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Mantua PTA Alert News February 22, 2011



Updated FCPS Bus Policy

The school system's chief operating officer, whose responsibilities include pupil transportation and safety, has directed that the following procedures be followed regarding afternoon transportation of kindergarten students. The procedure went into effect on Feb. 14, at all FCPS elementary schools. Please note that the term "guardian" includes day care providers or other adults designated by parents on a student's emergency care card.

"All kindergarten students riding regular afternoon school buses are to be met at their bus stop by the parent, a guardian, or a sibling in 7th grade or higher, or the driver will ask that the school be notified by transportation of the student's return and provide an estimated return time."

Mantua Auction A Success!

Thanks to all of the wonderful faculty, parents and businesses who donated activities, services and items, and to all our enthusiastic bidders. And a special thanks to Heidi Killion, Meri Farling, John Nicholas, Nicole Armstrong, Teresa LeMair, Jackie O'Brien, Alice Wang, Karen Levin and Lorri Fowlkes for all of their efforts. Please remember to pay for and pick up your winnings in the office by Wednesday, Feb. 23.

Family Fun Lego Night

Come enjoy a night of Lego building at the PTA Family Fun Night this Friday, Feb. 25 from 7 to 9 p.m. in the school cafeteria. Millions of Legos and Duplos will be available for the event. Brian Meny of Brixalot will lead the group in activities. Kids and adults can spend the evening making Lego creations. There is no cost to attend. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Contact Ken Moles at kenmoles@cox.net if a language translator is needed. Contact Kathleen DeCarlo at

kdecarlo@verizon.net for more information.

Spanish-Speaking Families Gathering, March 4

Mantua's Community Building Network Program invites school families to attend a get together on Friday, March 4, to give Spanish-speaking families a chance to meet and get to know each other, and to better connect with the school. This casual gathering will take place in the upper pod from 6:30 to 8 p.m. This also is in support of the upcoming Heritage Night. Refreshments will be served. If you would like to attend, please RSVP to Carmen

Mogrovejo at 703-207-2328 or Gabriella Numbela Drpic at 703-573-6375.

Spring FLEX Language Classes

We are excited to offer Sign Language and Spanish for K-2 this spring. Please sign up online. Contact Deirdre Mayes at deirdre.mayes@us.ibm.com for a hard copy form. Registration is due by March 1. Classes are \$95. Click [HERE](#) to register online. Then click the ONLINE button; click on Kids and Teens on the left side; click FLEX. Enter the course number in the search. Make sure to include at least two phone numbers and an email address when registering.

Course #	Course Title	Teacher	Section #	# of classes	Day and Time	Start Date	Grades	Level
FP03108	Sign	Mary Bagby	0001	8	Mon 1:45-2:45pm	3/7	K-2	1
FP08108	Spanish	Claudia Abrishami-azar	0008	8	Wed8-9am	3/9	K-2	1

Enrichment Programs

Beginning this spring, we are offering Dramarama for grades 3-6, and Investigation Station for grades K-3. Please sign up online. Contact Deirdre Mayes at deirdre.mayes@us.ibm.com for a hard copy form. Registration is due by March 1. Classes are \$119. Click [HERE](#) register online. Then click the ONLINE button; click Kids and Teens on the left side; click Enrichment Elementary. Enter the course number in the search. Make sure to include at least two phone numbers and an email address when registering.

Dramarama: Lights, Camera, Action! Come have fun being part of a drama production. Learn how to act, create a costume, and make your own props.

Investigation Station: Student nature detectives will explore the world of plants, animals, and bugs; make cool terrariums, worm farms, bird feeders and rock displays. Use a magnifying glass to find bugs and watch them play. Join the fun!

Course #	Course Title	Teacher	Section #	# of classes	Day and Time	Start Date	Grades
EM08015	Dramarama	Karen Gaughn	0001	8	Mon 1:45-2:45pm	3/7	3-6
EM08093	Investigation Station	MaryLynne Ochenkowski	0002	8	Mon 8-9am	3/7	K-3

Important Upcoming Event

Fri. Feb. 25: PTA Family Fun Lego Night, Mantua cafeteria

Wed. Mar. 2: PTA Meeting, Mantua library

Special Education Conference

The 6th Annual Special Education Conference: Parents + Educators + Student = Success will be held March 19, at Lee High School from 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Jonathan Mooney, a nationally known writer and public speaker who struggled in school with a learning disability, will give the keynote address. FCPS staff members Kirk Martin, Cathi Cohen, Dr. Erin Martin-Berman, Ann Dolin, and John Eisenberg also will present a variety of workshops for families and educators of students who receive special education services in Fairfax County Public Schools.

Please note that educators who attend the entire conference will earn five recertification points! Sign up through MyPLT.

Conference sessions and registration information is available [HERE](#). Download the conference flier [HERE](#). Learn more about Jonathan Mooney [HERE](#). Contact the Parent Resource Center at 703-204-3941 with questions.

Exchange Student Host Families Needed

The local chapter of the non-profit organization Council on International Educational Exchange is looking for families interested in hosting high-school aged international exchange students for the 2011-12 school year. For more

information, click [HERE](#)

Application Process for Elementary Magnet Schools

The following information will explain the 2011-2012 magnet school application and lottery process for Hunters Woods Elementary School for the Arts and Sciences and for Bailey's Elementary School for the Arts and Sciences.

Bailey's Elementary School for the Arts and Sciences has a broad array of programs to help each student to continually grow and thrive in his or her ability to create, inquire and connect. The school has both classroom teachers and additional specialized educators who focus on the sciences, the arts, and the technology so that these areas are integrated and complement one another as the child learns in all fields. Additionally, some students have the opportunity to participate in the Spanish Immersion program.

Hunters Woods Elementary School for the Arts and Sciences offers an interdisciplinary, concept-based instructional program with an added emphasis on fine and performing arts, science, and technology. Kindergarten and first grade students are assigned to multiage (K/1) classes. A science specialist, a technology resource teacher, and additional art classes provide opportunities for all students to enhance their learning. The arts team includes music, art, and dance teachers. Resource teachers collaborate with classroom teachers to coordinate and integrate learning activities with classroom instruction.

To be eligible to apply, a student must be on or above grade level in language arts and math

and demonstrate positive interpersonal and school behavior. Applications will be screened for eligibility, and a lottery will be conducted in early April.

Applications are available [here](#) on the FCPS site. Parents must complete the appropriate school application and return the form to the PreK-6 Instruction and School Support Office, at Fairfax Ridge. **Applications must be postmarked no later than March 1.**

For questions regarding the Bailey's Elementary School magnet program, please contact Rachel Charlton, assistant principal, at 703-575-6800. For questions

about the Hunters Woods Elementary School magnet program, please contact Diane Beers, parent liaison, at 703-262-7405.

For questions regarding the application process, please call the magnet information line, PreK-6 Instruction and School Support Office, Leis Center, at 571-423-4652.

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

한국어로번역된뉴스를받아보시기원하시는분은 크리스티씨께연락주세요. 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.

For more information, please visit our website:

www.MantuaPTA.org

Sincerely,

Mantua Elementary School PTA

