What is TSA?

The Technology Student Association, is an organization that allows students to excel in leadership and technological literacy. TSA is the only organization that focuses specifically on students enrolled in or have taken technology education courses. Currently TSA is composed of over 16,000 students in Virginia alone. TSA was originally established in 1978 as the American Industrial Arts Student Association (AIASA). In 1988, AIASA changed its name to the Technology Student Association (TSA) to reflect the commitment to the dynamic field of technology and the future. Technology education students who join are then challenged with multiple competitions ranging from fashion design to Co2 Dragster. They can compete in these competitions at the Regional, State, and National level.
Technosphere 2009 Review

The 2009 Virginia TSA Technosphere exceeded many expectations, mine included. Excitement, nervousness, and frustration were in the air as students rushed from one competition to another. All you saw were blurs that weekend as advisors, and parents made sure students were where they needed to be. Many alumni, although they were longing to compete themselves, were there to help out wherever needed. The general sessions and the guest speaker brought in by the Virginia TSA Executive Council were inspirational. After all the competitions and elections had been completed, students were able to relax and meet new people at the mixer. Students danced, tried their hand at singing, and some just hung out and talked. With the weekend coming to a close, the awards ceremony was a very memorable moment as students came up and stood on stage, anticipating the moment of truth, hoping that they would win. As the ceremony came to an end the new Virginia TSA Executive Council was sworn in and the old council stepped down. We are now ready to start a new year. Many students came together that weekend from all walks of life and made the 2009 Technosphere one of the best yet.

Respectfully Submitted,
Nickhil Patel

State Community Service Project

On the weekend of July 4th-6th, the new officers were hard at work verifying the schedule, and finalizing the treasury report. In addition to these things taking place, a new state community service project was motioned and passed. Virginia TSA has set a goal to raise $3,000 by Technosphere 2010. These funds will provide a one of a kind opportunity; to bring the technology student association to middle and high schools where money to pay for membership dues poses a problem. Participation in this fundraising also makes you eligible to apply for the Virginia Community Service Award. All contributions raised from June 2009 to April 2010 will be tallied and counted towards this goal. Forms will be available online so chapters can record their efforts. The deadline for submitting your contributions is April 2, 2010. The following awards will be bestowed during the State Conference, depending on the amount of funds contributed.

Fund award Levels
White Award: $10- $49
Scarlet Award: $50- $99
Navy Award: $100 -$500
Gold Award: $500 and above
### National TSA Finalists

#### Middle School

**Agriculture and Biotechnology Challenge**  
Blackburg Middle School placed 1st  
Louisa County Middle School placed 10th  
**Challenging tech issues**  
E. B. Stanley Middle School placed 8th  
**Communications Challenge**  
Stephanie Sowers from James Madison Middle School placed 8th  
**Cyberspace Pursuit**  
E. B. Stanley Middle School placed 5th  
**Digital Photography Challenge**  
Brianna Casey from E. B. Stanley Middle School placed 9th  
**Dragster Design Challenge**  
John Shirn from T. Benton Gayle Middle School placed 9th  
**Electrical Applications**  
Chris Kim from Franklin Middle School placed 7th  
**Electronic Game Challenge**  
Key Middle School placed 6th  
John Yeates Middle School placed 10th  
**F1 in Schools**  
James Madison Middle School placed 1st  
Brekinridge Middle School placed 5th  
Franklin Middle School placed 10th

#### High School

**Agriculture and Biotechnology Design**  
Turner Ashby High School placed 5th  
**Animatronics**  
Colonial Forge High School placed 5th  
Landstown High School placed 7th  
**Architectural Model**  
Colonial Forge High School placed 8th  
Hickory High School placed 9th  
**CAD Architecture with Animation**  
Joe Denker from West Springfield High School placed 4th  
**CAD Engineering with Animation**  
Peter Restrepo from Shenandoah High School placed 8th  
**Career Comparisons**  
Luke Quigley from Abingdon High School placed 8th  
Clara Chan from Deep Run High School placed 9th  
**Chapter Team**  
Colonial Forge High School placed 9th  
**Construction Systems**  
Highland Springs High School placed 4th  
Hickory High School placed 5th  
James Wood High School placed 10th  
**Cyberspace Pursuit**  
Abingdon High School placed 2nd  
**Debating Technological Issues**  
Abingdon High School placed 8th  
**Desktop Publishing**  
Kelsey Sasportas from Colonial Forge High School placed 4th  
**Dragster Design**  
Christopher Wheeler from Highland Springs High School placed 10th

### Middle school with most finalists:

**E. B. Stanley Middle School**

### High school with the most 1st places:

**Colonial Forge High School**

### High school with the most finalists:

**Colonial Forge High School**

### High school with the most 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place awards:

**Colonial Forge High School**
Hello Virginia TSA! My name is Donald Garrett. I'm a current senior at Deep Run High School and it is my distinct privilege to serve as your 2009-2010 Virginia TSA Secretary. I have been on the State Executive Council for 3 years and I'm looking forward to this one! As your secretary, it will be my primary duty to take the minutes of the various meetings of the Virginia Association of the Technology Student Association. In years past, these official documents have not been readily available for members to audit; however, I am going to try my hardest to get the minutes of all the meetings archived on the Virginia TSA Website. I also look forward to serving on many committees of this association. On the National TSA Concerns Committee I want to make sure Virginia's voice is heard on a national level. I also will work with the Website Committee to ensure that all members are receiving up-to-date information on the happenings of Virginia TSA. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to email me at virginiatasasecretary@yahoo.com

Respectfully Submitted,
Donald Garrett
Virginia TSA Secretary
**Treasurer: Clara Chan**

Hello Virginia TSA! My name is Clara Chan, and I am your 2009-2010 Virginia TSA State Treasurer. Thank you for all your support and allowing me to serve another term. This is my fourth term serving on the Executive Council and third term as Virginia TSA State Treasurer. I have served as your 2008-2009 Virginia TSA State Secretary, your 2007-2008 Virginia TSA State Treasurer, your 2006-2007 Virginia TSA State Treasurer, and many regional offices within the South Central Region. I will make it my goal to attend Executive Council meetings, the New Officers Workshop, the State Leadership Academy, and the National TSA Conference. As Virginia TSA State Treasurer, I will review the Virginia TSA financial records, make recommendations for the annual budget, assist the Enterprising and Auditing Committees, review the status of the budget, file a budget report, audit financial records, prepare a budget summary of income and expenditures, and make a final report at the annual business meeting. I believe that organization and communication are key to successful leadership and would like to encourage all TSA members to keep in contact with their local, regional, state, and national representatives. Thank you and I hope everyone has a great year!

Respectfully Submitted,
Clara Chan
Virginia TSA Treasurer

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**Reporter: Joshua Kovacs**

Hello Virginia TSA. I am Joshua Kovacs and I am your 2009-2010 Virginia TSA Reporter. Currently I am a rising Sophomore at Colonial Forge High School. I have been in TSA since my freshman year, and in the past two years I have placed at the state level and participated at the national level. I am really looking forward to doing all I can to increase the popularity of TSA throughout Virginia. In addition to TSA I am also the Bravo Company Commander in the Colonial Forge JROTC Battalion, and an active member in SCA. I look forward to the upcoming year, and plan to converse directly to all who are part of Virginia TSA.

Respectfully Submitted,
Joshua Kovacs
Virginia TSA Reporter

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**Sergeant-at-arms: Chase Clay**

Hi my name is Chase Clay and I’m your 2009-2010 State Sergeant-At-Arms. I was the South Central Region Sergeant-At-Arms for the 2008-2009 school year, and I was the local Sergeant-At-Arms for my 6th and 7th grade year. I’m a rising 8th grader and I go to Short Pump Middle School. I have been in TSA for my 6th and 7th grade year and I have enjoyed every bit of it. I have been under the wisdom of my advisor Samuel Turner and my brother Tyler Clay. I have been at Short Pump for two of the four straight championships. I enjoy any construction like challenge in TSA and my favorite challenge that I have competed in is Dragster Challenge.

Other than TSA, I play baseball and basketball for recreational teams in the spring and winter. I like to read and my favorite hobby is to draw. I like to go to the beach at Bald Head Island. I enjoy walking on the beach and finding a place to disappear so I can have alone time and relax. I also like to paint and make clay boxes and other items; I just like to mold clay into different shapes, forms, and designs.

Respectfully Submitted,
Chase Clay
Virginia TSA Sergeant-At-Arms
Hello Virginia TSA! My name is Grace Day and I am your 2009-2010 State Historian. This will be my second year on the Virginia TSA council and I am super excited to have another fun and efficient year. Here are a few things that you may want to know about me. I run cross country, indoor, and outdoor track for Wilson Memorial High School, where I am a rising sophomore. I’m also active in the WMHS Sign Language Club and I am Sophomore Class Treasurer. Other hobbies I enjoy are texting, shopping, hanging out with my friends, and cheering on the Ohio State Buckeyes team.

One of my many goals for this year is to attend all Virginia TSA Executive Council meetings, lead a great workshop at Leadership Academy, and I look forward to working with my fellow officers to achieve greatness and fulfill our offices to the best of our abilities. I am positive that our newly elected officers, as well as returning officers, will make Virginia TSA even greater than it already is.

When I was campaigning, I promised to give smaller chapters a voice in the meetings and make a fabulous scrapbook. I will follow through on all of this, and I will make myself available. If you ever need to contact me for anything, e-mail me at vatsahistorian@yahoo.com. I wish you all good luck in all of your competitions and other TSA activities.

Respectfully Submitted,
Grace Day
Virginia TSA Historian

Hello Virginia TSA! I am Mikey Stecher, your 2009-2010 State Parliamentarian. I am a rising junior at Highland Springs High School's Center for Engineering. I am outgoing, athletic, studious, and easy going. My favorite activities are swimming, attending Virginia Tech sports events, sleeping, eating, and playing soccer. I swim during the school year for Burkwood Aquatic Club (BAC), and in the summer for my recreational swim team, the Antioch Aces. In addition, I am the head sound technician for my church every Sunday. The reason I enjoy TSA is because it has helped build my leadership skills over the course of my membership. Lastly, I plan to serve you, the members of Virginia TSA, to the best of my abilities.

Respectfully submitted,
Mikey Stecher
Virginia TSA Parliamentarian

My name is Nickhil Patel and I am currently the Northern Region President. I am a junior at Colonial Forge High School and have been in TSA since I was a seventh grader in Gayle Middle School. I have been to the regional, state, and national conference and have won several competitions at each level. Aside from TSA, I participate in National Honor Society, golf, and my school’s Jazz Ensemble. In my spare time I enjoy playing basketball, soccer, tennis, and video games. I enjoy seeing new movies and going out with friends. I also enjoy playing my trumpet when I have some free time on my hands.

TSA has given me much more than I could ever hope for. I have learned more than just information about technology from this prestigious organization. I have grown from a shy and timid child to a confident and outgoing leader. I have gained lifelong skills and great friends from this association. This program has given me so much and now I wish to give back to it. That is why I ran for 2009-2010 Northern Region President. With the skills that I have learned from TSA, I hope to serve this organization and its members. Throughout the course of my term as Northern Region President, I hope to make this already impressive organization even better. I hope to publicize TSA and increase the information known about TSA amongst non members and increase membership within my region as well. I am extremely optimistic about the 2009-2010 TSA year and will serve this organization to the best of my abilities.

Respectfully Submitted,
Nickhil Patel
Northern Region President
**South Central Region President: Abraham Martinez**

My name is Abraham Martinez and I am the new South Central Regional President. Since this is only my second year in TSA many may not know me. I would like to take this opportunity to tell everyone a little about myself.

I have been going to Highland Springs High School since 2006. I was introduced to TSA in my freshman year here. I volunteered at the 2007 Regional Competition to gain extra credit in a class. What I discovered was a marvelous organization that combined leadership with technology (two fields in which I had always been rather gifted). I made a commitment to compete the next year.

I showed up for the first meeting of my chapter at the beginning of my sophomore year. Once there, I found out that we were having elections for the offices of our chapter. I listened to the candidates speak on what he/she would do if elected to office and received a ballot. I looked at my ballot with dismay because I felt that, even though I was fairly new to the organization, I could have been great in a leadership role.

For the rest of the year, I stayed close to the executive committee of my chapter and observed the way they ran the chapter. At the end of the year I was confident that I could handle a leadership role. In the fall of 2008 I ran for treasurer of my chapter. I won and immediately set to work on my responsibilities. My advisor noted my aptness for my position and made a startling recommendation.

My advisor, Mr. Batkins, told me that I would be fantastic as Regional President. I told him that if he believed I could do it, then I would try. After submitting my application, I had to wait until the regional fair to find out if I won. Delegates from every chapter in my region voted for me (because I was running unopposed) and I won! I was inaugurated at Technosphere and on this day I stand ready to accept the responsibilities of my office.

Respectfully Submitted,
Abraham Martinez
South Central Region President

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**Southwestern Regional President: Breanna Browning**

My name is Breanna Browning, and I will be serving as the Southwestern Regional President over the 2009-2010 school year. I am a rising freshman at Abingdon High School. I have been involved in TSA for two years. Over the course of the previous year, I served as my chapter’s secretary along with serving as the Southwestern Regional secretary. I am excited to be taking on this new role, and hope to continue in the expansion of our very small region, which currently has only four active chapters. My goal is to inform more local high schools and middle schools as to what TSA is, and if they express an interest, how to get a chapter started. Seeing as Abingdon’s middle school chapter has only been in existence for three years and AHS’s for only one, I have the knowledge and resources needed to do this. With the help and commitment of my regional officers, spreading the information around about TSA should be an easily obtainable task. Now, TSA isn’t the only thing I do. I love the outdoors! I swim competitively on our local year-round team and bike regularly. I have recently begun training to compete in an upcoming triathlon. Along with this, I have been a percussionist for several years. I have played in my school’s jazz band for the past two years, participated in All-County and All-District honors bands, marched as an 8th grader, and will continue to play in our marching band’s drum line this year. I am also an avid painter and love photography. So, I feel that I’m a pretty well-rounded person and I think I will be able to do good for our region. I am excited to begin serving on our executive team, and I will try my best to answer any questions anyone may have. I hope to talk to you soon!

Respectfully Submitted,
Breanna Browning
Southwestern Region President

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**Tidewater Regional President: Yvette Pate**

Yvette Pate is a senior at Hickory High School. She has been an active member in her chapter TSA for 1 and a half years. She is her chapter’s current vice-president. In the 2008-2009 year Yvette was the Regional Reporter for Tidewater. Yvette is the 2009-2010 Tidewater Regional President. Yvette and the Tidewater Regional board are looking forward to working with all regional chapters and expanding membership.

Yvette wants to create more open lines of communication between the regional board and Tidewater chapters. As the her region’s representative on the executive council she will represent Tidewater to the best of her ability, and promises to keep all of the regional chapters informed of executive council decisions, and proposals.

Respectfully Submitted,
Yvette Pate
Tidewater Region President
2009-2010 Executive Council

Valley Regional President: Kyle Helmick

As I start my term as the Valley Region President for 2009/2010, I’m looking forward to strong participation by all of our members, a renewed commitment to organizing a great regional fair and increased communication to everyone involved in the Valley Region TSA. I’ve been involved in TSA since my sixth grade year and have been lucky to have experienced guidance by excellent advisors and strong officers. I am planning on taking the experience of working under these dedicated individuals and serving the TSA members of the Valley Region with equal leadership.

It is my hope that participation at the Valley Region Fall Rally increases by at least 15% this year. We are also planning an exciting Regional Fair in April of 2010. It is also my goal to explore greater support and cooperation from the new Engineering Department established at James Madison University in hopes that we can use resources they offer to enhance our Valley Region programs. As always, the Valley Region TSA will adopt a community service project to support the local community in which we live.

Communication is so important in any organization. Along with my fellow Regional officers, I plan to utilize text messaging and email to keep all members in the know. We will also solicit ongoing suggestions for improvements or options for new programs to offer to all schools. 2010 should be exciting for Valley Region TSA.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kyle Helmick
Valley Region President

Immediate Past-President: Alec Jentink

Hello Virginia TSA,

My name is Alec Jentink and I am currently enrolled as a freshman at Hampden-Sydney College in Farmville, Virginia. Located in the heart of Virginia, Hampden-Sydney (HSC) is in relatively close proximity to most regions of Virginia, keeping me close to those that I have grown to love in this student organization. At HSC, I will be following a rigorous Pre-Law study program, focusing on Philosophy and Political Science. I plan on continuing in this path until it is my time to move on to Law School, which I plan on attending at William and Mary Law.

Presently however, I am a front desk attendant at the Marriott Courtyard in Virginia Beach/Norfolk. I just recently started, so I have not yet learned quite all of the secrets of the trade, but I can guarantee I am striving to reveal them. I just graduated from Nansemond River High School in Suffolk, Virginia, but I can promise my continued activity in this organization. As I stated at Technosphere, this organization has become such an integral part of my life, I simply cannot fathom being away from my involvement in the Technology Student Association.

I look forward to seeing you all sometime soon, and I hope that you all do not hesitate to contact the Executive Council with any issues/requests which you wish to see reviewed. In the end it all comes down to the basic fact that these individuals were elected to serve, and it is all of our jobs to ensure this task is carried out.

Thank you all again for giving me a successful year as YOUR 2008-2009 State President!

Respectfully Submitted,
Alec Jentink
Virginia TSA
Immediate Past President
# Events to Remember

## September 2009

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The business meeting in Denver, Colorado has to be (in my opinion) one of the best and most-active business meetings we’ve had in the past few years. At the meeting, we considered some historic propositions that were very enjoyable to debate. The minutes from last meeting were approved. The first order of business was the adoption of submitted resolutions. Miss Chloe Alpert of Pennsylvania TSA, offered a resolution that recommended the repeal of the 10-membership limit to the TSA, Inc. Board of Directors. It was agreed to almost unanimously by the voting delegation. The next order of business was the motion of Matthew Crabtree to adopt the proposed amendments to the National TSA Bylaws. These amendments sought to change the current election procedures by placing officer candidates into different pools. The Virginia Delegation at the conference was highly opposed to the amendments. Our efforts were successful and the proposed amendments were defeated.

Finally, the following officers were elected:

Peter Andrews – President
Evan Ticknor – Vice President
LeAnn Yadon – Secretary
Zach Barnes – Treasurer
The Virginia TSA State Officers had the privilege to meet with the other CTSO’s in Richmond, Virginia. It was an honor to meet all the different officers and teachers from the various organizations. We discussed how we could all keep in contact on future plans and events, team building activities that we can take back to our organization, and different ideas for a more successful year. I enjoyed every minute I spent with the other officer teams. We met state officers from National FFA, FBLA, FCCLA, DECA, HOSA, and SkillsUSA. All the organizations are different from the roots up, but we all share one thing, we all are student run organizations.

All of the participants gained important knowledge and skills that we will carry on for years to come. Virginia TSA would like to say thank you to the Virginia Department of Education for giving us this opportunity. This opportunity has set goals and high standards for this coming year in Virginia TSA. The Virginia TSA Executive Council is striving to make this year the best for both the students and teachers.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tyler Clay
Virginia TSA State President
Directions: The first letter of each answer is written next to its clue in alphabetical order. One letter has already been entered. Can you find the words then fit them correctly into the grid?

A. Sharp (5)    L. Prevarication (3)
A. Remedied (7)   M. Award (5)
A. Protective garment (5)   N. Pleasant (4)
C. Hoard (5)     N. Observed (5)
C. Tapers (7)   O. Sumptuous (7)
C. Group of bovines (6)   R. Send payment (5)
C. Fake (11)    S. Short tail (4)
E. Epoch (3)       S. Begin (5)
E. No longer in existence (7)   S. Powerful (6)
G. Chivalrous (7)   S. Proposed (9)
I. Lit up (11)       T. Rising current of warm air (7)
L. Terse (7)         W. Bet (5)
L. Lackadaisical (7)   W. Capricious (9)