

August 25, 2010

Dear Friends and Families of Mountain Vista Governor School students,

Greetings and Congratulations! You must be proud of your students for getting into the hottest new program for gifted students in our area. We are fortunate that our public school systems are being able to offer a challenging and stimulating learning opportunity to our kids via Mountain Vista Governor's School. On behalf of the Mountain Vista Governor's School PTO, I take this opportunity to welcome you into our friendly, goal oriented, magical and fun MVPTO! The magic is that you are automatically a member of MVPTO without doing anything at all. But wait, did I say "goal oriented"? Let me explain what that means.

The MVPTO provides a link between Mountain Vista parents/guardians, students, teachers, staff, friends, and the surrounding community at large. We give financial support for scholastic materials and field trips. For example, last year we paid over \$3000 to provide for the transport for the DC field trip. We have purchased rocketry and math supplies, and environmental science and physics testing equipment. We have grant money available to support student Senior Research Projects. Our organization also assists with special events such as Seminar Days, our annual dance, and the Senior Banquet. Some of the MVPTO energy and funds have been used to establish a non-profit foundation which will help broaden community support of Mountain Vista. All of the above counted separately is not much, but little support in many activities goes a long way. Our goal is to provide for as many of the fringe benefits as possible, to this already fantastic scholastic opportunity our kids have worked so hard to achieve.

The MVPTO can neither exist nor continue to accomplish its goals without dedicated people volunteering time and talent. So, once again, we are asking for you to support the MVPTO and to nurture your children in a variety of ways. The attached form lists many of the opportunities available for volunteering this year. For example, we are looking for liaisons as Members-at-Large within our individual counties. There are also staff level volunteer duties for each of our events as well. If you are unable to help in other ways, do consider sending in an occasional food item for some of our MVGS Breakfasts. Held on a flex day once every month, these breakfasts provide our kids with opportunity for some fun, and come and see for yourself - they do have ravenous appetites!

Besides volunteering your time, there is an urgent need for your financial assistance to keep our MVPTO running successfully. Instead of burdening you with another fundraiser sale, we are merely asking for a one-time cash donation from each family. We would appreciate a \$100 donation annually to help support our worthy organization. At this difficult financial time your support is needed and appreciated more than ever before. If \$100 is too much at this time for your individual situation, do consider as much as you are able to give. Every gift is equally appreciated and every penny is needed!

All are invited to attend our MVPTO meetings. They will be held on second Monday evenings every other month at alternating LFCC campuses. Our first official meeting will be held on September 13th, 6:30 p.m. at the Middletown LFCC campus, Rm. 333. Please come and check out for yourselves how friendly and fun we are! Mark these important dates on your calendar for our upcoming MVPTO meetings:

September 13, 6:30 p.m. Middletown LFCC campus, Rm. 333

November 8th, 6:30 p.m., Warrenton LFCC campus

January 10th, 6:30 p.m., Middletown LFCC campus, Rm. 333

March 14th, 6:30 p.m., Warrenton LFCC campus

May 9th, 6:30 p.m., Middletown LFCC campus, Rm. 333

We joyously look forward to supporting and serving your students throughout the year, but we cannot do it alone, we need your helping and willing hand. September is our big MVPTO fundraiser month and we are hoping to reach our goal with your generous contribution. Please complete the MVPTO membership form and mail to MVPTO Treasurer: Mrs. Donna Lee, 112 Anne Glass Rd., Winchester, VA 22602. Your membership form may also be sent directly to the MVGS staff office at either campus. This form is available on the MVGS website. Please check the MVGS website for MVPTO information throughout the year for news from us.

Before closing, I wanted to share with you the news that this year is special. It is special because our young school is turning full five years old! There will be celebration, of course, of this milestone and we will keep you posted on the details. But know that this year is special, because your family is part of ours this year. Let us help each other as each family should, and there will be success for our kids all around!

Thank you for supporting your Mountain Vista Parent Teacher Organization!

Sincerely yours,

Deepti Sharma

MVPTO President