



## Mantua PTA Alert News December 1, 2009

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### PTA Meeting Tomorrow

The next PTA Meeting will be held Wednesday, December 2nd at 7 pm in the library. Childcare will be available...please contact Monica Cameron at [monica.cameron@cox.net](mailto:monica.cameron@cox.net) to reserve childcare spots.

### Student Directories have been Distributed

The Directories went home in last Tuesday's Folder to all member families. Did you get yours? If you didn't, then you probably forgot to pay your dues this year. (Go to <http://www.mantuapta.org/about/membership/parentdb.php> to search your last name and check if you're not sure. You can join there using PayPal). If you prefer paying by check, or if you are a paid member and still didn't get your Directory, you can contact our Membership chair, Shannon Murphy, at [shannon.murphy29@verizon.net](mailto:shannon.murphy29@verizon.net) or 703-591-7088.

### Kids Care Club Collecting for Holiday Gift Bags for Hospitalized Kids

INOVA hospital has almost 150 beds devoted to Kids. KCC will be collecting crayons, markers, coloring books, Play-Doh, puzzles/small toys, and used videos to stuff holiday gift bags on 12/8. A donation Collection Box has been placed in the front of Mantua if you are interested in donating to this worthwhile cause.

### Extra Student Directories for Sale!

Did you ever wish you had an extra Directory for your car or work? Extra directories are for sale (while supplies last) for \$5 to PTA members. Please--- only one extra directory per family, and you must be a paid member (either individual or family memberships are fine). For instructions and order form,

<http://www.mantuapta.org/documents/ExtraDirectoryFlyer.pdf>  
or see the 'Parent's Table' in the school's front entrance.

[Parents Info Center](#)  
[Alert News Articles](#)  
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## FY2011 Budget Information on PTA Website

As the FCPS 2011 budget challenges continue to simmer, please refer to our PTA website page ([www.mantupta.org/parents/currentissues.php](http://www.mantupta.org/parents/currentissues.php)) for current information regarding potential cuts, as well as updates to advocacy groups or efforts forming in response to those possible cuts. For an updated, consolidated list of potential cuts from Superintendent Dale's office, go to <http://www.mantupta.org/documents/SPAC-BudgetList11-16-09.pdf>. The PTA will be providing additional information in the upcoming days and weeks if you wish to write your county or school officials. If you have any additional information regarding the budget or any advocacy efforts, please email [WebParent@MantuaPTA.org](mailto:WebParent@MantuaPTA.org).

## Additional FCPS Budget "Community Dialogues" on 12/2

Due to public demand, Fairfax County and Fairfax County Public Schools will hold three additional community dialogue sessions to discuss the FY 2011 budget on Wednesday, December 2. The sessions will run from 7 to 9 p.m. at three locations: Hayfield Secondary School, Herndon High School and Lake Braddock Secondary School. To register for one of these sessions, visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/budget](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/budget). Additional information is available on the county's budget web site or by calling 703-324-2391, TTY 711.

## FCPS Parent Resource Center Info and Workshops

The Parent Resource Center has posted the December Newsletter, go to <http://www.fcps.edu/cco/prc/documents/PRCDecemberNewsletter2009.pdf>.

Join us for our Inclusive Schools Week workshop, "Including Samuel" on Thursday, December 10, from 10 - noon at the PRC. Download the flier <http://www.fcps.edu/cco/prc/documents/IncludingSamueflyer.pdf>.

Jumpstart Inclusive Schools Week 2009 with this resource packet from the PRC. Inclusive Schools Week is December 7-11.

PRC. Inclusive Schools Week is December 7-11

<http://www.fcps.edu/cco/prc/documents/ISW2009.pdf> .

### ***Upcoming Workshops***

Help Your Struggling Reader - Strategies for Fluency - Tuesday, December 1, 2009 Learn easy strategies to help children of all ages improve their reading fluency. Download the flier

<http://www.fcps.edu/cco/prc/documents/Fluencystrategiesflier.pdf>

Fitting In and Having Fun! - First Friday, December 4, 2009 Learn strategies to reinforce positive school-related social behaviors at home for students at all levels.

Download the flier

<http://www.fcps.edu/cco/prc/documents/fittinginandhavingfunflierrevised.pdf>

What U Need 2 Know! Strategies for School Success - Saturday, December 5, 2009 Help your middle/high school-aged student get ready for the demands of today's curriculum and challenging testing. Join us for this hands-on workshop with make and take activities and a unique opportunity to attend a free workshop together with your child!

Download the flier

<http://www.fcps.edu/cco/prc/documents/TTACworkshop2.pdf>

Virginia Special Education Regulations - Saturday, December 5, 2009 This FREE workshop, presented by the staff of the Virginia Department of Education, will help you understand changes in the new regulations.

Download the flier

[http://www.fcps.edu/cco/prc/documents/VDOERegsworkshop-SBKedit\\_4\\_.pdf](http://www.fcps.edu/cco/prc/documents/VDOERegsworkshop-SBKedit_4_.pdf)

## **Special Education Information TONIGHT for Parents**

December 1, 2009, 6:30-8:30 pm in the Mantua Library

All parents welcome. Come to learn about navigating the eligibility and IEP process. What do those forms mean?? What resources are available to my struggling learner and me as a parent?? You will have the opportunity to ask questions of special education staff. Meet and share information with other parents.

Due to the nature and sensitivity of the topic, this information session is for

Due to the nature and sensitivity of the topic, this information session is for parents and guardians only. Child care will not be available.

Please contact Kathy McCabe if you need an interpreter or translator:  
[Kathy.McCabe@fcps.edu](mailto:Kathy.McCabe@fcps.edu)

### Important Events for December

12/1 Special Education Information for Parents

12/2 PTA: Monthly Meeting

12/17 Winter Strings Concert

12/23 Winter Sing-a-Long, 9:30am

12/23 2-HOUR EARLY RELEASE: Student Holiday

12/24 - 1/1 SCHOOL CLOSED: Winter Vacation

### Alert News Contributions

Send items via email to [alertnews@mantuapta.org](mailto:alertnews@mantuapta.org).  
Submissions appreciated by the Friday before distribution.

For more information, please visit our website:

[www.MantuaPTA.org](http://www.MantuaPTA.org)

Sincerely,  
Mantua Elementary School PTA

**PTA**<sup>®</sup>  
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