

Valley Central Teachers' Association

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Affiliated with the New York State United Teachers, American Federation of Teachers, NEA, AFL-CIO

September 2009

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The Valley Central Teachers' Association (VCTA) represents 450 teachers, 160 paraprofessionals and 20 secretaries that work within the Valley Central School District. Our membership also includes 180 District retirees. The VCTA was founded in the 1958 and has continued to be a positive presence within the community.

Our logo includes the phrase "putting children center." Children are our focus. Their well-being and education are the driving force behind our decisions both inside and outside of the classroom. This focus has motivated the VCTA to remain politically active at the state level with regard to both elected officials and the New York State Education Department. Children are the reason we work with the district to improve building conditions, working conditions and learning environments. We stand in a circle...member to member...no first place...no last...keeping our children in the center so that they may continue to learn and grow, laugh and play, think and reason.

Members of the Valley Central Teachers' Association are very active in the Valley Central community. Each year VCTA members support the following worthy causes:

- ❑ Montgomery Food Pantry;
- ❑ Little League Organizations from all three VC Villages;
- ❑ Hudson Valley Blood Services;
- ❑ American Cancer Society, including Making Strides Against Breast Cancer & Relay for Life;
- ❑ American Heart Association;
- ❑ United Way Campaign; and
- ❑ Multiple Scholarships for Students.

Many of our members participate in "dress down" or casual days to raise money for a variety of outreach projects. Visit our website at www.vcta.net to view our *Fundraising* page, highlighting our recent contributions to worthy causes. Also, visit our *Scholarship* page to see a list of our scholarship winners throughout the years. Our site also has a wealth of curriculum links covering all subject areas and grade levels.

Many of our members live right here in the Valley Central community—over half of the school district's employees are residents. Many of our members are Valley Central graduates who have returned home to work in the same community in which they were raised. We feel this makes quite a statement regarding how special it is to live and work within this community. In fact, VC graduate and current high school math teacher, Debbie Calvino, has just been named the 2010 New York State Teacher of the Year by the New York State Education Department.

We have included a pencil, magnet and mouse pad with this letter as a reminder of the VCTA's commitment to the children of Valley Central. Please join us in "putting children center" by communicating regularly with your child's teachers and other school community members. We wish your child growth and success throughout the school year.

Sincerely,

Timothy M. Brown

Richard Steger

Patricia Lunden

Jennie Sexton

Scott Warner



Timothy M. Brown, *President*

Richard Steger, *Vice President* • Patricia Lunden, *Vice President* • Scott Warner, *Secretary* • Jennie Sexton, *Treasurer*
There are no greater advocates for children and education than teachers and teacher unions.