



Bird's Eye View

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

SEPTEMBER 8, 2017

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

Welcome back, Matoaka families! Hopefully everyone has adjusted to the school schedule after saying goodbye to the adventures of summertime. It has been great to once again see the familiar faces of staff and students around school!

As they do every summer, dedicated PTA volunteers have generously donated hours of time planning the PTA events students and families have come to enjoy every year. From fun fundraisers (Spirit Nights & Walk-A-Thon) to programs benefitting every Matoaka student (cultural performances & Matoaka Dads Fire and Flick!), we want to make sure our 2017-18 year is another great experience for all.

As you know, we cannot do this without your annual membership and support. Your \$6 or \$10 membership enables us to continue our mission here at Matoaka. Please consider joining PTA now! And, this year you can join NOW online: <https://member.pta.org/join>. Membership forms are also available in the office or contact Karen Talley, membership chair.

Our PTA offers a wide variety of volunteer opportunities and ways for our members to participate. Whether participating in meetings or your service on/to our committees, we value your commitment to our parent-teacher organization.

We hope you have a great year and we look forward to engaging with you to make our great school even better! If you ever have questions or want to get involved, don't hesitate to contact me! --Ally Younica, Matoaka PTA President (allyserio@yahoo.com)

September

- **9/14, 6:30 pm:**
**Ice Cream Social,
PTA Meeting**

Mark your Calendar

- 10/5, 6-8 pm:
Back-to-School
Night
- 10/11, 7pm: General
Membership PTA
Meeting
- 10/13: "Take a Walk
on the Boardwalk"
Walk-a-thon
- 10/24: Reflections
Deadline
- 10/20: Morning
with Dads;
Early Release
- 10/30: Start of
Healthy Lifestyles
Week



Take a Walk on the Boardwalk

... the Monopoly Boardwalk that is! Our 8th annual walk-a-thon will be held Friday, October 13. It is our school's largest fundraiser. Each child will have the opportunity to raise money to benefit our school and compete for top prizes from all around our "Community Chest."

If you would like to help make the walk-a-thon a success by being a volunteer or sponsor, please contact Adrienne Tropilo at adriannetropilo@yahoo.com.

Matoaka PTA Executive Committee

President	Ally Younica
VP, Programs	Rachel McCabe
VP, Fundraising	Adrienne Tropilo
Recording Secretary	Sarah Deaver
Treasurer	Jamie Heisler-Ibrahim

Want to be Included in the Family Directory? Join the PTA!

This year, Virginia is one of four pilot states implementing PTA online membership!

You can now join, donate enrichment funds, and update your information online. Our Membership and Directory committees are embracing these exciting changes.

This year's PTA Family Directory will be a PTA member compilation available only to our membership later this fall. This will be similar to the Student Directory of previous years.

To ensure you are included in and receive this year's directory, simply join online or return your membership form no later than November 1. Join online now: <https://member.pta.org/join>.

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 date will be in October). There will be prizes for the student, class, and teacher whose class turns in the most.

Send Photos for 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.



Healthy Snack Initiative



In an effort to limit sugary treats and food allergy problems at school celebrations, our **Healthy Snack Initiative** was created. Guidelines call on parents, teachers and the PTA to be conscience of our message by offering healthier alternatives to cupcakes and candy whenever possible.

Instead of sweet treats, consider celebrating 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 Matoaka Library.

For more information on the Healthy Snack Initiative and healthy snack ideas, visit the PTA website or contact Dana Hess (danahess@cox.net) or Katie Winckler (Katie.winckler@gmail.com).

Reflections Arts Program: Within Reach

Feel like showing off your creative side? The PTA Reflections Program would love to see what you can do! This year's theme is "**Within Reach**." Original entries from Matoaka students are due at the school with a completed entry form by Tuesday, October. 24.

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 National PTA Reflections website: www.pta.org/reflections. Questions? Contact Page Bishop mesreflections@gmail.com



Cultural Arts News

Matoaka PTA's cultural arts committee is pleased to sponsor visiting author/illustrator **Peter Catalanotto** on October 3.

Mr. Catalanotto has illustrated titles including *Happy Birthday, American* and *No More Pumpkins*. He has also authored *Mr. Mumble, Monkey & Robot*, and *Matthew A, B, C*.

Kindergarten-2nd grade: you will see more information about this coming home soon!