



June 24, 2014 | Special End of the Year Announcements

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## Open Volunteer Positions for 2014-15 School Year!

Want to be more involved with your child's school? Want to help organize a club or program that benefits many or even all of the students at Mantua? There are a number of open volunteer positions available! **Some of them MUST be filled now, or we may not have the program next year!** If you are interested in learning more about any of the following or would like to take one, please email Teresa LeMair at [teresalemair@aol.com](mailto:teresalemair@aol.com):

**FLEX** - Our before and after school foreign language program needs a new coordinator. This position includes setting up the schedule of classes, lining up teachers through the county, coordinating with the front office, and sending information home via the Alert News.

**Kids Care Club** - We need someone (or two!) to run our amazing Kids Care Club next year. Kids Care Club usually meets once a month after school for an hour. The club takes care of our community by participating in raking leaves with the scouts in the fall, making care packages for soldiers, collecting items for animals and food for the hungry, supporting the Raccoon Run in the spring, washing and donating lost and found items, making bird feeders out of recyclables, etc. The KCC Leader decides exactly what the club does each year. These are just some of the wonderful things they have done over the years.

**Chess Club** - We need a liaison to help with Chess Club registration and organizing volunteers, if needed. This club is for Mantua 4th-6th graders.

**Community Building Network** - Our Community Building Network helps families of all cultures join together to support our children at Mantua. The CBN chair advertises for and coordinates translators for each language represented at our school so everyone can be informed and included in the information at our school. The chair helps with Heritage Night each spring and may arrange for Community Building Network meetings if he/she wishes.

**Alert News Distribution** - This volunteer makes paper copies of the Alert News on Tuesday mornings for approximately 4 weeks in September/October so we are sure the Alert News reaches every single family before we transition to online Alerts.

**Spring Fling/Carnival** – This volunteer coordinates the Spring Fling/Carnival held in early spring each year. One of the Mantua PTA's largest fundraisers of the year, this event has become a very important social event on top of the money it brings into our school. The kids look forward to the fun! The chair (or chairs) will have access to a number of past years' flyers, ideas for job sharing, volunteer signups, etc. so the job is manageable.

**Auction** - A wonderful tradition at Mantua, the auction is usually held in the winter months. It can be online or in person, and it's an opportunity for parents to purchase staff outings and items donated by local businesses and families. We didn't have a separate auction this school year because we didn't have an auction chair, but it would be great to add it back into the PTA budget so we can raise more money for our children and our school.

**MentorWorks** – This chair supports MentorWorks, a program which provides mentors for some of the children in our school, by shopping and setting up 2-3 events each year when the mentors and mentees meet as a group. The chair is reimbursed and works with our school counselors.

**Academic Competitions** - As the number of academic competitions groups (Odyssey of the Mind, Destination Imagination, STEM clubs, Lego League) increases at Mantua, we need someone to continue to coordinate the teams. The first step will be holding an interest meeting in the fall to get interested parties together. The chair will also accept applications and report at PTA meetings.

**Box Tops** - In the past few years, the PTA has raised \$1-2K by

collecting Box Tops! The Box Tops chair will run one or two contests over the year at Mantua, advertise in the Alert News, and pick up, count, and mail off Box Tops.

## Input from Parents in Regards to 2014-15 Class Placements

This summer will be a very busy one for the administration as they finalize staff and prepare for the new school year. If you have specific information that you feel they would not already be aware of that would make a difference in placing your child, please send a succinct email to

[JanMarie.Fernandez@fcps.edu](mailto:JanMarie.Fernandez@fcps.edu).

Just a reminder, it is not helpful to state the desire for a specific teacher. Ironically, over the years, they have noted that parents do not always pick the best match for their children. They do not have the benefit of knowing the different teacher's personalities and teaching styles, as the administrators do. The administrators work many days to thoughtfully complete class placements. Parent requests for specific teachers can often throw off the dynamics of this process and cause a classroom to be filled with too many students with similar needs.

Please do not feel that it is critical to send an email. Every classroom teacher fills out cards on each student at the end of the school year. However, if you do feel the need to send information about your child for placement purposes, please send it electronically by **Monday, June 30th**.

## New Family Meet & Greet

The Mantua PTA New Family Welcome Committee invites you and your family to meet other families at the Mantua ES Playground. Your child's transition on the first day of school will be easier when they see some familiar faces! Please bring cold drinks and sunscreen for your family. Feel free to share this information with any new neighbors who will have students at Mantua ES next school year.

### **Scheduled Meet & Greet:**

Saturday, July 26, 10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

Saturday, August 16, 10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

Saturday, August 30, 10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

Contact Heather Hill at [hill\\_heather1@yahoo.com](mailto:hill_heather1@yahoo.com) or Ellen Lemieux at [ellen\\_lemieux@hotmail.com](mailto:ellen_lemieux@hotmail.com) with any questions.

## Last Day of School

Please remember that tomorrow, **Wednesday, June 25th** is the last day of school. **Students dismiss at 11:40 a.m.** Tuesday, June 24th is a regular day with 3:50 p.m. dismissal.

## Happy Summer!

To all of our fantastic staff members, parents, and students: Happy Summer! To our 6th graders, we wish you the best of luck and great times in middle school!

Mantua Elementary School PTA  
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