



\*\*\* FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE \*\*\*

## **New After-School Program at Baker-Butler Elementary**

**Charlottesville, Virginia** (3/1/2016) – QuickStart Tennis of Central Virginia ([QCV](#)) is pleased to report that Tessa Pehanick, PE Teacher at Baker-Butler and former QCV Board President, recently started a new after-school QuickStart Tennis program at Baker-Butler Elementary with a group of 24 enthusiastic second-, third-, fourth- and fifth-graders. This program is an extension of the successful Tennis Tuesdays format at Baker-Butler that has reached 176 students in two school years and is modeled after the middle school after-school program Tessa started at Henley Middle School in 2009. The program is run through Albemarle County Parks & Recreation with an assist from Amy Smith, Recreation Division Manager.



Tessa says, “The pilot program for our elementary school tennis team concept is in full swing. Our Baker-Butler students recently participated in Practice Day #2 as members of four different teams. Combining students in grades 2-5 with different skill levels provides our players with the opportunity to interact with new friends

and reinforces the ‘team’ concept. We are very excited to be collaborating with Albemarle County Parks & Recreation for this new after-school experience. Our program registration filled up in only one day! Next year, we may have to offer a fall program as well.”

Lynda Harrill, QCV’s QuickStart Tennis Coordinator and Founder adds, “Working with someone as passionate as Tessa is always a treat. We’ve had a wonderful partnership since 2008. We’re looking forward to our next adventure — the Baker-Butler Spring Carnival. We are donating a ‘basket’ of QuickStart goodies to be raffled off at the carnival. Four lucky students are going to win racquets, balls, hats and sweatbands, plus a private group lesson on the QuickStart courts at Jack Jouett, and lunch with Tessa and me at Barracks Road followed by a trip to the final UVa Men’s Tennis match of the season. It’s Senior Day for the UVa team, so it should be a very festive and memorable tennis experience for four lucky Baker-Butler students.”

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QuickStart Tennis of Central Virginia is an all-volunteer, grassroots Community Tennis Association established in 2009 as a 501(c)(3) charitable organization to promote,

develop and grow QuickStart Tennis in the heart of Virginia for all beginners, especially underserved youth, using the kid-sized QuickStart Tennis format.

QCV's service area includes Albemarle, Amelia, Appomattox, Brunswick, Buckingham, Charlotte, Culpeper, Cumberland, Dinwiddie, Fluvanna, Franklin, Greene, Greenville, Halifax, Henry, Louisa, Lunenburg, Madison, Mecklenburg, Nelson, Nottoway, Orange, Patrick, Pittsylvania, Prince Edward, Powhatan and Rappahannock counties and the cities of Charlottesville, Danville and Martinsville. We currently serve 166 schools with 80,000 kids, ten parks & recreation departments, three Boys & Girls Clubs and two YMCAs in 27 counties and three independent cities. We have also gotten tennis into PE classes in 30 additional schools with 14,000 students in southwestern and eastern central Virginia as part of the Mid-Atlantic Supercharge School Tennis Task Force.

Visit QCV at: [www.quickstartcentral.org](http://www.quickstartcentral.org) and on [Facebook](#).

For additional information, contact [quickstartcentral@comcast.net](mailto:quickstartcentral@comcast.net)



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