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# Mantua PTA Alert News

## April 17, 2012



### *School Board Approves Shortened School Year 6th Grade Graduation Date Change*

Since Fairfax County Public Schools only used one of its three weather-related makeup days, the school board has decided to end the school year two days early. The last day of school will now be Friday, June 15, which will be a full day.

As a result of this change, Mantua's 6th grade graduation will now be held on Friday, June 15. The graduation party will follow the ceremony. Students will be sent home on their regular buses.

### *Spring Picture Day This Wednesday*

Class photos, as well as individual pictures, will be taken this Wednesday, April 18. If pictures are not pre-ordered, a proof will be sent home and parents can order them online. Proofs will not be available for the class pictures, only for individual ones.

### *Mantua Faculty Basketball Game - Let the Countdown Begin*

The Green Hawks vs. Mantua faculty basketball game is just 10 days away. On April 27, doors open at 6:30 p.m. with a 7 p.m. tip-off in the Woodson gym. This is a must-see event for you and your family. Advanced tickets are \$4 for kids and \$8 for adults. Look for a flyer with ordering instructions in your child's Tuesday folder. Volunteers are still needed to sell tickets before school the week of April 24, and to help out on game night. Check out volunteer opportunities [HERE](#).

### *PTA Family Fun Night Out*

Meet us at Chick-fil-A this Wednesday, April 18, between 4 and 8 p.m. to have dinner and raise money for our PTA. Chick-fil-A is at 9509 Fairfax Boulevard at

Fairfax Circle. Dine in or order take out and present the event flyer for Mantua's PTA in order for the school to receive 20 percent of the evening's proceeds. Visit [www.chick-fil-a.com/fairfaxcircle](http://www.chick-fil-a.com/fairfaxcircle) for details. Contact Kathleen DeCarlo at [kdecarlo@verizon.net](mailto:kdecarlo@verizon.net) with any questions. Bon appetit!

### Family Fun Comic Book Night

The Mantua's PTA will host a Family Fun Comic Book Night on Wednesday, April 25, from 6 to 8 p.m. in the school cafeteria. Bring you favorite comic books to share with your friends. Learn about the annual National Free Comic Book Day to be held on Saturday, May 5. Meet Bentley Boyd, comic book author of Chester Comix. He will draw and talk about his books that bring social studies concepts to elementary school readers. The audience will brain storm a cartoon idea with Mr. Boyd and create a drawing. Bring a pencil for the drawing lesson. Many of the Chester Comix are in the school library. Chester Comix can be purchased at the event for \$5. A book signing will be held at the end of the evening. Visit [www.chestercomix.com](http://www.chestercomix.com) for more information. There is no fee to attend this event. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Contact Kathleen DeCarlo at [kdecarlo@verizon.net](mailto:kdecarlo@verizon.net) with any questions.

### April's Fungi Award goes to...

Monica Cameron for her winning grant application for the Phoebe Apperson Hearst Outstanding Family-School Partnership Award. Thank you Monica for all the many things you do for Mantua!

### Mantua's Odyssey of the Mind Team Wins Local Competition

On March 31, Mantua's Odyssey of the Mind team competed at the Northern Virginia Odyssey of the Mind Competition and won 1st place! The team, which includes 6th graders SeoJin Ahn, James Livingston, Justin Kane, and Jayson Mangis, as well as 4th grader Jenna Mangis and 2 grader Justin Mangis, worked hard to address the "To Be or Not To Be" problem. In this classics problem, the team put a humorous, musical theatre spin on one of William Shakespeare's most famous lines: "To Be Or Not To Be." They created a character who pondered a similar question, in a team-created dilemma. They also incorporated a character that portrayed Hamlet's conscience, a creative scene change, a creative costume change, and the use of a "trap door." The team spent 6 months creating a skit, building props, making their costumes, composing music, song and dance, and

presenting their solution, which needed to be less than 8 minutes in length. They competed this past weekend in the Virginia State Championship in Newport News, VA.

### *Sixth Grader Jemimah Rajack a Finalist for District PTA Citizenship Essay*

Jemimah Rajack, a sixth grader in Mr. Malc's class, has been selected as a finalist in the 2012 District PTA Citizenship Essay contest middle school division. The citizenship essay theme this year is was "community responsibility."

### *Parenting in the Digital Age*

On Thursday, May 10, Pamela Huffman, Fairfax County Public Schools Family and School Partnerships facilitator will present information about the latest research on media use, a sampling of the digital marketplace (including Facebook, Twitter, Tumblr, cell phones, Internet and more), an overview of our changing technological world, and your role as a parent in monitoring and guiding your child. Following the presentation, which will be at 7:30 p.m. immediately following the regular monthly PTA meeting, there will be time for parents to ask questions, and share suggestions, concerns and comments.

Refreshments will be served and childcare will be offered for a nominal fee. Look for more information about this informative presentation in your child's Tuesday folder.

### *Important Upcoming Events*

Thursday, April 12: Monthly PTA Meeting

Friday, April 13: Mantua Spirit Day - wear your best clothes!

Wednesday, April 18: Spring Picture Day

Friday, April 27: Mantua teachers vs. GreenHawks basketball game

### *TJHSST Launches Newsletters Aimed at Elementary Students*

Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology has launched two newsletters - one for grades 4-5 and one for grades 6-7. Known as the STEM Times, the newsletters are about science, technology, engineering and math (STEM). These publications include information about STEM news, activities, and opportunities in the Washington, D.C. metro area. The newsletter for grade 4-5 can

be found [HERE](#). The 6-7 grade version is available [HERE](#).

## Alert News Contributions

Send items via email to [alertnews@mantuapta.org](mailto: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](mailto:sabrina.lei@yahoo.com)

한국어로 번역된 뉴스를 받아보시기 원하시는분은 크리스티씨께 연락주세요. 전화 703-865-8065, 이메일 [choichristie@yahoo.com](mailto:choichristie@yahoo.com).

Nếu quý vị muốn nhận tin tức "the Alert News" được dịch ra tiếng Việt, xin liên lạc [sonha60@hotmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:ganumbela@hotmail.com).

For more information, please visit our website:

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

Sincerely,

Mantua Elementary School PTA

