meeting
- 10/21: Morning
with Dads;
Early Release
- 10/29: Family Fun
Run & 5k

Matoaka Elementary School

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September 2016

Hospitality

A shout out to the Hospitality committee for sponsoring a back-to-school teacher and staff cookout on Friday, August 26th. Mr. Jacobs grilled up some hamburgers and hot dogs in the 100 degree temperatures; PTA volunteers provided various side dishes and dessert. Thank you to all who participated!

Yearbook

Please consider sharing some of the photos you take this year with the Yearbook Committee. We include numerous classroom and event photos in the yearbook. Photos and questions can be emailed to matoakayearbook@yahoo.com.

Earn Cash for Our School



Each box top you send in is worth 10 cents for our school! Send trimmed Box Tops to school in a baggie labeled with student and teacher name by the collection date (first one is Wed. 10/12). There will be prizes for the student, class, and teacher whose class turns in the most Box Tops.

- Alisa Smith, alisasmith@gmail.com

Help earn money for Matoaka by registering your store bonus cards, using our key cards and codes at the check out, and using our [Amazon link!](#) To learn about all the shopping programs that help support our school, see <http://www.matoaka-pta.org/2015/09/shopping-program>

- Denise Clymer, deniseclymer@cox.net

Student Directory

Be on the look out for a directory form in your child's folder. Return the form by Sept. 28 if you wish to be included.

Healthy Snacks, Birthday Book Club



Instead of sweet treats, celebrate your child's birthday the healthy way and join the **Birthday Book Club!** You'll not only reduce the amount of sugar our kids eat, but you'll leave a lasting gift in your child's honor to the school library.

For more information visit the PTA's website or contact Dana Hess (danahess@cox.net) or Mrs. Crispino and Mrs. Anderson (Matoaka media specialists). **Thank you for helping us keep our Matoaka students healthy!**

2016-2017 Matoaka PTA Executive Committee

President	Karen Talley
VP of Programs	Ally Younica
VP of Fundraising	Katherine Klarenbach
Recording Secretary	Julie Holstrom
Treasurer	Stephanie Trogdon

We still need a few volunteers to Chair the following positions: Carnival, Membership, Advocacy, Volunteer Coordinator. New volunteers are always welcome!

Reflections Arts Program: What is Your Story?

Feel like showing off your creative side? The PTA Reflections Program would love to see what you can do! This year's theme is **"What Is Your Story?"** Original entries from Matoaka students will be collected at the school with a completed entry form in October.

With categories in Dance Choreography, Film Production, Literature, Music Composition, Photography, and Visual Arts, if you can create it, you can enter it. There's also a Special Artist Division (see rules) for those who need a little

help expressing their creativity. You may enter as many creations as you like, but make sure it's all yours - group projects aren't eligible.

Look for more information on the Matoaka PTA webpage and the National PTA Reflections website: www.pta.org/reflections. Questions? Contact Tricia Royle, mesreflections@gmail.com.

Ready to share **Your Story?**



The Wedge Needs Help!

Mr. Spence needs a few parents to help build a pen for our African Tortoise on the grassy area outside and someone to come look at one of our exhibit cages to see if we can't get the doors to close a little better. Don't want any crickets to escape! If you can help, please email john.spence@wjccschools.org.