

The BEE MAIL

NAOMI L. BROOKS
ELEMENTARY PTA®

January 25, 2021

Rising 6th Grader Information

HELLO
6TH
Grade

In preparation for our rising 6th graders to transition to George Washington Middle School, GW is hosting a variety of orientation and informational events. Events are virtual and help prepare families and caregivers for what to expect, more about curriculum and elective options, and a glimpse of what middle school life is like. If you missed one - there are multiple events; check out dates and zoom information on this document.

ASA Rec League Soccer Registration



It's time to sign up for spring soccer! The ASA Rec League is an inclusive soccer program for kids of all abilities and experience levels, ages 4-19. The league is all about fun, fitness, and friendships! Teams practice once a week (near Naomi Brooks!) and play games on Saturdays in Alexandria. Teams are based on grade level and friends are encouraged to sign up and request to play together. **Registration closes on March 7.** Learn more at alexandria-soccer.org or give them a call at 703-684-5425.

We are very grateful to have the support of ASA for Brooks outdoor and athletic programs.

Spanish Webinar on Pediatric COVID-19

Vaccination - January 27, 6pm

The Alexandria Health Department is hosting a virtual webinar in Spanish for families to learn more about the COVID-19 vaccination. At this webinar, attendees will hear from Dr. Carolina Perez, a pediatrician from Neighborhood Health, along with Rosalia Fajardo, Executive Director of Multicultural Families, and Dr. Sergio Rimola, a member of the Virginia Latino Advisory Board. There will be information regarding the vaccine, the differences between the adult and child vaccines, and the impact that COVID has had on the Hispanic community. [The zoom link and password are included on this link.](#)

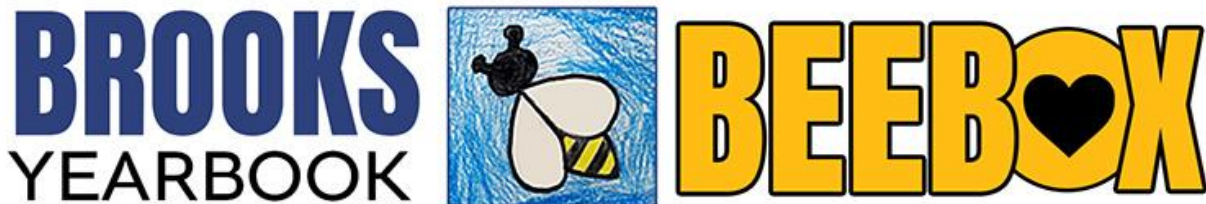
PTAC Summer Camp Directory



It may be winter now, but many camps are already opening up for summer registration! PTAC is again hosting a Camp Directory on our website. New camps are being listed regularly.

<http://alexvptac.org/summer-camp-directory-2022/>

Brooks Yearbook Information



[We're pleased to announce you can now purchase](#) a "BeeBox" (formerly Mariner Messages) for the 2021-2022 Brooks Yearbook.

Family members or friends can purchase space for a personal message to a student, a group of students, or even an entire class. Kids love them!

For the past few years the PTA has been able to give a yearbook to EVERY student for FREE — largely due to your purchases of these personalized messages.

Visit the BeeBox page for more information

YEARBOOK

Work is underway on the Brooks 2021-2022 Yearbook but we can't collect all of this year's great memories without your help!

Thank you to the parents that have already submitted photos.

Please send us photos of your student - at play, at work, enjoying Brooks, or other activities! You can [submit them via the Dropbox link here.](#)

PTA Leaders Needed for 2022-2023 School Year



WE NEED
YOU

Brooks PTA is led by an Executive Committee (EC) consisting of volunteer Elected Officers and the school principal. Officers serve a one-year term and are elected each year at our May meeting. They can serve up to two consecutive terms. We are currently seeking nominations for all officer positions. Together, the Executive Committee EC sets the budget for the upcoming fiscal year and meets monthly just prior to the general membership meetings to discuss ongoing issues and upcoming plans. Serving on the EC is a great leadership development opportunity!

Basic position descriptions are listed below. For more details, [see page 9 of our bylaws](#).

President - The President presides at all meetings, coordinates the work of the officers and committees, submits officer contact information and verification of our employer identification number (EIN) to the Virginia PTA state office, serves as an ex-officio member of all committees except the nominating committee. In addition, the Brooks PTA president sets the agenda for all meetings including inviting any guest speakers, and currently works closely with volunteers on diversity and inclusion and the room parent program. The President may serve on the Alexandria Council of PTAs (PTAC) or designate a representative.

President-Elect - The President-Elect position is being phased in the election year 2023 but we may elect a President-Elect for one more year if we have a candidate for it. The President-Elect acts as an aide to the president and performs the duties of the president in the absence or inability of that officer to act. This position automatically succeeds to the office of president at the end of their term.

Vice President of Programs - The VP of Programs currently has a number of items under their jurisdiction, including after school programming, Watch D.O.G.S., holiday singing event, back-to-school picnic, multicultural night, field day, outdoor/classroom garden, playground, Reflections art competition, and the spelling bee. Many of these programs and events have been on hold or adjusted during the pandemic. IMPORTANT NOTE: Most programs/events have a lead volunteer, requiring little oversight by the VP of Programs.

Vice President of Communications - The VP of Communications drafts and distributes weekly emails and manages the PTA's social media accounts and text reminders. The parent directory and yearbook also fall under communications, although we typically have separate lead volunteers for these.

Vice President of Fundraising - The VP of Fundraising oversees the spring festival team and manages book fairs, campus survival kits, community partners, dine-outs, spirit wear, and any other fundraising efforts. As with Programs and Communications, many of these duties are delegated to other point persons.

Secretary - The Secretary records the minutes of all meetings, keeps the official copy of the bylaws in their files, and maintains the membership list as required by Virginia PTA.

Treasurer - The Treasurer keeps account of receipts and expenditures, makes disbursements as authorized in accordance with the budget, has checks signed by two officers, presents financial statements at every meeting, prepares an annual financial report at the close of the fiscal year, handles the annual audit, remits

membership dues to the Virginia PTA, and submits all required documents to the Virginia PTA and the IRS.

If you are interested in serving in one of these positions, please reach out to any member of the Nominations Committee to discuss: Kelly Burnell (kyankowski@gmail.com), Erin Krinovich (erin.kriynovich@gmail.com) or Carrie Zager (clhami78@gmail.com).

Brooks Multicultural Cookbook

MULTICULTURAL



COOKBOOK

Last year, our school community came together to create a wonderful slide show that represented our different cultures and backgrounds in place of our annual Multicultural Night Event. While we still cannot gather in person, we want to share with our community the things that bring us all together...food! We have decided to compile a cookbook of all the delicious recipes from around the world that we typically enjoy at Multicultural Night. Students, families, and staff are all invited to participate.

You may want to represent the country your family is from, a country where you've lived, or even a country you've visited. Feel free to highlight a culture found within the United States as well (e.g., Hawaii, Puerto Rico, indigenous American cultures).

Click on [this link](#) for more directions and to create your submission. If you prefer to submit your recipe on paper, a template will be coming home in Thursday folders. Photos are encouraged, but no links or videos, please. This book will be printed.

Recipes should be shared with Katie Knowles (kathleen.knowles@acps.k12.va.us).

Please submit your recipes no later than February 25th.

Brooks Bee Brings Book to Kickstarter



Rocket around Brooks with 5th grader Emma Lynch! Emma has illustrated and helped her family write Rocket Around Washington DC - the first in a series of kids' travel and adventure books that feature Rocket the travel pug (Emma's real-life pet). Crowd-funding site Kickstarter is featuring a campaign through Feb. 8 to help with publishing and other costs for the book series. Join the campaign here - <http://kck.st/3r3z4C8> - and join Emma for a special Brooks-families-only Zoom class on Tuesday, Feb. 1 at 6:30 pm, where she'll teach kids how to illustrate Rocket and their own favorite pets. [Email Lee Lynch](#) for the Zoom link. Thanks for your interest!



When you shop at Amazon a portion of your purchase can benefit Naomi L. Brooks Elementary!

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/54-1991273>

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BROOKS SPIRIT WEAR ON SALE NOW!



Brooks Spirit Wear, now with the official Naomi L. Brooks Elementary logo is [on sale at SquadLocker](#).

10% Of Your Purchase Supports the PTA!

Upcoming Dates

- **January 28: Teacher Workday (NO SCHOOL)**
- **February 2-3: Teacher Conferences (NO SCHOOL)**
- **February 4: EARLY DISMISSAL / Teacher Conferences**

Frequently Requested Links

STAY CONNECTED

- Make sure you've [subscribed](#) to Ms. Hess' weekly emails and ACPS updates.
- Get PTA updates: Just text the message "@nlbrooks" to the number 81010 to sign up for this service provided by the PTA. Email brooks-bees+subscribe@googlegroups.com to receive emails. Like our [Facebook](#) page and follow [Brooks PTA on Twitter](#).
- Miss an email? Looking for [PTA meeting minutes](#)? Catch up on our website at brooksppta.org
- Need internet access? [Submit an Internet Access request](#).
- Need to add school closings to your calendar? Import the [Brooks PTA calendar](#)!

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