



# THE VICTOR VOICE



A Publication of PTSA  
Victor Parent ▲ Teacher ▲ Student Association

September 2008

Volume I, Issue I

## You Could Be the Missing Piece!



The Victor PTSA is in your hands. Join today!

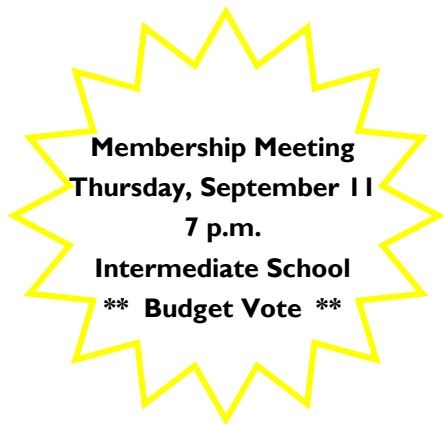
### Join the PTSA!

The Victor PTSA invites you to join us and unite to make a difference in the education and quality of life for our children.

Victor PTSA cares about our schools as well as the out-of-school influences that mold today's children. Our PTSA also understands the importance of parent involvement in the education of children and works to provide those opportunities. We truly believe that education is a partnership between families and school.

September is PTSA Membership Month. Membership is open to all parents, students, faculty and community members. Because of supporters like you, our membership doubled last year. It is through your membership dues and fundraising efforts that we are able to provide educational and fun programming for your children. You are the missing piece and we simply cannot do it without you.

Join the PTSA today and become a member of America's number one parent involvement resource. For more information or to join, contact Jen Pearson @ 742-2314 or log on to our website at [www.myteacherpages.com/webpages/VICTORPTSA](http://www.myteacherpages.com/webpages/VICTORPTSA).



**Membership Meeting**  
**Thursday, September 11**  
**7 p.m.**  
**Intermediate School**  
**\*\* Budget Vote \*\***

## Reflections: Wow!

Unleash your child's talents! Reflections is a program whose purpose is to provide an opportunity for students to use their creative talents by expressing themselves through their own original works of art. The arts are an important part of every child's education. And, just as important, this project is fun!

Students in Pre-K through 12th are encouraged to submit works

of art in the following areas: Literature, musical composition, photography, dance/ choreography, film/video production and visual arts (which includes art forms such as drawing, painting, print making and collages).

Each year, the Reflections Program challenges students to create art that relates to a specific theme. This year's theme

is "Wow!". We are very excited to see how the children will interpret this concept. The deadline for submitting entries is Nov. 10. For more info., go to the Victor PTSA website at [www.myteacherpages.com/webpages/Victor PTSA](http://www.myteacherpages.com/webpages/Victor PTSA), Reflections Art Program or contact Wendy Glaess at 924-7455 or [kwglaess@frontiernet.net](mailto:kwglaess@frontiernet.net).

## Presidents' Message

Welcome to a new year!

Already we are off to an exciting and energetic start. This year, we have an amazing board of volunteers who are committed to PTSA, our mission and the children.

We plan on kicking off the school year with a few of our most popular fundraisers, Spiritwear, the Book Fairs and Entertainment Books. We are looking forward to a successful outcome from these events so that we can support the activities, programs and events that benefit all of our children.

Each of the buildings have been very busy planning events such as author visits, special presentations, dances, movie nights, etc. We welcome and encourage everyone to consider volunteering at any of these events.

We look forward to seeing all of you in the schools, at events and at our monthly PTSA meetings. Please check the school calendar for meeting dates and visit our PTSA website at [www.myteacherpages.com/webpages/VICTORPTSA](http://www.myteacherpages.com/webpages/VICTORPTSA).

Thank you,

Jennifer Mehigan & Tammy Rogers  
PTSA Co-Presidents

## Upcoming Events

### **Spiritwear**

Show your school spirit and check out some of our new and exciting items available for youth and adults.

New this year...

- Flannel pants
- Antigua Golf Shirts w/Dri-Weave
- Larger sizes
- Shoelaces

Don't miss us at the PTSA Booth during Hang Around Victor Days on Sat., Sept. 6!  
Questions? Call Lesley Behnke at 924-

### **Book Fairs**

Swing on over to one of our Book Fairs during September! The theme this year is A Jungle Safari so keep your eyes open... you never know when you'll see a book-lovin' monkey!

**Intermediate Book Fair: Sept. 15-19**

**Primary Book Fair: Sept. 22-26**

Interested in volunteering?

Contact Michele Loffredo at 742-1351 or shello1128@netscape.net

### **Entertainment Books**

Who isn't interested in saving money? These books give you the perfect opportunity to do just that! Buy one for yourself or better yet, get two and share one with a friend! Makes a great gift!

Available at all PTSA tables during Open Houses and events. You may also contact Karen Ballard at 742-3293 or kballard@schoolworld.com •

**Interested in learning more?**

**[www.myteacherpages.com/webpages/VICTORPTSA](http://www.myteacherpages.com/webpages/VICTORPTSA)**

## **Safeguarding Your Children from Bullying**

Bullying is often considered a "kids will be kids" problem. According to the National School Safety Center, however, bullying has become a pervasive and serious form of harassment in many schools. Elementary school-age children are the most frequent target of bullying by older students. The best way to safeguard your children from becoming a victim of a bully is to teach them how to be assertive. This involved encouraging your children to express their feelings clearly, to say no when they feel pressured or uncomfortable, to stand up for themselves verbally without fighting and to walk away in more dangerous situations. Bullies are less likely to intimidate children who are confident and resourceful.

### **Tips for Helping Children Deal with Bullies**

- Teach your children early on to steer clear of youth with bullying behavior.
- Teach your children to be assertive rather than aggressive or violent when confronted by a bully. Instruct them to walk away and get help from an adult in more dangerous situations. Practice various responses with your children through role-playing.
- Teach your children to never defend themselves from bullies with a gun or other weapon.
- Keep communication lines open with your children. Encourage your children to share information about school and school-related activities.
- Pay attention to the following symptoms that may indicate your child is being bullied: withdrawal, abrupt lack of interest in school, a drop in grades or signs of physical abuse.
- If your child is a victim of bullying at school, inform school officials immediately. Keep your own written records of the names, dates, times and circumstances of bullying incidents. Submit a copy of this report to the school principal.
- Respond to your children's concerns and fears with patience, love and support.

To learn more on this topic, please join us at our next membership meeting on Nov. 5 at 7 p.m.. Following our meeting, Jim Colt will be speaking about bullying issues. He is currently co-authoring a book on this subject.