



# FANS

## News & Notes

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Nov/Dec 2006

### **Joanne Uyeda Named Principal of the Year!**

The biggest news at Abingdon these days is that Principal Joanne Uyeda was named Arlington Public Schools 2006 PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR and was granted The Washington Post's Distinguished Educational Leadership Award for Arlington. In an APS press release, Superintendent Dr. Robert Smith notes, "After her experience at Glebe Elementary School, where she succeeded in transforming the atmosphere of the school and its community, Joanne requested the challenging assignment of leading Abingdon Elementary School. She was able to turn around both institutions through inspiring leadership and a clear focus on instructional improvement that galvanized their faculties and parent bodies."

We are extremely proud of Joanne and the amazing school that she and her staff have created. To read the full text of the press release, see [http://www.arlington.k12.va.us/SCR/news/0607/20061109\\_poy\\_award.shtml](http://www.arlington.k12.va.us/SCR/news/0607/20061109_poy_award.shtml).

### **One Party After Another**

In a ceremony at the Washington Post's headquarters on the evening of November 20, Joanne Uyeda and principals representing other public school districts received the Post's Distinguished Educational Leadership awards. Read more at <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2006/11/20/AR2006112001274.html>.

And on the evening of November 30, the Arlington School Board recognized Joanne's achievements in a Principal-of-the-Year ceremony and reception. The event was well-attended by Abingdon teachers, parents, and staff who came out to show their support.

### **Abingdon Wows the Fairlington Citizens' Association (FCA)**

On November 14, Joanne Uyeda and Abingdon teachers talked to FCA board members about the great things going on at the school, including its full accreditation and passing Annual Yearly Progress (AYP) under the No Child Left Behind act for two consecutive years.

PTA Co-president, Colleen Weiser, reports that the board seemed truly impressed. She notes that one member remarked, "Although I don't have children in school, I am very interested in keeping up to date on our neighborhood school. I really appreciate all the articles in the Bulletin. We need to get the word out about the fabulous program that you have at Abingdon! A school such as Abingdon has a lot to offer our young Fairlington families and will help keep our neighborhood desirable and keep our property values up."

Architecture teacher, Mr. McDavitt, and Communications/Claymation teacher, Ms. Abbott, showed off children's work, including a giant totem pole, and a movie written, directed, filmed and edited by 3rd graders.

As reported by the December issue of the All Fairlington Bulletin, President Daniels "congratulated Uyeda on the school's accomplishments under her tenure," adding that "the programs are so exciting that she wished she was back in elementary school again"!

### **Math Smart at Abingdon**

Abingdon's Math Instruction Resource Teacher, Ms. Carrie Wolfe, spoke to parents at the monthly PTA meeting on November 28 about theories and activities that Abingdon teachers use to help children become "math smart". The meeting started out in the computer lab where parents tried out a few math websites. (Handouts of math websites were provided.)

Ms. Wolfe then guided parents through a sampler of student math activities. Finally, Ms. Wolfe spoke about Abingdon math programs like "Investigations Curriculum" and "Every Day Counts Calendar Math."

### **Family Game Night: Friday, December 8 (6-8 p.m.)**

(Brought to you by Abingdon Elementary PTA) Join Abingdon families in the school cafeteria for a night of board games and card games. Bring your own, or play games on hand such as chess, checkers, parcheesi, cards, etc. Fairlington Creative Preschool families are welcome too!

This is a great opportunity to have fun with your kids, meet other Abingdon families, and maybe even come up with great gift ideas for your kids. Plus: refreshments and door prizes.

If you plan on attending Family Game Night, please contact Tina Masciangioli at 703-931-7086 or [tina.masc@verizon.net](mailto:tina.masc@verizon.net).

### **Google Indexes FANS Website**

The FANS website ([www.friendsofabingdon.org](http://www.friendsofabingdon.org)) has been online since September, but it took a while for the site to show up in the internet's most popular search engine. Without knowing the address, you can find our site by just typing in a few keywords. For example, "fans" "abingdon" and "school" brings you right to the FANS site. We hope our visibility on the internet will help further spread the word about Abingdon and its excellent programs.

If you have a comment or suggestion about FANS or its newsletter, please contact us at [fans@fastmail.net](mailto:fans@fastmail.net) or visit us on the web at [www.friendsofabingdon.org](http://www.friendsofabingdon.org).