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### January PTA Meeting

Welcome back to school! This month's PTA meeting will be held in the school library on Thursday, January 10th at 7:00 p.m. Come hear what is new at Mantua from the principal and PTA board. We will discuss upcoming school events. Child care will be provided during the PTA meeting.

### Important Note About SACC Door

The SACC door will remain locked at all times now due to security reasons. Parents will be buzzed in through the SACC door in the mornings and afternoons. If you do not have a student in SACC, please come to the main entrance of the school and the staff will buzz you in. Your cooperation in keeping our school safe is highly appreciated.

### Main Office Closing Early on January 14th

On Monday, January 14th, the school and office will be closed after 2:00 p.m. for an off-site function. Please leave a message at 703-645-6300, and your call will be returned on Tuesday, January 15th. If there is an emergency, please call 571-423-2000.

### Group Photos for Yearbook this Friday!

Mantua group pictures are scheduled to be taken on Friday, January 11th. Please

make sure that your children wear/bring appropriate uniforms for Sports Clubs, Scouts, etc.

The Yearbook Committee is in real need of candid photographs which can be used for classroom pages in the yearbook (2-5 per page). All class pages will be completed and submitted for print at the end of January so please send what you have ASAP! Put your classroom teacher's name in the subject line and email to: [yelenajones@yahoo.com](mailto:yelenajones@yahoo.com) and [mantuayearbooks@gmail.com](mailto:mantuayearbooks@gmail.com).

Finally, don't forget to place your yearbook orders at [www.Jostens.com](http://www.Jostens.com).

### Announcing: Tryouts for the 2013 Mantua Talent Show

The Mantua PTA is proud to present the 2013 Mantua Talent Show. The show will be held on Saturday, February 2nd at 5:30 p.m. in the Mantua Gym. Tryouts will be held on Monday, January 14th from 4:00-6:30 p.m. and Tuesday, January 15th from 6:30-8 p.m. in the Mantua Cafeteria. If your child would like to try out, sign up [HERE](#).

All acts will be accepted as long as they are less than two minutes in length and are appropriate for the age level of the audience. Tryouts are intended to confirm that the acts meet these criteria. Please note that students may only participate in one act - either as an individual or as a group.

If you have questions, contact Ted Donat at [tdonat@gmail.com](mailto:tdonat@gmail.com) or (703) 629-0128.

### Winter Box Tops Contest Begins!

The Winter Box Tops Contest starts Monday, January 14th and ends Friday, February 15th. Our goal is to raise \$1,500. Send in Box Tops Labels and Labels for Education labels in a plastic zip bag with the teacher's name and grade on it. Labels should be dropped in the collection box in the front lobby. Please do not send in expired labels. A special prize will be awarded for the class bringing in the most labels. Look by the collection box to find out which class is in the lead.

A list of participating products can be found on: [www.boxtops4education.com](http://www.boxtops4education.com) and [www.labelsforeducation.com](http://www.labelsforeducation.com). Ask your neighbors, co-workers, and local businesses to help you collect. For any questions contact [Sandy Spector](#).

### Advanced Academics Level IV Center Referral Form

Fairfax County Public Schools provides a continuum of gifted services for students. While some levels of these services are provided to all students, other students must be considered eligible through a school/district committee. If you wish to refer your child for consideration for these additional services, the deadline is Friday, February 8th for submitting the form to the Mantua office. More information and a link to the referral form can be found [HERE](#). Please submit any questions to [Eva Bousbouras](#), Advanced Academics Resource Teacher at Mantua.

### Citizenship Essay Contest for 6th Graders

Attention 6th Graders: The Virginia PTA is sponsoring a Citizenship Essay Contest for grades 6th-12th. The 2012-13 theme is "Proud to Be An American." This essay project allows students to express their views and opinions on "Character or Citizenship". The Virginia PTA is committed to promoting a sense of citizenship and

responsibility in the lives of our children—tomorrow's leaders. Use this [LINK](#) to access the application for the essay contest.

Please submit your essay application (you must use the one in the above link) to the Mantua PTA mailbox **NO LATER THAN: Wednesday, January 30th**. We will forward your essays to the Northern Virginia PTA for judging. If you have any questions, please contact [Julie Middleton](#), PTA Secretary.

### *Counselor's Corner*

**New Year's Resolutions:** Many people take the New Year as an opportunity set new goals. Help your children set SMART goals. SMART is an acronym being used by FCPS to help students set **Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Results-Based, and Time-Bound** goals. Modeling SMART goal setting yourself is an excellent way for children to learn about the process.

**Jewish Social Service Agency (JSSA):** JSSA is a community agency that offers individual and group counseling to all families. For more information on their Social Skills, Bereavement, Special Needs, and Career Groups, please visit their [WEBSITE](#).

**Attention 6th Grade Parents:** Save the Date: Parent Coffee - Thursday, February 7th from 8:15-9:00 a.m. in the Mantua Library. Mantua School Counselors, Allison Warren and Susan Kim, and Middle School Representatives will be available in the library to view Course Registration Materials and answer parent questions. Look for more information on how to fill out the Course Registration forms, due dates for

return, and upcoming opportunities to visit your child's Middle School in upcoming issues of Alert News and in your child's Tuesday folder.

*Save the Date: Middle School Information Session – Wednesday, February 27th (In the evening, more information to come.) Come view a short presentation on how to best help your child with the Middle School Transition. Parents will also have an opportunity to talk with current Middle School parents and Middle School Representatives to answer any questions.*

### *Important Upcoming Events*

*Thurs. Jan 10: PTA Meeting, 7:00 p.m.*

*Fri. Jan 11: Group Photos for Yearbook*

*Mon. Jan 21: School Closed for Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday*

*Thurs. Jan 24: Strings Concert, 7:00 p.m.*

*Thurs. Jan 24: Restaurant Night*

*Mon. Jan 28 – Tues. Jan 29: School Closed for Teacher Workdays*

### *Parent Information Session: The Lives of Students with Gifts and Talents*

*Fairfax County Public Schools Advanced Academic Programs and Special Education Offices in collaboration with The College of William and Mary Center for Gifted Education will be offering a special parent session on the needs of twice exceptional (2E) learners given by Dr. Tracy Cross, Executive Director of the Center for Gifted Education at The College of William and Mary.*

*Dr. Cross will talk about the lives of students with gifts and talents. He will focus on their social and emotional development and needs. In particular, Dr. Cross will talk*

about the typical problems that gifted children with learning disabilities may face. He will discuss strategies for parents to help guide your child's social and emotional development.

This information session will be held on Wednesday, January 9th from 7:00-9:00 p.m. at the Robinson Secondary Recital Hall.

### *Super Teacher Award*

The Virginia PTA is again partnering with Virginia Lottery to promote and recognize the Super Teacher award with nominations due **January 7th-February 15th**. Eight teachers from around the state will be recognized in the spring. Click [HERE](#) for more information about nominations and awards.

### *Summer Academic Programs and Enrichment Camp Fair*

The Fairfax County Association for the Gifted (FCAG) will hold its annual Summer Academic Programs and Enrichment Camp Fair at Oakton High School on Wednesday, January 23rd from 7:30-9:00 p.m. Admission is free and open to the public. FCAG is open to everyone whether or not they are in AAP.

Meet representatives from summer enrichment programs, visit exhibits, ask questions, and see what your children in K-12 can explore next summer. Academic Programs include music, chess, drama, computers, robotics, language immersion, math, science, engineering, and test prep. Enrichment Camps include TIC (Tech Is Cool), Fairfax Collegiate, Math Enrichment Services, Traveling Players Ensemble, Writopia, FCPS Institute for the Arts, Congressional Day Camp, iD Tech Camp, Potomac School, Concordia Language Villages, Interlochen Arts Camp, Madeira

School Summer Camps, A Class Act: Acting for Kids, and More! For more information, visit [www.FCAG.org](http://www.FCAG.org). Oakton High School is located at 2900 Sutton Road in Vienna.

## Alert News Contributions

Send items via email to [alertnews@mantuapta.org](mailto:alertnews@mantuapta.org).

Submissions MUST be received by the Friday before distribution in order to be included.

如果您需要一份中文的曼图亚小学校园新闻周刊，请联系潘红女士。电话：703-939-3403 电子信箱：[hpan.home@gmail.com](mailto:hpan.home@gmail.com).

한국어로 번역된 뉴스를 받아보시기 원하시는 분은 크리스티 씨께 연락주세요. 전화 703-865-8065, 이메일 [choichristie@yahoo.com](mailto:choichristie@yahoo.com).

Nêu quý vị muốn nhận tin tức "the Alert News" được dịch ra tiếng Việt, xin liên lạc [sonha60@hotmail.com](mailto:sonha60@hotmail.com)

Si desea recibir una copia de esta informacion en Espanol, porfavor email Ana Castelan a [anav49@hotmail.com](mailto:anav49@hotmail.com).

2012-13 FCPS & PTA Calendar at a Glance [HERE](#)

Mantua Parent Handbook [HERE](#)

\* Stay informed all year long by visiting our website: [www.MantuaPTA.org](http://www.MantuaPTA.org)

\* Are you on Facebook? Stay informed by joining us: [HERE](#)

Sincerely,

Mantua Elementary School PTA

