

Mantua PTA Alert News September 25, 2012



Join the PTA!

It's not too late to join the Mantua PTA! Please consider supporting our school's PTA and its programs. Family dues are \$15 for the academic year, and membership entitles you to a \$5 discount on registration for basketball and/or Chat 'n Chew. You can fill out the envelope that was included in your child's open house folder or pick up an envelope in the front office. You may also contact the membership coordinators [Liz Schatzman](#) or [Shannon Murphy](#). Thank you for helping support our teachers and students through the PTA!

JCC Closed on September 26

Important note from the Front Office: If your child goes to the JCC for childcare, the JCC will be closed on **Wednesday, September 26th**. You must make alternate plans for your child for that day.

Spirit Wear is Now on Sale

Spirit wear with a new Rocky Raccoon design for the 2012-13 school year is now on sale! T-shirts, hoodies, sweat pants, performance shirts, pajama pants and car magnets are in the collection. Show your school spirit and order something today! Order forms were sent home in Tuesday folders. Please return the form with payment to the PTA mailbox by **Friday, October 12th**. Delivery will be on Friday,

November 9th. All purchased items will go home in your child's backpack. Contact [Kathleen DeCarlo](#) with any questions.

Restaurant Night on October 4th

Mantua PTA will host a Family Night Out on Thursday, October 4th from 5:00 to 9:00 pm at Noodles & Company on Main Street in Fairfax City. Come dine in or carry out and enjoy a delicious pasta dinner with lots of Mantua fun! For a bonus, Noodles & Company will donate 25% of the evening's proceeds to Mantua's PTA when a Dining for Dollars flyer is presented at the time of purchase. Look for a Noodles & Company Dining for Dollars flyer in your child's Tuesday folder. Contact [Kathleen DeCarlo](#) with any questions.

Academic Competitions Interest Meeting

Does your student have an interest in learning more about Destination Imagination, Odyssey of the Mind, Science Olympiad, Lego League, or We the People? There is a host of programs available for students to stretch their minds and challenge their brains. The PTA will be holding an interest meeting on Monday, October 1st at 7:00 p.m. in the cafeteria for students to meet other students who might be interested in forming teams and getting involved with one of these opportunities. If you are a parent already familiar with any of the programs listed here or others and would be willing to share your knowledge, please contact [Lesley Kowalski](#).

2013 Virginia PTA Proposed Legislative Agenda

If you are a member of the Mantua PTA, we encourage you to take 5 minutes of your time to vote on education issues of importance to you and your children. If

approved by members, the issues will become part of the Virginia PTA 2013 Legislative Priorities. The Virginia PTA will use these Legislative Priorities to advocate on statewide education issues. Please vote by October 12, 2012 to have your voice heard. To vote, please go to this [WEBSITE](#). In addition, you may access the voting ballot through Mantua's PTA [WEBSITE](#).

Registration is Now Open for Foreign Languages

The Mantua PTA in conjunction with FCPS is pleased to offer a foreign language program before and after school. Languages will be taught through conversation using games, songs, drama, drills, dialogues, maps, and culturally-related activities. Please sign up at www.fcps.edu/aceclasses. Click on ONLINE browse/register and choose World Languages (K-6). You can also search for the course number. The deadline is Tuesday, October 2nd. If you need a hard copy to submit via your child's Tuesday folder, you can find it on the Mantua PTA website or e-mail [Deidre Mayes](mailto:Deidre.Mayes).

Classes will begin week of October 8th and continue for 15 weeks. You will receive a class confirmation notice and room assignment one week before classes begin. Classes must have a minimum of 8 students so ask your friends to sign up so the class takes place!

Tuition is \$199. For questions please contact [Deidre Mayes](mailto:Deidre.Mayes) or 703-477-8208.

<u>CLASS</u>	<u>COURSE</u>	<u>SECTION #</u>	<u>DAY / TIME</u>	<u>GRADES</u>
German 1	FPO6115	0002	Thurs 8-9am	3-6

French 1	FP05115	0002	Thurs 8-9am	4-6
Spanish 1	FP08115	0002	Wed 4:10-5:10pm	4-6
Chinese 1	FP04115	0001	Thurs 4-5pm	K-3
Chinese level 3*	FP07704	0001	Fri 4-5pm	1-6

**This course is for native speakers or children who have completed a Level 2 Flex Chinese course.*

Digital Kidz at Mantua

Would you like your child to participate in a computer class that is entertaining, exciting, AND educational? If so, Digital Kidz may be just right for you! The PTA is sponsoring 2 classes at Mantua. Kindergarteners-2nd graders can participate in Science and Weebotics, where they will experiment with basic Legos to robotics to make their own Weebots. Older students (3rd-6th grade) can participate in Robotics and 3D Design, where they will explore robotics and be introduced to programming.

Each session is 6 classes on Mondays afterschool beginning on October 15th. Please visit the [WEBSITE](#) to complete the form and turn it in along with payment to school by October 3rd. The Digital Kidz sessions are \$120 (or \$125 for non-PTA members.) Spaces will be filled on a first come, first served basis!

Student Directory: Advertisement Space Available

Did you know you can advertise in the upcoming Mantua Student Directory for as little as \$30? Without our advertisers, we cannot print the directory. Find more

information [HERE](#). If you have recommendations for this year's directory, please provide them to [Monika Brenner](#). Thanks again to Larry Brown for GreenHomes, last year's back cover auction winner.

Amazon School Rewards Program

Support Mantua Elementary while shopping for gifts, birthdays and holidays on Amazon! By using the Amazon link on the Mantua PTA website, you can shop - privately and securely - and Mantua can receive up to 10% of your purchase.

To get started, go to the Amazon link on the [Mantua PTA website](#) and start shopping. Simply by accessing Amazon through the PTA website, you will be on your way to shopping and supporting your favorite school! If you have any questions, please contact MantuaAmazon@gmail.com.

Mantua Elementary Partners in Education

Mantua PTA is partnering with businesses who commit to give a percentage back to our school when you patronize their establishments. It is as simple as saying that you are with Mantua Elementary - no card or flyer required. Please look through the list below and you may find a new place to try or a family favorite that is right down the road. For further details see flyer in the Tuesday folder. Contact [Jennifer Epley](#) with any questions.

* Valvoline Instant Oil Change, 9883 Fairfax Blvd (Across from PJ Skidoos) 703-273-7333

* Twins Ace Hardware 10310-B Main Street Fairfax 703-359-4703

Counselor's Corner: Why Elementary School Counselors?

Elementary school years set the tone for developing the knowledge, attitudes and skills necessary for children to become healthy, competent and confident learners. Through a comprehensive developmental school-counseling program, counselors work as a team with the school staff, parents and the community to create a caring climate and atmosphere. By providing education, prevention, early identification and intervention, school counselors can help ALL children achieve academic success. The elementary school counseling program is a part of the total school program. It is child-centered and encourages a student's social, emotional and personal growth. Counselors are certified, trained, caring professionals who help students achieve academic success. Mantua Elementary School has two full time counselors: Susan Kim (K-3) and Allison Warren (4-6).

Check this Counselor's Corner section each week for updates, resources, and important information from the Mantua School Counselors. Please email Allison Warren at sawarren@fcps.edu or Susan Kim at sskim1@fcps.edu with any questions, comments, or concerns.

Upcoming FREE speaker event: "Anxiety in Children: Science, Signs, Symptoms, and Treatment Options"; Daniel Pine, M.D., NIMH Chief, Section on Development and Affective Neuroscience

Monday, September 24th at 7:30 at First Christian Church, 6165 Leesburg Pike (Route 7), Falls Church, VA, www.nami-northernvirginia.org (use back door)

Grocery Club Registration

Please take a moment to fill out and send in your grocery club information sheet. This is an easy (and free!) way to earn money for our school. If you'd prefer to register yourself, the links for the different stores can be found [HERE](#) on the PTA website. Please contact [Lori Recher](#) with any questions. Happy shopping!

Fall Box Tops Contest

The Fall Box Tops Contest ends Friday, October 19th. Our goal is to raise \$1,500. Send in Box Tops Labels and Labels for Education labels in a plastic zipped bag with the teacher's name and grade on it. You may also send in Tyson's Project A+ labels. They can be found on most Tyson's frozen chicken products.

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 that brings 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 at: www.boxtops4education.com and www.labelsforeducation.com and www.projectaplus.tyson.com.

Another great way to earn box tops is to "Click & Earn". After registering at www.boxtops4education.com, go to the top of the web page to "Earn" then "Click & Earn". By viewing very short videos and answering 1 or 2 survey questions, you can earn even more box tops for Mantua. Although the online box tops don't count for the contest, they will add up for more money for the school. New videos and surveys are added during the year so be sure to revisit the website during the school year to earn even more "Click & Earn" money. For any questions contact [Sandy Spector](#).

Silent Auction This Fall

This year's Mantua Elementary PTA online auction will take place BEFORE the winter holidays! Our 2-week annual online auction will open for bidding on Tuesday, November 6th. PTA fundraisers make a big difference toward supporting

the school. Auction proceeds will help support educational field trips, classroom technology, library books, and other learning opportunities for Mantua students.

You could participate in several ways:

- 1) Donate goods, services, and/or gift cards to the auction. You can drop off donation(s) at the front office starting THIS WEEK or at the auction booth on Back-to-School Nights.
- 2) Solicit donations from businesses that you patronize using the auction donation form.
- 3) Recommend businesses for the PTA to solicit on the auction website.
- 4) Bid on items during the auction between Tuesday 11/6 - Tuesday 11/20.

Visit <http://auction.mantuapta.org> to get a copy of the auction donation form and to submit business recommendations. Please contact Auction Chairs Alice Wang & Donna Hoover at Mantua.PTA.Auction@gmail.com if you have any questions. Please help make this event a success!

2012-2013 Yearbook Cover Art Contest

All 6th graders are encouraged to participate by submitting their artwork by October 1st. More than one submission is allowed.

Theme: U.S. Presidential Elections throughout History

- 8.5" x 11"
- Portrait orientation
- Any color background
- Any medium: drawing, collage, painting, etc. (no copyrighted material)
- Individual or group projects accepted (6th graders only)

- Write your name and homeroom on the back.

Also, there are extra copies of the 2011-12 50th Anniversary yearbook available for sale at a substantially-discounted price of \$15. Please contact [US](#) to purchase one.

Important Upcoming Events

Mon. Oct. 1: Academic Competition Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

Wed. Oct. 3: School Picture Day

Thurs. Oct. 4: Restaurant Night, Noodles & Company in Fairfax

Mon. Oct. 8: SCHOOL CLOSED, Columbus Day holiday

Thurs. Oct. 11: PTA Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

Girl Scouts at Mantua

Girl Scouting builds girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place. Join the Girl Scouts at Mantua and enjoy fun experiences while having fun and building life-long friendships! If you have a Kindergarten or 1st grade girl, contact Martha Moore at cmoore@axiot-it.net about Daisies. If you have a 2nd-5th grade girl, contact Julie Gerock at jcgerock@aol.com about Brownies or Juniors.

Parent Night Out and Drama Camp at Woodson High School

Drama Night Out programs for 1st-6th graders is an opportunity for parents to have their children participate in a supervised childcare program that includes theater games, acting, singing and dancing lead by our high school techies and performers! The first Drama Night Out is fast approaching, September 28th, 6:00-

11:00 p.m. To learn more and to register visit www.wtwdrama.org/boosters/night-out/.

The Woodson High School Drama Dept will be hosting Drama Camp on Saturday, December 8th for elementary and middle school students interested in theater! For more information and to register visit www.wtwdrama.org/boosters/drama-camp/. Questions? Contact Woodson Drama Booster President, Denise Taylor at deniseatsea@aol.com.

These programs are important fundraising opportunities for our drama students this year. The Woodson Drama Department has been invited to perform at the world's largest theater festival, the Fringe Festival in Edinburgh, Scotland this summer! What better way for students to raise needed funds than to share their talents with the children in our community! Thank you for your support!

Alert News Contributions

Send items via email to 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，请联系雷晓春女士。电话：703-425-1097

电子信箱：sabrina.lei@yahoo.com

한국어로 번역된 뉴스를 받아보시기 원하시는분은 크리스티씨께 연락주세요. 전화 703-865-8065, 이메일 choichristie@yahoo.com.

Nếu quý vị muốn nhận tin tức "the Alert News" được dịch ra tiếng Việt, xin liên lạc sonha60@hotmail.com

Si desea recibir una copia de esta informacion en Espanol, porfavor llame Gabriella Numbela a 703-573-6375 or e-mail a ganumbela@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

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

Sincerely,

Mantua Elementary School PTA

