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2019-21 Self-Nominees



Pamela Croom, self-nominee, President elect, believes there is no better way to help our school communities than to be on the front lines and this marks her 29th year as a PTA member and leader. Currently, Pam serves as the VP of Training, where she was instrumental in the coordination and design of the new regional summer leadership training model across 4 regions of the state, created 2 training think tanks to plan and execute training workshops, while simultaneously fulfilling the VAPTA Communications Chair position where she increased VAPTA's social media presence and leader participation

in legislative, programs and grant opportunities, served 4 years on the Administration & Policies Committee – 3 years as chair, and member of the Restructure and Bylaws Committees. Pam also serves on the Peninsula District PTA Board and KHS PTA Secretary. By day, she is the Workforce & Business Development Coordinator for the city of Hampton where she serves as an advocate for workforce development on a local and regional level. Pam's community service history has afforded her the opportunity to have served in various elected local and council PTA positions, chair numerous fundraising and educational committees, stakeholder on several Hampton City Schools strategic planning committees, Hampton City Council School Board Election Review Committee, program coordinator and board member for Hampton Education Foundation, youth coordinator for Downtown Hampton Exchange Club to include being a charter member and Secretary. In all the positions, she has been a dedicated key communicator in assisting with engagement and branding of the respective organizations. Pam is married with a blended family and the proud parent of six children; three biological, one stepchild and two heart babies; her niece and nephew who are special needs and advocates daily to ensure they receive the services and opportunity to become productive adults. Pam is looking forward to fostering openness, inclusiveness, and a welcoming atmosphere as we maintain and grow VAPTA and foster the best possible learning environments for ALL children.

2019-21 Self-Nominees (Cont'd)



Christian Mayer, self-nominated candidate for Vice President of Programs has been involved in PTA since age eight when she attended her first state conference. Christian has served as student representative to the Virginia Board of Managers and is currently the youth representative to the National PTA Board of Directors where she also serves as chair of the Youth Engagement Committee. Through her committee she has worked to assist local units in making the switch from PTA to PTSA and helped plan the first National PTA Youth Advocacy Summit held in October of 2018. It is because of PTA and her exposure to advocacy that she is studying government in hope of becoming a lobbyist for education and public school students. Now she is working as a substitute teacher and hopes her experiences in education will only make her a stronger advocate in the future. Vice President of Programs is a position that excites Christian because she says our PTA programs are just that, exciting! When she was in grade school she was a Reflections finalist and when she was on the Virginia Board of Managers she was among the group that created Power Plates. Christian believes that our association has a real opportunity with our programs to promote involvement from our local units and to recognize the exceptional students in our school buildings. Christian believes that while increasing membership is a clear need for our association, engaging a new generation of members must be a priority. Youth are not only our world's future leaders but future mothers and fathers and the future of our association.



Scott Rhyne, self-nominated candidate for Vice President of Programs is a former stay-at-home dad, his understanding of the mission of PTA has helped further the ideals of the organization and promotion of family engagement. As the former Virginia PTA state secretary, he was able to see firsthand how the integrity of the organization must be maintained and strive to do just that with his record keeping skills. As current District Director, he uses his PTA knowledge to support the local units in his district to succeed. Now that he works full-time, Scott's job allows him the flexibility to travel as needed in his various PTA roles. Being the longest consecutive serving member of Virginia PTA's Board of Directors, Scott believes he sees all-to-well the challenges facing our association. Having served on both the Bylaws and A&P Committee he sees the governance of the association and how our efforts impact every local unit under our care. Being able to look at the whole picture affords him the opportunity to affect the landscape of our advocacy efforts. Relying on his history with Virginia PTA he feels he can share his knowledge of where we've been as we strive to fulfil the vision of our incoming president. When it comes to advocating for our students, our teachers, our families, our schools, Scott believes there is no "I", there is only "we" and our vision should be: "Care for our brand. Care for each other. Care for our association. When we care for our brand and each other, our association prospers. When we care for our association and our brand, our care for each other strengthens." Scott plans to use his experience to foster a new era of advocacy. Where programs are more than awards but action. Where action is more than obligation but duty.