



STUART TIMES

Issue V - February 2006 - A publication of the J.E.B. Stuart PTSA - www.fcps.edu/StuartHS/

President's Message

We are all surprised to hear that Dr. Mel Riddile is leaving us in June at the end of the current school year. Our loss will be T.C. Williams' gain in the City of Alexandria. It is a great opportunity for him personally and one which we certainly can understand. We wish him well.

We have been fortunate to have Dr. Riddile for nine years at J.E.B. Stuart High School. He has overseen changes in our physical site but much more importantly has lead Stuart through its transformation into a 'Breakthrough' high school. Dr. Riddile's accomplishment in leading a dedicated group of professional teachers and administrators who are committed to every student succeeding is what has made him National Principal of the Year. We have been lucky to have him as long as we have but he will be missed. Dr. Riddile is the first to say that he is a member of a hard working successful team here at Stuart. That team will continue to work with our kids with a new principal who should be in place by this summer.

The selection process for a new principal is a standardized procedure within Fairfax County Public Schools and is discussed in this newsletter. If you have specific questions regarding the new principal, feel free to contact me and other members of the PTSA. The Cluster III office is very open to issues that we want to raise.

Taste of the Town will be held March 19th from 5-7:30 pm in the Stuart Cafeteria. Your support is critical to making this event a success. Volunteer and/or plan to come!

Spring sports have started. Plan to cheer our athletes at games, meets and matches this spring. Come to the Spring Musical, *Cinderella*, March 23rd to March 26th. Support our kids and attend the Stuart events! **Kathleen McBride**, PTSA President

Principal's Message

As many of you already know, I plan to retire from Fairfax County Public Schools this summer. I started teaching social studies at Lee High School and moved into administration there in the 1974-75 school year. This is my fourth decade as a high school administrator. I always say that I have seen the best and worst of public education. By the way, we are in the best of times and we are getting better every day.

I will complete the school year, my ninth, at Stuart. Incidentally, this is the longest time that I have ever spent in one place, and, to be perfectly frank, I could stay here forever. Stuart is a wonderful place to work. As you would expect, I will do everything in my power to ensure that we have a successful end to our school year and a smooth transition to the next school year.

Let me be very clear about one thing, beginning in my third year at Stuart, I have had numerous offers to leave, but I turned every one of them down. I simply could not leave this school, and I would never leave Stuart for any other Fairfax County high school.

Please know that I have agonized over the decision to retire. When the facts were presented to me, this decision was a no-brainer. However, it is the mere thought of leaving Stuart that has weighed heavily on my mind and resulted in considerable internal stress. I love Stuart High School and the people in it. Although I have had a number of opportunities to work at other FCPS schools, I never considered leaving Stuart.

My retirement from Fairfax County Public Schools will not end my career as a principal. As I told our students the other day, I have the best of both worlds, I get to retire and still be a high school principal. I believe that I still have a lot to offer and I want to continue to make a difference as a principal. An opportunity has been presented to me that will benefit my family and allow me to continue as a high school principal after I retire. I have been offered and accepted the principalship at T.C. Williams High School in the Alexandria City Public Schools starting in the 2006-07 school year.

"Stuart has become a national model for all to emulate." Thanks to the commitment and devotion of our parents and teachers, Stuart has come a long way as a school. After seven long years of renovation, we have a school that is up to the standards of the staff and students. Shortly before I arrived at Stuart, a high-ranking FCPS official told me "we had given up on Stuart a long time ago." The Area Superintendent who appointed me, Dr. Paula Johnson said to me, "Given the new state standards, I don't know if anyone will ever graduate from Stuart." Nine years ago, Superintendent, Daniel Domenech, in the Washington Post, called Stuart "a failing high school." Today, Stuart is a **Breakthrough High School** and one of thirty ICLE Model Schools. All the attention paid to my recent announcement came as a complete surprise to me, but should be seen as an indication of Stuart's newfound prominence. In a recent Washington Post article, School Board member Phillip A. Niedzielski-Eichner said of Stuart, "It's a high-profile school because of its success... We're going to want to pay close

attention to whoever steps in to make sure they can continue that success."

Many of you have asked, "Who will replace you as principal?" In the same Post article Mr. Niedzielski-Eichner said, "Riddile's focus on building a strong staff at Stuart will help to ensure that students there continue to do well. One of his real strengths as a leader is that he has tried to fill the pipeline with capable people who cannot only fill in behind him but also step up in other leadership roles in the county."

Rest assured, I will leave Stuart in excellent condition. What we have accomplished is well known. More importantly, how these accomplishments have come about has been documented by outside experts in lengthy reports that were prepared following exhaustive on-site reviews of our operations. The Stuart Community and the new principal will have that exhaustive record and a very clear picture of what needs to occur in order for Stuart to continue its' successes. Here are a few of the reports that already are or will be available on our website: A Model School Case Study prepared by the International Center for Leadership in Education and the Council of Chief State School Officers, the Gates Foundation Report, a case study prepared by the University of Virginia's Darden School of Business and Curry School of Education, a case study contained in the NASSP publication Creating a Culture of Literacy. In addition, author Patricia Hersch has her second book, which will feature the Stuart story, in the works.

Finally, those of you who know me well know how much this school means to me. I love the school, the staff, the parents, and most of all the students. I will miss all of you.
Mel Riddile, Principal

Taste of the Town

Mark your calendars for J.E.B. Stuart's Annual Taste of the Town! It will be held on

Sunday, March 19th
from 5:00 pm – 7:30 pm in the school cafeteria.

This popular event will feature delicious tastings provided by local restaurants, musical entertainment by talented students, and hundreds of items offered in a silent auction. Auction items this year include sporting events, fine dining gift certificates, getaways to the beach and mountains, cooking classes and much more!

Tickets are \$12 if purchased in advance, \$15 at the door. If you can volunteer to help with this event, or have an item to donate for the auction, please contact Kristina Crane at 703-531-1492 or Jane Mattoon at 703-256-6744.

Career Center News

The Guidance office and Career Center have spent the past several weeks working with the underclassman, assisting them in their choice of courses for next year. You and your student should have already had a discussion about their schedule for next year. If you have any questions or need additional information about your child's courses please take a minute to call the counselor and discuss your concerns. The Career Center has been overwhelmed with students and parents completing their FAFSA forms. Virginia colleges start awarding money on March 1st, so it is important for them to have FAFSA information before that date. If you have any questions or would like to discuss financial aid information see Mrs. Kelley or Mrs. Sanchez in the Career Center.

Especially for Juniors - College Visits

Parents of Juniors should have discussed the Junior Survey (available on the guidance website) your child was given as part of the Junior Career unit. Juniors should have already started the college search. If not, Spring break is an ideal time to visit colleges. Parents, even if your child is dragging his/her feet, it is critical that they start looking at colleges now. It is more beneficial to see a college in session, than to visit over the summer.

Testing

Juniors should plan on taking the SAT I and SAT II, if needed, this spring. Most colleges in Virginia, with the exception of UVA, and William and Mary, do not require SAT II. It is up to the student to register and to take the SAT II if he or she is in a terminal class, i.e. the final year of a foreign language; based on the application requirements of the schools he/she is interested. See <http://www.commonapp.org/requirements.pdf> for the SAT II requirements for common application schools.

Register for the SAT I and SAT II online or by mail. The Spring 2006 test administration dates are as follows:

April 1, Register by Feb.24

May 6, Register by April 3

June 3, Register by May 10

Summer Plans

At least a part of each summer between the high school years should be spent in some meaningful activity. This could include a summer job, volunteer work, either locally or with a group program outside of the DC area, or attending an educational program. Educational programs can include summer school at Stuart, the FCPS Institute for the Arts, a pre-college summer program on a college campus, or a summer abroad program. The key is that whatever the activity, it should be a learning experience.

News and Notes from the Activities Office:

The J.E.B. Stuart Athletic Booster Club will be holding its First Annual, "What College Bound Student Athletes Need to Know." The presentation will be on Monday, February 27, 2006 at 7:00

pm in the Little Theater. Ms. Sue Collins, Director of Student Services at George Mason University, will be the Guest Speaker. Also speaking will be Mrs. Liz Bojtos, Director of Student Services J.E.B. Stuart High School, and parents and former students from J.E.B. Stuart that have played or are playing sports in college. We invite all of our parents and student-athletes that would like to continue playing sports after leaving J.E.B. Stuart. Ms. Collins will be available to answer questions after the speakers.

Stuart Swim and Dive Teams Win District Championship

The Stuart Men and Women's Swim and Dive Teams had a fantastic season. During the last week of January, both teams competed in the District Championship meets. Stuart had a strong showing in the preliminary and final events. The Men's team won the District for the first time in recent history, and sent many swimmers to the Regional Championships. Top District scorers for the men included Joey Connor, Zach Chadsey, Jeff Cook, Deniz Babaoglu, Grant Pettrie, Christian Dutilh, and Sam Pizer. The Women's team took second place in the District to the first place Yorktown team. It's notable that the Yorktown women went on to win the Virginia State Championships this past weekend; therefore our girls can be very proud of taking second to this team. Top District scorers for the women included Kelly Foelber, Stephanie Zapple, Linda Womack, Maggie Lecos, Elizabeth Joyce, Rachel Dady, Nichole Friday, and Sarah Kilbourne. Congratulations Raider swimmers and divers on a fantastic year!



Champion Stuart Wrestlers Steven Zuniga (2nd Place), Peter Jaeckel (District Champion and went to States Competition), Chester Gore (4th Place) and Christian Gore (District Champion)

Basketball

Boys basketball program would like to thank everyone who supported the teams this season and special thanks to everyone who attended the game at MCI Center. It was a great experience for us. Watch for our basketball camp coming in July for ages 7-14 boys and girls.

Faculty vs. Students Basketball Game

The J.E.B. Stuart Athletic Training Program will be holding its 2nd Annual National Athletic Training Month Faculty vs. Students Basketball Game on Thursday, March 16, 2006 at 7:00 pm in the Stuart main gym. All proceeds from the game will benefit the Stuart Athletic Training Program.

Tickets are \$3 at the door or students can purchase them for \$2 at lunch the week of the game. We will also be conducting a raffle for various items including an autographed Washington Nationals baseball, an autographed Washington Redskins photo, and two tickets to a DC United game next season. Raffle tickets will cost \$1 and will be on sale during lunch and at the game. Contact Korey Berg, ATC, head athletic trainer at 703-824-3963 for details.

Lady Raiders Basketball

The 2005-2006 season showed a lot of improvement from past years. The freshmen and Jr. Varsity each won a game and played extremely well during the season. The steady improvement was evident throughout the season. We had 14 freshman & 12 Jr. Varsity team members. We had 9 team members on the Varsity. I was impressed with their improvement during the season. Our offense and defense was much better. The athletic ability of the team allowed us to do different things during the games. The future is bright for the Lady Raiders basketball. We had 19 freshmen in our program and if we keep them excited and involved in AAU, camps, summer league and fall league, we will have a very successful program. I have information about camps. Thanks to all the fans, booster club and parents who supported us during the season. Coach Wilson

Boy's Soccer Prepares For Season With New Coaching Staff

The boy's soccer team will begin the 2006 season with a scrimmage on March 3rd at Loudon Valley and then a home scrimmage against Woodson on March 9th. Team tryouts and practices began February 21st.

Returning players expected to make big contributions include captains Luis Angel Medrano, Hans Hidalgo, William Brahmstead and Cristhian Salinas. Others who hope to build on the work they began last season are Jose Apaza, Nelson Bonilla, Caesar Colchao, Benyam Fesesse, Bryan Harrison, Diego Orellana, Blake Hinds, Jesse O'Connor, Evan Reid, Jose Orellana and J.C. Nogales Yale.

These players were joined at tryouts by a large group of enthusiastic newcomers. New varsity team members selected are Bilal Ali, Melvin Rodriguez, Rigoberto Mateos, Matias Lara, Mike Van Atta, Jose Vargas and Kunta Martins.

More than 30 potential players were regular participants at the winter workout sessions (running and weight lifting). At the last winter workout on February 16th, nearly all of the athletes finished the 2-mile run in less than 15 minutes, and a large group came in under 14 minutes! The JV selections will conclude on February 27th. We had so many quality players tryout that we extended the tryout days to give the coaches extra time to fairly evaluate everyone. Jim Rodden is the new varsity head coach. Matthew Hungerford is the new assistant varsity coach, and Larry Bernfeld is the new JV coach.

Congratulations to Students on the A Honor Roll (GPA 4.00 and above)

Aquino, Deacons-Babaoglu, Leyla-Banh, Linh-Benomran, Arwa-Chadsey, Zachary-Colegrove, Emily-Dady, Rachel-Daly, John-Degitz, Laura-Dreiman, Alana-Farmand, Elaheh-Fernandez Zeballos, Ross-Friedman, Rachel-Hassan, Naziat-Huff, Dana-Krishnan, Kalaivani-Labak, Amelia-Lykins, Sinead-Mai, Dong Thi-Maroun, Philip-Mass, Elizabeth-McFarland, Daniel-Nguyen, Christina-Nguyen, Duc-Nguyen, Phuong Anh-Nguyen, Thuy-Vi-Nguyen, Viann-Pourzal, Kristopher-Racette, Kelly-Ruhter, Nina-Schlaseman, Steven-Slack, Schuyler Solomon, Alex-Valenzuela, Jesse-Walker, Andrew-Whitchard, Thomas-Wu, Ying Wu, Yong-Xiao, LuJia-Yeung, Chi.

Senior Class Parents Needed for a Safe Stuart Graduation

Plans are well underway by the parents of the Senior Class for the ALL NIGHT GRADUATION PARTY (ANP) for ALL of our seniors on graduation night June 6, 2006. The purpose of this celebration is to provide a safe, alcohol/drug-free place for the entire Senior Class to be together one last time to celebrate their graduation from high school. Many parents, teachers, and school administrators will be in attendance at all times.

The Party will be at the Audrey Moore Recreation Center (Wakefield Recreation), from 11 pm to 5 am. Many activities will be provided throughout the night. We plan to have music, dancing, swimming, games of skill, a casino, basketball, and many other things to do. We will have food all evening, as well as a continental breakfast. EVERY student will have a chance to win prizes when they play the games and door prizes will be awarded. Advance tickets for the party can be purchased now. The cost is \$25. Contact Leah Reid (reids4@cox.net) or call 703-750-2932). If your student needs a scholarship to attend the party, please have them contact their counselor at school.

There is still much to plan and do. Naturally, we need your help. Although graduation is months away, we need your commitment NOW to make this evening a success. Please consider "Adopting-A-Senior" so that the entire graduating class can attend, regardless of ability to pay. Also, please support the upcoming Mulch Sale. It is our final fundraiser for the party. Look for flyers with ordering information at a variety of upcoming school events or call Suzanne Scholte at 703-241-7034 for information. Delivery Date for the mulch is March 25th. Plan to attend the next meeting on Thursday, March 9th at 7:30 pm in Room I-150 at the school. If you would like more information, please contact our committee chair, Tama Eliff (Eliff5857@aol.com) or call 703-379-4547).

Junior Class Parents Needed

It is a tradition that the Junior Class parents serve on the All Night Party Committee. Junior class parents fill in at the party facility during the actual Graduation Ceremony and "learn the ropes" for planning their All Night Party for their own rising seniors. All junior class parents are invited to attend the planning meetings. Our next meeting is Thursday, March 9th at 7:30 pm in Room I-150 at the school.

New Principal Selection Process

The Cluster III Office and the FCPS human resources department [HR] will be managing the national search for Dr. Mel Riddile's replacement with the goal of having a replacement in place by July 1, 2006. Best candidates considered to meet the FCPS requirements will meet individually with a panel put together in conjunction with HR and the cluster office. Typically, the panel includes four teachers [from six submissions from the faculty advisory council], four parents [from six submissions from the parent community], a current principal within FCPS, a cluster office member and two members of HR staff. The panel will recommend up to three candidates to the Cluster Director. The Cluster Director, John English, makes a final single recommendation to the School Board from the panel recommendations. The FCPS School Board makes final approval of the new principal.

Academic Committee

The PTSA Academic Committee meeting was held February 9th. Topics included the National Honor Society [NHS] eligibility requirements, academic achievement recognition and class rank. The NHS requires a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.5. Those eligible complete an application listing participation in activities including service to the school. Honor roll recipients who achieve 4.0 and above will be recognized each quarter with a listing in this newsletter. We would also like to recognize publicly, top academic achievement in the school entrance lobby.

Should class rank or percentile in class be reported to colleges by the Stuart Guidance department? In response to a discussion from last year, the Guidance department has proposed a change to the percentile method that is used by 20 of the 26 Fairfax County high schools. These high schools report to colleges the percentile that the student is in the class by decile and/or quartile. A recommendation has been made that Stuart use the percentile basis for next year and an evaluation be made at the end of the year as to whether to continue using the percentile method or not. Over 40% of high schools nationally no longer use class rank for the college reporting process.

New Attendance Letters Sent

The J.E.B. Stuart High School administrative team has designed a letter targeting students who are in danger of failing

due to attendance. The first of these letters will be mailed home on February 24, 2006.

Included in this letter is the course title and number of absences and/or tardies the student has accrued for the quarter. Letters will be mailed to parents of any student who has two or more unexcused absences and/or tardies. For example, if a student has been tardy twice in only one class, parents of that student will receive a letter.

In addition, the letter also includes the Fairfax County Public School's attendance policy, which states that any student who accrues three (3) unexcused absences or nine (9) unexcused tardies during the same quarter in a class will receive an "F" for the quarter.

If you have any questions regarding your student's attendance, please contact their administrator or the attendance office at 703-824-3920.

Interest-Free Loans for Home Computers

Because we believe a home computer is a key link between parents and their children's schools, we have formed a special partnership with **Apple Federal Credit Union** and **Dell Computers**. This partnership will provide **interest-free loans** to qualified members of the **Stuart school community**: Stuart High School, Glasgow Middle School, Bailey's, Belvedere, Beech Tree, Glen Forest, Parklawn and Sleepy Hollow elementary schools.

Here's how

1. **Bring** your social security number and **open** an account with Apple Federal Credit Union.
2. **Apply** for an interest-free loan.
3. **Qualify** for the loan.
4. **Order** the computer

Learn more about the interest-free loan and see the computers: **March 18, 2006**, 10 A.M to Noon at Parklawn Elementary (4116 Braddock Road Alexandria, VA 22312)

Band Notes

The **All-District Band** event was a huge success! Congratulations again to the twelve students who participated in the February 4th concert at Hayfield Secondary School: Kris Pourzal, Daniel McFarland, Sam Terhune, Steven Schlaseman, Nina Ruhter, Kelly Racette, Courtney Bullock, Henry Terhune, Michael Van Atta, David Goslin, Francis Kinney, and Andy Twigg. Four students - Daniel McFarland, Kris Pourzal, Steve Schlaseman and Henry Terhune - will be auditioning for All-State on February 25th at JMU. Wish them luck!

In addition, two SHS musicians were selected to perform in the first-ever All-District Jazz Band. Kudos to **Jack**

Daly and **Andrew Walker**. They auditioned January 7th and performed January 28th at T.C. Williams High School.

On February 16th, the Wind Ensemble was treated to a special rehearsal with members of the Fairfax Symphony Orchestra sitting in between members of our band. This unique opportunity came just before the **Pre-Festival Concert** on February 23rd in which Stuart shared the stage with the Symphonic Band from Glasgow. **District Festival** at Lee High School is fast approaching. The Concert Band performs March 3rd; the Wind Ensemble performs March 4th.

Choral Notes

The District X Chorus Concert was held on Saturday, February 11th at Falls Church High School. Stuart High School was represented in the SATB choir by Elizabeth Mass, Leyla Babaoglu, Lydia Blackmore, Haleluya Yimamu, John Pangilinan, Brian Tham, Jessica McQueen, Caitlin O'Neill, Elizabeth Joyce, Eraina Hill, Veronique Nguyen, Christian Dutilh, John Tran, Daniel Snyder and Nick Tong. Additionally, the following represented Stuart High School in the SSAA choir: Vicky Fowler, Breanna Beurckholtz, Shannon Hoff, Emma Earnest, Leslie D'Adamo, Marie Jones, Rachel Dady and Caren Lecos.

On Thursday, February 16th, all junior and senior choir members auditioned for Virginia's All-State Chorus and we are very pleased to announce Elizabeth Joyce, Daniel Snyder, John Tran and Elizabeth Mass (alternate) will be representing Stuart High School. Congratulations to you all!

Stuart Choirs will be participating in the District X Music Festival on March 18th at Edison High School. Unlike District Chorus, Festival involves participation of the entire choir and they are adjudicated on the quality of their performance as well as their sight-reading of music. Therefore, it is essential for all choir members to be prepared to participate.

Spring Trip

The Music Department's Spring trip to Atlanta is March 29 - April 2. The total cost of the trip is \$500. If you have not made your final payment, please do so as soon as possible. Checks should be made payable to STUART BAND BOOSTERS.

Spring Musical

Please don't miss *Cinderella*, Stuart's 2006 musical production. The show will run March 23-25 at 7:30 pm, and March 26 at 2:00 pm. See you at the show!

Broadway Desserts

Please mark your calendars for our Second Annual Broadway Desserts which will be held on May 11, 12 and 13.

Boosters Meeting on March 8th

The next Choral Booster meeting will be on Wednesday, March 8 at 7:30 pm in the chorus room. We encourage all parents of chorus students to come out and join us as we are at a critical time for our organization -- we will be losing three parents who

have served on the Chorus Booster Board for four years and we need everyone's support to enable us to continue to support the Stuart choir students. Please plan to attend!

Drama Boosters

We are pleased to announce that the J.E.B Stuart Drama Boosters are official. We are looking for parents to participate and help us get this organization off the ground. If your student is a Thespian and you have an hour or two per month to spare, please consider joining us on Wednesday, March 1st at 7:30 pm in the Black Box. Because we are fast approaching the time for our Spring Musical, *Cinderella*, we especially need your help. For more information, please contact Ms. Binkley at Cheryl.binkley@fcps.edu or Lori O'Neill at loneill@willkie.com.

Hospitality Committee

On Valentine's Day, the teachers and staff were served a fantastic luncheon complete with lasagna, salad and sweets! Once again, the Stuart Community proved how important our teachers, staff and administrators are and the Hospitality Committee would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who provided food and/or volunteered their time for this event. Our next event will be in May during Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week.

2006 Spring Mulch Sale

Fund-raiser to Benefit the J.E.B. Stuart High School All Night Graduation Party

3 Cubic ft. Bag of Double Shredded Hardwood

\$4.50 per Bag

Driveway Delivery Available @ \$15.00

FREE Driveway Delivery for all orders of 30 bags and over (within Stuart District)

Additional Special Handling @ \$25.00

Questions? Contact Suzanne Scholte at 703-241-7034 or skswm@aol.com

All Orders are Due March 22 and must be Prepaid Delivery Saturday, March 25

Mulch Sale to Support the J.E.B. Stuart High School's Senior Class ANP

The parents of the J.E.B. Stuart Senior Class are once again selling mulch to benefit the Senior Class ANP (All

Night Party) that is held the night following the graduation ceremonies at J.E.B. Stuart. This special event is sponsored by the parents of graduating seniors in order to provide an alcohol and drug free party for this very special day in their lives. We parents must raise the funds for this special event, so we would deeply appreciate your mulch orders especially because this is the biggest fund-raiser for the All Night Party.

K12NECTSII Computer Opportunity

Last year, the schools of the Stuart Pyramid (J.E.B. Stuart HS, Glasgow MS, Bailey's ES, Belvedere ES, Beech Tree ES, Glen Forest ES, Parklawn ES, and Sleepy Hollow ES) announced the beginning of K12NECTSII, a technology involving the students, teachers, and families who are part of these school communities. You can learn more at the project web site:

www.fcps.edu/DIT/k12nectsII/index.html

Through the K12NECTSII project, we are pleased to announce an important opportunity for families to increase their access to the resources available through computer technology. An informational flyer is available at the schools that describes a computer purchase program arranged through Dell Computers.

Basically, the program offers families with a student in any school in the Stuart Pyramid an opportunity to apply for a two-year, 0% APR loan from the credit union (which you must join to take advantage of the loan program) to purchase one of three hardware configurations from Dell.

If you want to buy a computer, but do not want a loan from Apple Federal Credit Union, as a parent or employee of Fairfax County Public Schools in the pyramid, you can purchase computers at any time through our special Dell website:

<http://www.dell.com/fairfaxschools/epp>

Or, you can call 1-866-257-4711 and Dell employees will be ready to help you. (Please note: You must have this code to order a computer with these methods: KS29308666)

You can learn more about this program, and about how technology is enriching the educational experience of students in the Stuart Pyramid at a technology fair that will be held from 10:00 am until noon on Saturday, March 18th, at Parklawn Elementary School.

PTSA Nominating Committee Members Needed

We are at that time when a nominating committee is needed to draw up a slate of PTSA officers for the 2006-2007 school year. If you are interested in being involved with this process, please contact Diane Weeks, PTSA secretary at weeksd@washpost.com or Kathleen McBride, PTSA president, at kamcbride@gmail.com as soon as possible.

Parent Education: Focus on SAT Tests on March 8th at 7:30 pm in the Student Commons

The PTSA Academic Committee and the Parent Education Committee will be jointly sponsoring a March 8th meeting at 7:30 pm in the Student Commons to discuss testing including SAT, PSAT and SOL's. The discussion will be led by Michelle Whelan, Stuart's Assessment Coach, and Carol Kelly from the Career Center. What does my child's PSAT test score mean? When are SAT's offered at Stuart? Is there a SAT review class offered at Stuart? Plan to attend.

FREE Parent Blackboard Computer Training Sessions

Learn how to access homework and classroom assignments, view class calendars, explore links to enrichment activities and much more. Information will be available about the new Computer Loan Program through Apple Federal Credit Union Wednesday, March 8th or Thursday, March 9th at 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm at J.E.B. Stuart High School Little Theatre. Spanish sessions will be available on both dates.

Letter Jackets

Tommy Bennett with Steve Angeline Sales will be at J.E.B. Stuart on Thursday, March 2nd at 7:00 pm before the

Winter Sports Awards Ceremony to take orders for J.E.B. Stuart Letter Jackets. Contact the Activities Office at 703-824-3961 for an order form or if you have any questions. The order form can be brought to the Awards Ceremony or it can be dropped off in the Activities Office with a check. Mr. Bennett will be bringing samples and taking orders that evening.

Scholarships Available from the JEB Stuart Foundation

The J.E.B. Stuart Educational Foundation, Inc. is proud to announce that it will be awarding scholarships of approximately \$50,000 to Stuart High School class of 2006 Seniors. Applications will be available in the Career Center on April 3rd. These awards may be used to defer the cost of two or four-year college or towards a trade or technical school. Applicants will be evaluated on the basis of financial need, teacher and personal recommendations, grades, community service and a personal statement.

The Deadline for all parts of the application will be May 5, 2006.

Donations are always needed and appreciated for the Foundation. Please contact Robin Fetsch at 703-532-8818 or robin@fetsch.com.

PTSA Officers

President
Treasurer

Recording Secretary

Corresponding Secretary

Vice President -- School Activities

Vice President – Communications

Vice President—Diversity Awareness and Liaison

Vice President—Fundraising

Kathleen McBride

Peggy Veroneau

Diane Weeks

Donna Pica

Diane Kilbourne

Beth Santos

Nelly Samaniego

Cindy Walker

mcwick@aol.com

veroneau2@hotmail.com

weeksd@washpost.com

picaeligourmetandwines@yahoo.com

jckilbourn@aol.com

santosfamily@cox.net

nellysamaniego@netscape.net

walker.cindy@verizon.net

Stuart Times

is Published Monthly by the J.E.B. Stuart PTSA

All submissions to the newsletter can be sent to Gokalp Babaoglu, Publisher, at jebnews@yahoo.com. Please format your entry as a **Microsoft Word** file attachment. Deadline for submissions is the Thursday after each monthly PTSA meeting.

If you would like to receive the newsletter electronically please signup with Keep in Touch. For PTSA membership information, please see the Stuart PTSA website (click on Membership) or contact Amy Hammond, dvh76@prodigy.net or Beth Gilmore, beth.gilmore@verizon.net.

Dates to Remember

February 27	“What College Bound Student Athletes Need to Know”
March 2	Winter Sports Awards
March 6	Athletic Boosters Meeting
March 7	Spring Sports-Meet the Coaches Night
March 8	Spring Sports Pictures
March 8	Music Boosters Meeting
March 15	Senior Cap & Gown Pictures
March 16	Faculty vs. Students Basketball Game
March 17	Spring Pep Rally
March 17 & 18	District X Choral Festival
March 18	Home Computer Orders at Parklawn 10:00 am – Noon
March 18	District X Music Festival
March 19	Taste of the Town
March 21	PTSA Meeting
March 23-26	Stuart’s Spring Musical “Cinderella”
March 28	Hispanic PTSA Meeting
April 7	Student Holiday
April 10-14	Spring Break
April 28	Coffee House
April 29	Raider Run
May 6	SAT at Stuart
May 11-13	Broadway Desserts
June 6	Graduation/All Night Party

J.E.B. Stuart High School

3301 Peace Valley Lane
Falls Church, VA 22044

**DATED MATERIAL
PLEASE EXPEDITE**

<p>Nonprofit Organization U.S. Postage PAID Permit No. 107 Falls Church, VA</p>
--