



Mantua Elementary School PTA

Fairfax County to Determine Amount to be Given to Schools ~ Your Voice is Important ~

Dear Mantua Parents,

Currently we are facing a 2010-2011 budget shortfall that may significantly impact the educational standards our children currently experience in our schools.

As you may know, our schools get approximately 75% of their funding from the County of Fairfax. During Fairfax County's budget process (as they determine the amount they will fund to the schools) they must "advertise" a suggested property tax rate at the beginning, which is then adjusted, and then finalized when their budget is passed. *However, that tax rate, once advertised, can be adjusted downwards during the process, but never raised.*

On February 23, the Fairfax County Executive released his recommended budget for the 2011 year. It recommends an advertised tax rate that translates to significantly less money for the schools than the FCPS-approved budget requested (which was crafted to protect the student classroom count and the full-day Kindergarten, FLES, elementary band and strings, etc. programs currently at risk).

If you choose, you can write to the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors with your input for the tax rate. As I noted before, the final tax rate can be lowered, but never raised, once that number has been advertised formally.

Please note that the tax rate is set to be advertised on Tuesday, March 9. Any correspondence should be sent quickly, for the Board's consideration before that date.

Our Fairfax County Board of Supervisors (Chairman Sharon Bulova and each district Supervisor):

Sharon Bulova, chairman@fairfaxcounty.gov

John Cook, braddock@fairfaxcounty.gov

John Foust, dranesville@fairfaxcounty.gov

Cathy Hudgins, hntmill@fairfaxcounty.gov

Jeff McKay, leedist@fairfaxcounty.gov

Penelope (Penny) Gross, mason@fairfaxcounty.gov

Gerry Hyland, mtvernon@fairfaxcounty.gov

Linda Smyth, provdist@fairfaxcounty.gov

Pat Herrity, springfield@fairfaxcounty.gov

Michael Frey, sully@fairfaxcounty.gov

For more information, please visit: <http://www.fcps.edu/news/fy2011/bottomline022610.html>

The Mantua Elementary School PTA

Mantua Elementary School

