

# The Sangster Source

A newsletter from the Sangster PTA

MARCH ISSUE  
March 14, 2013

## PTA NOTES AND NEWS

Happy 25th Anniversary, Sangster Elementary! Thank you for helping our school celebrate this special milestone and encouraging your students to perform 25 good deeds in its honor. We hope it was a great experience for your children and now becomes a part of regular life. You can continue to encourage that behavior by discussing their good deeds, giving gentle reminders, congratulating them when they do them and thinking of more good deeds to add to their lists.

It's spring, and that means preparations are already underway for April's Sangster Fun Fair. **Joyce Maryanopolis** has been leading this effort for several years and would like to start training another volunteer for future years. If you're interested in helping Joyce and learning the ropes for the Fun Fair, please e-mail her at [funfair@sangsterpta.org](mailto:funfair@sangsterpta.org).

The library is also still looking for volunteers to help until the end of the year. If you are interested in being a library volunteer, please e-mail [sangsterlibrary@gmail.com](mailto:sangsterlibrary@gmail.com). It takes everyone's help to make these programs run as smoothly as they do!

On March 18 and 19, we will hold "Sangster Nights" at Ledo's Pizza in West Springfield. We will receive 20% of all dine-in sales and

20% of all takeout sales if you mention it's for the Sangster fundraiser. It's another way to support a local business and earn some extra dollars at the same time. Flyers will be coming home as reminders, and we encourage everyone to participate. The more people who come in or get takeout, the more money we raise! Tell friends, neighbors and coworkers!

**"Using technology in the classroom has long been a priority for Sangster, and we want to continue that tradition."**

Speaking of fundraising dollars, the PTA recently voted to purchase a cart of 30 iPads for classroom use. Using technology in the classroom has long been a priority for Sangster, and we want to continue that tradition.

To do so, we must continue with our fundraisers and allocate additional money to our technology budget. It takes approximately \$15,000 to purchase enough iPads for one classroom – so this will be a work in progress for many years to come (but we can do it!).

Years ago, it was a dream to have Smart Boards for each grade level. Then we changed the goal to every classroom – and we did it! We are so fortunate to have those Smart Boards for our students. Now, as we continue to make new technology a

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**Sangster Elementary**  
**PTA**  
*everychild.onevoice.*



### Sangster Elementary School

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Fax: (703) 644-8297  
Attendance: (703) 644-8282  
[fcps.edu/SangsterES](http://fcps.edu/SangsterES)



### Dates to Remember

Wednesday, March 20  
Nana Puddin Assembly

Monday, March 25-Friday, March 29  
Spring Break

Thursday, April 4  
PTA Meeting, 7 p.m.

Friday, April 3  
End of Third Quarter

Monday, April 8  
Kindergarten Orientation, 2 p.m.

Monday, April 15  
Teacher Work Day

Friday, April 19  
Sangster Fun Fair

Tuesday, April 30-Friday May 3  
Annie Jr.

Thursday, May 9  
PTA Meeting, 7 p.m.

**In the Spring, I have counted 136 different kinds of weather inside of 24 hours.**

— Mark Twain



## Sangster Night at Ledo's Pizza

The West Springfield Ledo's Pizza (8324 Old Keene Mill Road) is offering a chance to enjoy a great family dinner while raising money for Sangster Elementary on Monday, March 18 and Tuesday, March 19 from 5-9 p.m. Sangster receives 20% of all dine-in sales for each night! Sangster also receives 20% of takeout orders when mentioning Sangster! Call ahead for takeout: (703) 451-5336.

Bring a friend, and tell your neighbors too!

## FROM YOUR PRINCIPAL

CHRIS SUMMERS

Happy Spring! I hope everyone has big fun planned for spring break, which is March 25-29. Please note that the main office will be closed that week.

I want to give a big thank-you to the Sangster PTA for all the support it provides the school and our students. In addition, the new electronic marquee, which was funded by the PTA, is absolutely amazing! It will be nice to program messages for the community in a quick couple of minutes instead of having to switch individual letters out.

Currently, our fifth-grade students are taking the Virginia state standards of learning (SOLs) writing test – we are confident they are doing a great job.

As a reminder, all SOLs will be administered online this year. Doing the tests online will let us receive the results in a much more timely fashion. The SOL testing window for the remainder of the tests is in late May.

With the arrival of beautiful spring weather and daffodils brings the planning for the next school year – 2013-2014. In the coming weeks, you will receive a student information sheet. You are welcome to fill this out and turn it in to your student's current teacher. This information will help us place your student in a class for next year.

While it is always tempting to request a specific teacher, I ask that you do not do this. Instead,

please list your student's qualities and the environment you feel he or she thrives in. Requesting specific teachers can be frustrating for all involved, because some teachers choose to leave Sangster for a variety of reasons and some teachers might be assigned to a new position in the building based on what the total school needs. In planning for next year, we anticipate holding a kindergarten orientation on Monday, April 8, at 2 p.m.

I hope everyone has a wonderful and relaxing spring break. Before we know it, we'll all be digging out bathing suits, heading to the pool and talking about summer vacations!

## PTA NOTES AND NEWS

LINDA WHITESTONE

*Continued from the cover*

long-term commitment, we have to focus our efforts on getting more iPads so our students can learn the different manipulations and applications that are available to help with their curriculum.

At the February PTA meeting, fifth-grade teacher **Jennifer Lambert** gave an exciting presentation on the multiple uses of iPads during class time. It was eye-opening (and jaw-dropping) to see the resources that

could be available to our students if we had more iPads for them to use. For example, Ms. Lambert shared apps that let students more effectively take and organize notes, create and practice spelling lists, organize fun and illustrated writing pieces, and practice Virginia SOL content. It was exciting to see how quickly students would be able to research and access information during a lesson, which would encourage 100% engagement and let the teachers use multiple resources to help students

better understand the content presented in every grade level.

Ms. Lambert also modeled how the iPads would be a quick and accurate form of assessment on a daily basis, allowing teachers to more quickly intervene when a student is struggling with a concept. iPads would also be very valuable during Falcon Time, when teachers could use apps and Internet sites as a fun means of intervention to focus on skills that have not yet been mastered by a student.

We are hoping to post the helpful educational apps that are being used in the classroom on our Web site so that students can continue this entertaining form of practice at home as well. It's an exciting time at Sangster!

March is off to a cold start, but spring is here and we will have warmer days very soon. Happy spring, everyone!

### Fun Fair Volunteers Needed



Mark your calendars now for Sangster's Annual Fun Fair, which will be held on **Friday, April 19 from 5:30-8:30 p.m.**! For a successful event, we need your help. We need volunteers to order/manage pizza sales and to set up the cakewalk on the day of the event. For more information or to volunteer, please e-mail Joyce Maryanopolis at [FunFair@SangsterPTA.org](mailto:FunFair@SangsterPTA.org).

# NORTHERN VIRGINIA DISTRICT REFLECTIONS RESULTS

The Northern Virginia (NOVA) District PTA has announced the winners for its district (Alexandria, Arlington and Fairfax counties and cities of Fairfax and Falls Church). See [novadistrictpta.org/reflections/documents/2013nova-districtreflawards.pdf](http://novadistrictpta.org/reflections/documents/2013nova-districtreflawards.pdf) for a full listing of winners. Sangster winners are listed below.

ly planned for March 18; see [novadistrictpta.org/reflections/reflections.htm](http://novadistrictpta.org/reflections/reflections.htm) for details.

The NOVA winners will be contacted by the NOVA District to provide information on the date of their awards ceremony. State PTAs will vote on which award recipient will compete nationally by March 1, 2013.

Again, we on the Sangster Elementary PTA Reflections Committee would like to thank each participant for his or her beautiful entries in this wonderful program.

If you have any questions, please feel free to e-mail [Reflections@sangsterpta.org](mailto:Reflections@sangsterpta.org).

An awards ceremony is tentative-

Arts Category	Grade Level	Cluster	Student	Recognition	Award Winner
Literature	Special Artist	6	Charles Nguyen	Outstanding Interpretation	Outstanding Interpretation
Photography	Special Artist	6	Charles Nguyen	Outstanding Interpretation	Outstanding Interpretation
Visual Arts	Special Artist	6	Charles Nguyen	Outstanding Interpretation	Outstanding Interpretation
Dance	Primary	6	Serena Sindhi	Outstanding Interpretation	
Literature	Primary	6	Lauren Green	Outstanding Interpretation	

## Sangster Fundraising Opportunities



Did you know that you can support Sangster with your everyday purchases? Check out these easy ways to help your school!

- **Shop with Amazon:** Find the Amazon link on the Sangster PTA home page ([sangsterpta.org](http://sangsterpta.org)) under "Useful School Links." Raise money for Sangster just by buying items on Amazon!
- **Collect Box Tops:** Cut out box tops from selected products, and turn them in to your child's teacher.
- **My Coke Rewards:** Purchase Coke products and enter codes online.
- **Giant/Safeway:** Go to the store's Web site, enter your loyalty card number, and designate Sangster as your school of choice. You can also e-mail your bonus card numbers to Ms. Jankovich at [ALJankovich@fcps.edu](mailto:ALJankovich@fcps.edu).

## Fundraising Results!

So far this year, Sangster has raised **\$3,136.50** from Box Tops and **\$5,155** through Giant. Please continue to send in your Box Tops and make sure your Giant/Safeway bonus cards are linked to Sangster (see box at left for details). Thanks so much for your support!

## PTA Officers

**President: Linda Whitestone**  
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