

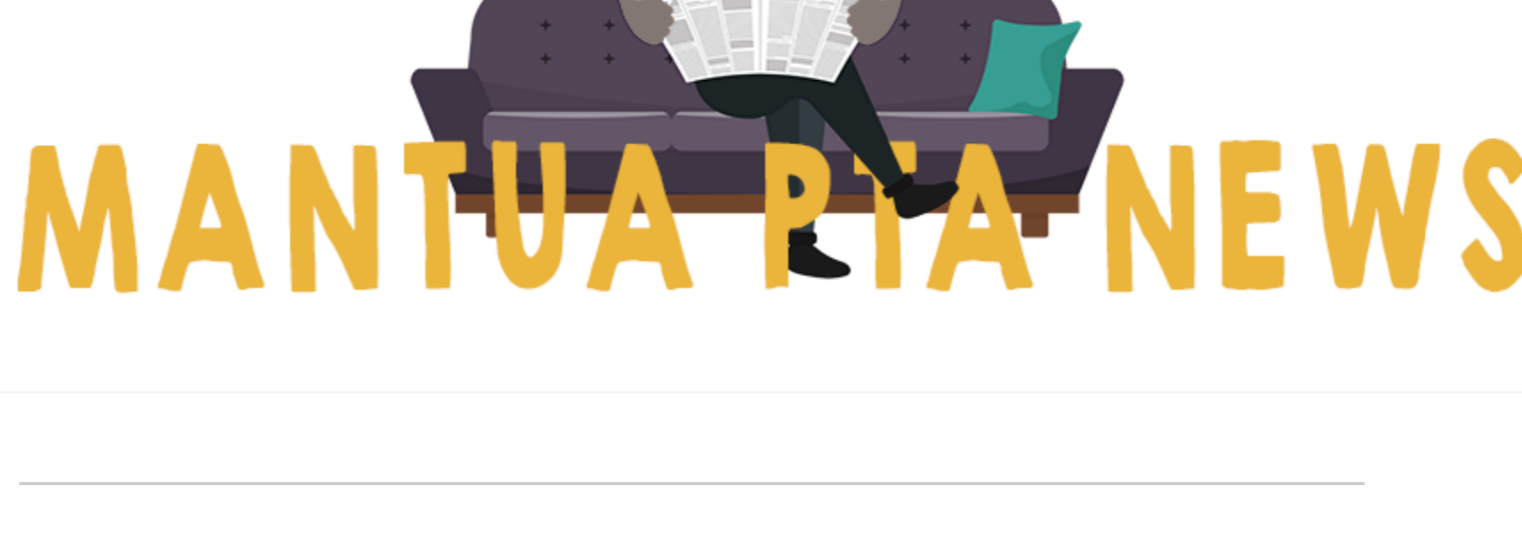
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Mantua PTA News 2020, Issue 12
Fairfax County Public Schools sent this bulletin at 11/24/2020 04:05 PM EST

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November 24, 2020 | Issue 12

Important Dates

November 25-27 (Wednesday - Friday): Thanksgiving Break – No School.
December 3 (Thursday): Virtual PTA Meeting, 7pm.

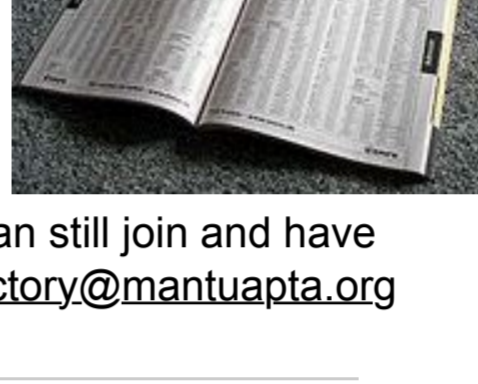
Book Fair **The Book Fair is Here!**
It's time for our annual book fair and we're going virtual! Same great books and games, but now you can shop from the comfort of home. Our amazing librarians have included their recommended reading and be sure to check out the teacher wishlists! This year, our book drive will benefit Berry Creek Elementary in California. The school and most of the families' homes were destroyed in the Paradise fire. Contact Jenn Ros at bookfair@mantuapta.org with questions.
https://www.bookwormcentral.com/school-online-store.php?id=00324020-DDCE-4FF5-9541-F78F3A71E167&pro_id=160&school_code=mantua

Advanced Academics Level IV Referral Form for Grades 2-6 due Tuesday, December 1st by 11:59pm.
Fairfax County Public Schools provides a continuum of gifted services for students. While some levels of these services are provided to all students, other students must be considered eligible through a school/district committee. If you wish to refer your child for consideration for these additional services, the deadline is **Tuesday, December 1st by 11:59pm.**
More information and a link to the referral form is located at <https://www.fcps.edu/academics/academic-overview/advanced-academic-programs>.
Please submit the form or any questions to Eva Bousbouras, Advanced Academics Resource Teacher, at vsbousbouras@fcps.edu.

Virtual Run for Rocky Wrap Up
Thank you to all our Mantua community for your wonderful support during our Virtual Run for Rocky fundraising campaign. We are thrilled to announce we **exceeded our goal and raised a total of \$31,728!!**
We would also like to thank our generous sponsors for their contributions:
-Jennifer Mack Properties -Anne and Sarah Harrington, Long and Foster Realtors -Merrifield Orthodontics -JL Tree
And now for those prizes! Congratulations to the winners of our Large Prize Raffle:
-Hydro Flask - David Kreider (Kostik) -Echo Dot - Mary Gallacher (Monhelm) - Kindle Paperwhite - Milan Gupta (Kneeland) -Mini iPad - Colton VanLanen (Welsh) -Nintendo Switch - Isla McRobbie (Sottolano)
Also a huge congratulations to our teachers that each won a \$150 Amazon Gift Card: Mrs. DeRosa and Mrs. Kapetanakis

And finally, a huge thank you to all the students that participated in our virtual event this year, the teachers and the staff that supported everyone's efforts, and this community for making our Virtual Run for Rocky a success!

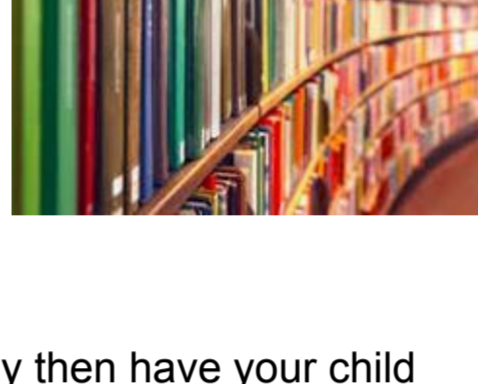
PTA Directory
PTA Members: The online directory is here! Look for an email with login instructions. We know there have been many inquiries about how to get in touch with other parents as we navigate our virtual school year - the online directory is a great resource to help you. If you aren't already a PTA member, you can still join and have access to the directory. Any questions, contact directory@mantuapta.org



Mantua Raccoon Masks Available!
You asked, we listened! Mantua Raccoon masks are now for sale in youth and adult sizes on our website. You can still get one free with membership too. Pick up instructions will be emailed after purchase.



Library Curbside Pick Up
Curbside library pick up is now open! Click this [link](#) (must be logged into an FCPS Google account) in order to get information on curbside library pick up. There are step by step instructions, links to our catalog and how to videos so that your child can participate. <https://sites.google.com/fcpschools.net/mantualibrary/home?authuser=0>
If you are not receiving emails saying holds are ready then have your child check their FCPS Gmail account and/or check your SPAM folder.
Questions, email Katie Marmol (kgmarmol@fcps.edu) or Michelle Hawk (mahawk@fcps.edu).



School Issued Laptop Help
If you are experiencing difficulties with your child's school issued laptop, please remember to refer to the self-help page and ticketing service.
Self-help page: <https://www.fcps.edu/return-school/technology-support-families>
Parent/Student Ticket Page: <https://web.fcps.edu/itsupport/>

Parent Information Relating to Special Education
All these opportunities are online and FREE unless noted.
In most cases you must register if registration information is provided.
Ongoing and On Demand events and courses follow this monthly list of events.
Support Groups for Parents and Youth are at the end of this list.

When other events become available they will be posted at: <https://fairfaxcountysepta.org/upcoming-community-events/>

The FCPS Parent Resource Center Library now has a contact free procedure for lending their materials. prc@fcps.edu 703-204-3941

Ongoing and On Demand
Dyslexia & the IEP: How to Make Sure the IEP Is in Tip-Top Shape
Webinar, available 24/7
Access: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=frehRL58Uts>

Parent Child Journey
Online course; content available for one year \$200 (scholarships available)
This program is to help parents identify the source of their child's challenging behavior and learn what they can do about it. For parents of children ages 3-12.
Information: <http://www.parentchildjourney.com/journey/>

Accommodations for Recreational Classes and Camps with Fairfax County Parks
Accommodations include physical accessibility, ASL interpreters, assistive devices, sensitivity training for classmates, and staff training.
To request accommodations, email gary.lobue@fairfaxcounty.gov or 703 324-8563

Scholarships for Classes with Fairfax County Parks
Children of families that receive public assistance (medicaid, free school lunch, SNAP, TANF) are eligible to take one set of classes per quarter for a \$15 registration fee.
Information: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/scholarships>

NAMI Basics
This 6-session course is for adults who provide care for youth (ages 22 and younger) who are experiencing mental health symptoms (including ADHD and ASD).
Register: <https://publiccourseapi.nami.org/Learner/Login?ReturnUrl=%2F>

Wrightslaw Special Education Law and Advocacy Training
Learn about special education law, rights and responsibilities; tests to measure progress and regression; SMART IEPs; and strategies for effective advocacy.
Info: https://www.wrightslaw.com/webinars/law_adv_index.htm \$50-\$90

The Parent Playbook – 8 Module Online Course
From the VCU Autism Center for Excellence & Virginia Autism Council. An introduction on Autism Spectrum Disorder for families, including tips for caregivers, characteristics, interventions and recommended programs and services.
Access: https://vcuautismcenter.org/te/courses/parent_playbook.cfm

Support Groups
All these support groups are open to newcomers, most are online, and they are free, except where noted. No diagnosis is required to participate. Participants are typically given the opportunity to share their story, experience support, and glean guidance (as desired) from group members regarding both community and school resources. Confidentiality is respected.

Autism Social Club for teens and young adults with ASD meets virtually Saturdays, noon-1:00 pm. Contact: Dr. Nicci Dowd autismsoclub@gmail.com

Back to School Online Support Group meets the 2nd Tues. each month at 6:30 pm. Talk with peers and get ideas. Register: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeMCLu0k>

Heads Up and Talk It Out – Teen and Parent Recovery Groups
These are concurrent virtual groups for teens (ages 14-17) who are working through emotional, mental health or substance use challenges and their parents every Thursday 6-7 pm.
Info: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/community-services-board/recovery/heads-up-talk-it-out>

Stronger Together meets alternate Tuesdays, 7-8 pm, starting Oct. 6. This peer support group is for parents, caregivers and guardians who are facilitated by professionals. Register: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2020-21-stronger-together-peer-support-groups-tickets-1192460351012>

Teen Topics, for teens with and without ASD, meets some Saturdays, 4:00-5:00 pm to learn and practice social and life skills and to build independence. RSVP Director@ASN.org

Support Groups for Parents
Alpha Moms This support group for adoptive parents meets monthly in McLean. Contact: robindbrady@gmail.com

Autism Dads meets one evening monthly. Contact: George Buzby at 571-419-1257 or gbuzby@aol.com

Autism Society of Northern Virginia Virtual Support Group 2nd and 4th Saturday of the month, 1:00-2:30 pm via Zoom. Meeting ID: 83085728013

Business Networking Event for Special Needs Parents
Alternate Fridays, 9:00-10:30 am via Zoom. Connect with fellow special needs parents and business owners, build your referral network, and share best practices. Contact: <https://thearcofcloudoun.org/networking/>

CHADD: Children & Adults with Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder

- Alexandria CHADD Parent Support Group** 4th Mon. of each month at 6:30 pm. Contact: Alyssa ADHDParentMountVernon@gmail.com or call 303-903-9972.

- Loudoun County CHADD Parent Support** 3rd Tue. morning of the month in Sterling. Contact: Bonnie Little 571-306-2932 or on Facebook @loudounadhdhsupport

- West Fairfax/Burke CHADD Parent Support Group** 1st & 3rd Thur. of each month at 8 pm Contact: Cathy, cgcaulich@aol.com

CSB Family Support Group at Gatlan Center 2nd and 4th Wed. of each month 6:00-7:30 pm via Zoom Contact: Samar.Chwairy@fairfaxcounty.gov or call 703-799-2882.

D.A.D.S. Dads Appreciating Down Syndrome 3rd Tue. each month, 7-9 pm via Zoom. Contact: George.gbuzby@aol.com or call 703- 545-6089.

Dr. Dan's Support Group for Parents Raising Challenging Children meets via Zoom on Mondays, 1-2 pm, Register: <http://survey.constantcontact.com/survey/a07eb2mzqrk9ydgghmb/a0179kbrghnj1/questions>

Epilepsy Parent Support Group & Discussion Series meets monthly on the 4th Thursday, 7:00-8:30 pm. Register: <https://epilepsywdc.org/events/epilepsy-parent-support-group-discussion-series-virtual/>

Fairfax Juvenile Court Parent Support for problems including runaway behavior, truancy, alcohol/drug abuse, and serious behavioral problems at home, at school, or in the community. Sign up for a phone consultation at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0a44ab29abf85-juvenile>

Family Recovery & Support Group meets weekly via Zoom on Mondays 6:30-7:30 pm for family and friends of those receiving CSB services for addictions. Contact: Natalie.Holmes@fairfaxcounty.gov www.fairfaxcounty.gov/community-services-board/recovery/family-support-virtual-group

Grupo de Chat para Padres: Unete a nuestro nuevo GRUPO DE CHAT mediante la aplicación de WhatsApp y podras mantenerte al tanto de todo lo que PEATC Latino esta haciendo. Entra al GRUPO: <https://bit.ly/2VoU2wW> (Chat Group for Latino Parents: Join our new CHAT GROUP through the WhatsApp application and you will be able to keep up to date with everything that PEATC Latino is doing.)

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NAMI: National Alliance on Mental Illness builds better lives for affected families. Arlington Parent Support Group meets two Sundays a month at 7:00-8:30 pm. Contact: Michelle Best mczero@yahoo.com

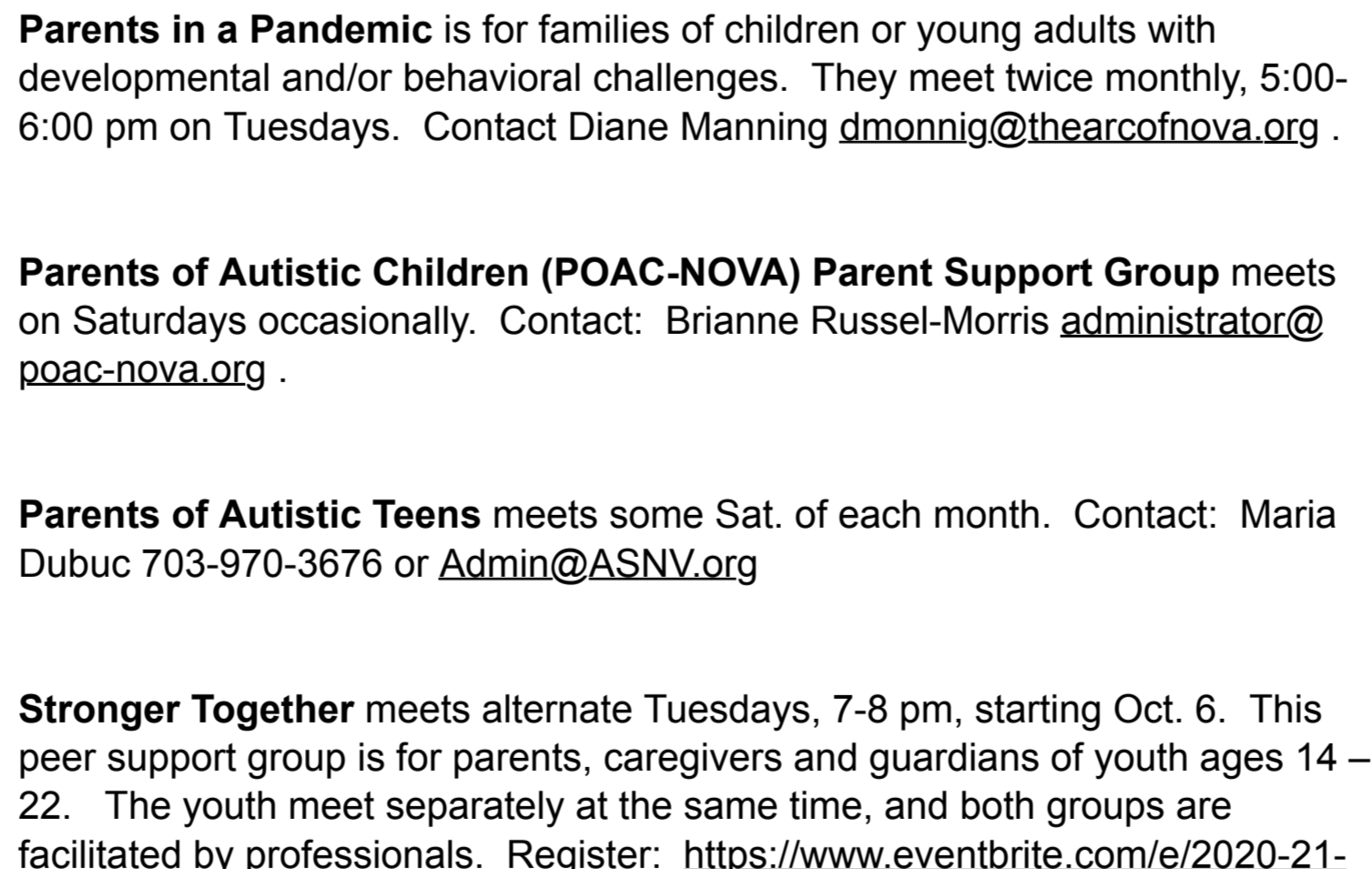
Parent Café (for all Fairfax County parents and guardians) meets via Zoom in English on Mon., 7:45-9:15 pm, for African Americans on Thu. at 5:00-7:30 and en español, miércoles, 7:00-8:30 pm. Register at least 24 hours in advance by email: BuildingStrongerFamilies@fairfaxcounty.gov or 703-324-7720

Parents in a Pandemic is for families of children or young adults with developmental and/or behavioral challenges. They meet twice monthly, 5:00-6:00 pm on Tuesdays. Contact Diane Manning dmanning@thearcofnova.org

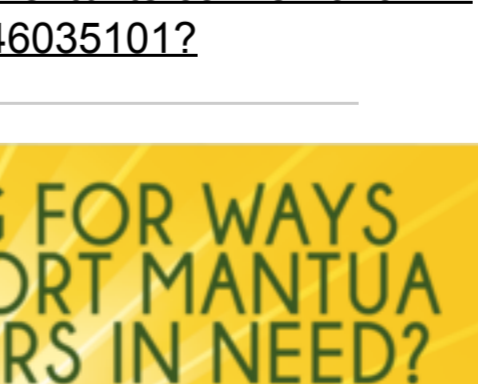
Parents of Autistic Children (POAC-NOVA) Parent Support Group meets on Saturdays occasionally. Contact: Briane Russel-Morris administrator@poac-nova.org

Parents of Autistic Teens meets some Sat. of each month. Contact: Maria Dubuc 703-970-3676 or Admin@ASN.org

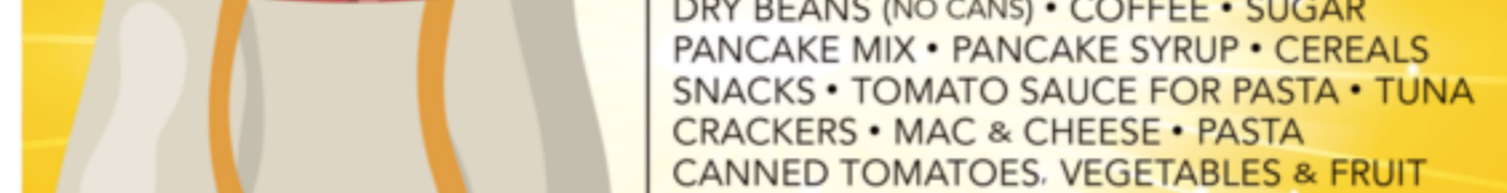
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How to Submit an Announcement to the PTA News
Please complete this form to have a Mantua ES- or Mantua PTA-related announcement placed in the weekly Mantua PTA News, on our Facebook page and/or on MantuaPTA.org.
The form guides you through all the pieces of information we need to put out complete announcements.



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