



Awards Applications

Applications should be submitted to your District Director based on local deadlines.
For more information about state deadlines, contact familyengagement@vapta.org
To find your District Director: <https://www.vapta.org/contact-us>
Units must be in good standing to apply.

This Awards Application Package should be used when apply for any of the following awards.
Check the award(s) for which you are applying and complete the respective application(s):

- I. Family Engagement Award
- II. Male Engagement Award
- III. Diversity & Inclusion Award
- IV. Volunteer of the Year Award (Elementary & Secondary)
- V. PTA Power Partner Awards (Elementary & Secondary Principal; Superintendent)

Local Unit PTA Name:

Local Unit PTA District:

Local Unit Web Address:

Local Unit PTA President's Name:

Local Unit PTA President's Email Address:

Name of Individual Nominating:

Nominating Individual's Email Address:

All Local Unit PTAs must be in Good Standing with Virginia PTA to be eligible for awards.

Good Standing Criteria:

- **Officers Information Sheet** - submitted to Virginia PTA (form at vapta.org)
- **Membership List** - uploaged into PTA Membership Database or submitted to state office.
- **Membership Dues** - mailed to Virginia PTA office
- **Audit** signed copy of annual audit submitted to Virginia PTA office
- **Copy of IRS 990** - copy of prior year's 990 submission to the IRS submitted to the Virginia PTA office
- **Bylaws** - submitted to and accepted by Virginia PTA office within the last five years

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Application Received _____	Unit Dues Paid _____	Audit Received _____
Budget Received _____	Bylaws Dated _____	No. of Members _____



I. FAMILY ENGAGEMENT AWARD

Award Purpose/Goal: To recognize a Local PTA Unit for their efforts in building parent and family engagement within the school and community.

Award Selection Criteria: Entries will be selected by a review panel consisting of past and present VAPTA board members. The winning Local PTA Unit will be selected on criteria consisting of 100 points, based on PTA's National Standards for Family-School Partnerships.

Please provide the required documentation that is determined to be relevant to this nomination. The responses should be provided in an attached document. **Please submit all documentation together in one envelope. Please list the Local PTA Unit name on each page/document.**

Please provide a description and evidence of implementation of at least two (2) items from each of six (6) standards listed and one (1) from the category of originality and innovation.

Standard 1: Welcoming All Families into the School Community (15 points)

Families are active participants in the life of the school, and feel welcomed, valued, and connected to each other, to school staff, and to what students are learning and doing in class.

- Offer family activities at low or no cost; budget PTA funds for this purpose.
- Set up a parent help desk outside the school office.
- Hold meetings in a variety of community locations or times.
- Similar activities?

Standard 2: Communicating Effectively (15 points)

Families and school staff engage in regular, two-way, meaningful communication about student learning.

- Engage school staff and parents in developing a parent handbook.
- Work with school staff to develop a weekly calendar of events.
- Work with parents and school staff to develop and utilize weekly/monthly newsletters.
- Similar activities?

Standard 3: Supporting Student Success (15 points)

Families and school staff continuously collaborate to support students' learning and healthy development both at home and at school, and have regular opportunities to strengthen their knowledge and skills to do so effectively.

- Create a checklist and tip sheet for effective parent-teacher conferences.
- Work with school leadership to have a workshop on interpreting standardized school tests (can be held in conjunction with regular PTA meetings).
- Provide parent involvement tips and suggestions through signs throughout the school or in a monthly newsletter.
- Similar activities?

Standard 4: Speaking Up for Every Child (15 points)

Families are empowered to be advocates for their own and other children, to ensure that students are treated fairly and have access to learning opportunities that will support their success.

- Sponsor a workshop or PTA meeting on how to ask the right questions about children's progress in school.
- Provide a school handbook to explain all school policies and procedures to families.
- Involve parents in training on topics, such as advocacy.
- Similar activities?

Standard 5: Sharing Power (15 points)

Families and school staff are equal partners in decisions that affect children and families and together inform, influence, and create policies, practices, and programs.

- Work in partnership with the principal to identify ways PTA can support one or more goals of the Local School Improvement Plan.
- Host a forum for candidates running for public office, or of elected officials, focusing on issues that affect children, families, and education.
- Invite parents and staff to share concerns and ideas by having a suggestion box in the front office that is easily accessible to all parents, sponsored by the PTA.
- Similar Activities?

Standard 6: Collaborating with the Community (15 points)

Families and school staff collaborate with community members to connect students, families, and staff to expanded learning opportunities, community services, and civic participation.

- Reach out to retired/senior citizens and invite them to volunteer at the school.
- Work with the local newspaper to promote special events that are happening at the school.
- Have a local business be a partner with your school and PTA.
- Similar Activities?

Originality and Innovation (10 points)

- Describe which of your programs/events mentioned in the application did not exist in your school/district/community prior to this challenge, or how you significantly changed/enhanced an existing program/event to improve the home-school health climate. You may also describe a new event that does not necessarily fall into any of the above categories that has significantly changed family engagement at your school.

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II. MALE ENGAGEMENT AWARD

Award Purpose/Goal: To recognize a Local PTA Unit for outstanding efforts in increasing meaningful activities and programs for male role models while promoting student achievement and community involvement.

Award Selection Criteria: Entries will be selected by a review panel consisting of past and present VAPTA board members. The winning Local PTA Unit will be selected on criteria consisting of 100 points.

Please provide the required documentation that is determined to be relevant to this nomination. The responses should be provided in an attached document. **Please submit all documentation together in one envelope. Please list the Local PTA Unit name on each page/document.**

1. Describe, in detail, your male engagement activities and goals and include a minimum of two (2) activities your PTA implemented to achieve the Award Purpose/goal. **(25 points)**
2. On which of the National Standards for Family-School Partnerships did your program focus? **(25 points)**

The National Standards for Family-School Partnerships are:

1. Welcoming All Families into the School Community - Create a welcoming PTA climate and contribute to a respectful, inclusive school community.
 2. Communicating Effectively – Communicate effectively with regular, two-way, meaningful communication about student learning.
 3. Supporting Student Success - Support student success by sharing information between parents and teachers and creating meaningful opportunities for family involvement in student development and learning.
 4. Speaking Up for Every Child - Speak up for every child by helping families understand how the school system works and empowering families to be self-advocates.
 5. Sharing Power - Share power by giving all families a voice in decision-making and developing connections between families and local and state officials.
 6. Collaborating with the Community - Connect families to community resources and develop the school as a community hub.
3. Describe your measurable results. What attitudes or behaviors changed as a result of your program? How did you measure your results? Overall number of students affected? **(20 points)**
 4. What role did your PTA play? What role did the community play? **(20 points)**
 5. Provide the percentage of students impacted by the program. **(10 points)**

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III. Diversity & Inclusion Award

Award Purpose/Goal: To recognize a Local PTA Unit for outstanding efforts in meaningful activities and programs that support diversity and inclusion.

Award Selection Criteria: Entries will be selected by a review panel consisting of past and present VAPTA board members. The winning Local PTA Unit will be selected on criteria consisting of 100 points.

Please provide the required documentation that is determined to be relevant to this nomination. The responses should be provided in an attached document. **Please submit all documentation together in one envelope. Please list the Local PTA Unit name on each page/document.**

Please limit responses to 200 words or less.

1. Does your PTA's current membership and leadership reflect the demographics of your PTA families, school and community? What differences characterize the children, families, neighborhoods and schools served by your PTA? **(20 points)**
2. How does your PTA communicate effectively by adapting to the needs of your diverse school community? Describe, in detail, how your PTA reached out to traditionally underrepresented groups. Include a minimum of two (2) activities your PTA implemented. **(25 points)**
3. Give examples of how your PTA engaged diverse families using the National Standards for Family-School Partnerships as a framework. **(25 points)**

The National Standards for Family-School Partnerships are:

1. Welcoming All Families into the School Community - Create a welcoming PTA climate and contribute to a respectful, inclusive school community.
2. Communicating Effectively – Communicate effectively with regular, two-way, meaningful communication about student learning.
3. Supporting Student Success - Support student success by sharing information between parents and teachers and creating meaningful opportunities for family involvement in student development and learning.
4. Speaking Up for Every Child - Speak up for every child by helping families understand how the school system works and empowering families to be self-advocates.
5. Sharing Power - Share power by giving all families a voice in decision-making and developing connections between families and local and state officials.
6. Collaborating with the Community - Connect families to community resources and develop the school as a community hub.

4. Describe how your PTA created and collaborated with community based organizations and other groups that are active in the neighborhoods served by your PTA. How were you able to share resources to better connect your PTA with traditionally underrepresented families? **(20 points)**

5. Describe and give at least two examples of how your PTA served as an information resource for parents, families, educators and community groups. **(10 points)**

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IV. Volunteer of the Year Award Elementary & Secondary

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Award Purpose/Goal: To recognize a Local PTA Volunteer who has made a positive impact on the school and its children. This special person does not need to be the person who logs the most volunteer hours or is a PTA executive board member. Letters of recommendation are not required, but will be accepted and considered if submitted.

Award Selection Criteria: Entries will be selected by a review panel consisting of past and present VAPTA board members. The winning Local PTA Unit will be selected on criteria consisting of 100 points.

Elementary (Pre-K – 5th Grade) Secondary (6th – 12th Grade)

Nominee Name:

Nominee’s Address:

Nominee’s City / Town / State / ZIP:

Nominee’s Email:

Nominee’s Phone:

Number of Years the Volunteer has served in your PTA:

Approximate Number of Hours (Per Week) Donated By the Volunteer:

Nominee’s Current Role / Position(s):

Specific Duties of the Volunteer:

Please provide the required documentation that is determined to be relevant to this nomination. The responses should be provided in an attached document. **Please submit all documentation together in one envelope. Please list the Local PTA Unit name on each page/document.**

Please limit responses to 200 words or less.

1. What makes the accomplishments of this nominee more significant than all other volunteers? **(25 points)**
2. Describe the Nominee’s innovative or unique approach in performing volunteer service. **(25 points)**
3. Describe how the Nominee mobilized other volunteers or generated increased resources. **(25 points)**
4. Describe the Nominee’s ongoing involvement rather than one-time activity. **(25 points)**

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VI.

Power Partner Award Elementary & Secondary Principal

Award Purpose/Goal: To recognize principals (elementary and secondary) from across the state who have shown that a strong family-school partnership is key to student success!

Award Selection Criteria: Entries will be selected by a review panel consisting of past and present VAPTA board members. The winning Local PTA Unit will be selected on criteria consisting of 100 points.

Elementary Principal (Pre-K – 5th Grade) **Secondary Principal (6th – 12th Grade)**

Nominee Name:

Nominee’s School District:

Nominee’s School Name:

Nominee’s Email:

Nominee’s Phone:

Please provide the required documentation that is determined to be relevant to this nomination. The responses should be provided in an attached document. **Please submit all documentation together in one envelope. Please list the Local PTA Unit name on each page/document.**

Please limit responses to 200 words or less.

1. Describe your principal’s leadership style / commitment to education in one sentence. **(25 points)**
2. How would the teachers on campus describe the ways this principal is committed to student achievement? **(25 points)**
3. How has your principal encouraged PTA growth and family engagement? **(25 points)**
4. Give an example of how the principal’s leadership style reflects the PTA’s vision of “Making every child’s potential a reality”. **(25 points)**

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VII.

Power Partner Award Superintendent

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Award Purpose/Goal: To recognize recognize superintendents from across the state who have shown that a strong family-school partnership is key to student success!

Award Selection Criteria: Entries will be selected by a review panel consisting of past and present VAPTA board members. The winning Local PTA Unit will be selected on criteria consisting of 100 points.

Nominee Name:

Nominee’s School District:

Nominee’s Email:

Nominee’s Phone:

Please provide the required documentation that is determined to be relevant to this nomination. The responses should be provided in an attached document. **Please submit all documentation together in one envelope. Please list the Local PTA Unit name on each page/document.**

Please limit responses to 200 words or less.

1. How does your superintendent enhance and support family engagement in the school district and beyond the school district? **(25 points)**
2. In what ways is your superintendent involved with the Council and/or Local Unit PTA? How does the superintendent encourage PTA membership growth? **(25 points)**
3. Describe how your superintendent promotes PTA in the school district and beyond the school district. **(25 points)**
4. Give an example of how your superintendent’s leadership style reflects the PTA’s vision of “Making every child’s potential a reality”. **(25 points)**

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