



Mantua PTA Alert News

May 10, 2011



Calling all Gardeners!

A new garden will be planted in the school's courtyard this Saturday, May 14. If you would like to help with the weeding, mulching, planting, etc, please join us between 8 and 10 a.m. This will be a pollinator garden - all plant donations will be gladly accepted, too. Please bring your own tools and gloves. If you are interested in helping out with the courtyard garden and other gardens planned for next year, please contact Kati Hesford at kati.hesford@gmail.com for more information.

Thank You, Thank You, Thank You!!!

To all the wonderful parents who helped make this year's Teacher Appreciation Luncheon such a great success, thank you so very much. A special thanks goes to Christie Choi and her team of amazing moms who cooked up the most delicious dishes for our wonderful teachers. The food was incredible! For those families who so generously gave gift cards, you'll be proud and happy to know that almost EVERY teacher left the luncheon with a gift certificate in hand. I truly believe these great educators felt "appreciated!"

Girls on the Run Needs Coaches for Next Year

While it's early to be thinking about next year, we want Girls on the Run (GOTR) to continue at Mantua for the 2011-12 school year. GOTR is a non-profit organization with the mission of educating and preparing girls in grades 3-8 for a lifetime of self-respect and healthy living. The innovative program combines training for a 5K running event with lessons that help adolescent girls build confidence, develop healthy lifestyles, and be better able to succeed throughout their lives. Twice-weekly lessons are led by trained female coaches, who guide and mentor participants through a fun and uplifting curriculum that focuses on empowering girls with life-long skills to improve their emotional and physical health. Contact Robert Silkowitz, at Robert.Silkowitz@emerson.com, if you are interested in becoming a coach. We need at least two people per group of 10-15 girls. No prior

experience is required.

PTA Art Reflections 2011-12

Next year's PTA Art Reflections theme has been announced! If you want to get started on next year's entry create a piece of art, literature, photography, music, film/video, dance/choreography that relates to the 2011-12 theme: "Diversity means..." More information and registration forms will be available in the near future. Contact Jackie DeScisciolo at jdescisciolo@cox.net, with questions.

Important Upcoming Events

Thurs. May 12: Spring Strings Concert, 7 p.m.

Mon. May 23: Spring Choral Concert, 7 p.m.

Fri. May 27: 2-hour early release

Mon. May 30: School CLOSED for Memorial Day

Woodson Dialogue on Discipline, May 10

Parents, students, staff, and interested community members are all welcome to attend a discussion on discipline to be co-hosted by Woodson Principal Jeff Yost and Woodson PTSO President Nell Hurley during the school's PTSO meeting May 10, at 7 p.m. in the school library.

Similar to other dialogues being held in middle and high schools across the county, we will review current practices and the superintendent's 10 recommendations for change, then divide into small groups to focus on the Student Responsibilities and Rights handbook; parental notification; instructional support during suspensions, and a proposed exit survey of parents who have experienced discipline hearings.

Feedback from the dialogue will be forwarded to the school board and superintendent for their consideration. Go to [HERE](#) for more information.

Virginia DOE Mathematics Standards Implementation for 2011-12 SY

The new 2009 Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) mathematics standards will be fully implemented in the 2011-12 school year. With the implementation of the new standards, Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) is aligning the new Elementary Mathematics Instructional Sequence (EMIS) with these standards. EMIS will allow all students to access the advanced mathematics curriculum either in an

advanced mathematics classroom or in a general education classroom through differentiation. The new instructional sequence provides teachers with the tools needed for differentiation. EMIS offers multiple entry points for students to access the advanced mathematics curriculum when they have developed the cognitive skills to be successful. Advanced mathematics extended indicators and above grade level correlated standards will be available for students as early as kindergarten and will build a stronger foundation in mathematics.

The compacted mathematics curriculum is being enriched and expanded to include extensions that allow students to develop critical thinking skills and develop a deeper understanding of mathematics that will better prepare them for upper level mathematics in high school and beyond. The current learning gaps that exist in compacted mathematics, created by selecting only certain standards, are being closed allowing students access to all standards. Compacted mathematics will become *Advanced Mathematics* to be more representative of the rigor in the program. The Advanced Mathematics curriculum will be available in all elementary schools including Advanced Academic Center schools. Go [HERE](#) for a voice over PowerPoint.

Looking for a Summer Day Camp?

The Mantua PTA has collected weekly summer day camp recommendations from our school families and neighbors, and put them in an easy-to-use format [HERE](#). Please note that these camps are not endorsed by the PTA, but simply collected from school family suggestions.

FCPS Announcements

FCPS Announces Community Meetings for [Annandale Regional Boundary Study](#).

FCPS, Fairfax County to Hold [Online Chat](#) for Families With Children Entering Kindergarten.

Cavalier Summer Cheer and Dance Camp, July 5-8

The Woodson Cheerleaders will hold their camp 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. and the Precisionettes will hold their camp 1 p.m. - 5 p.m. The camp is open to all rising 1st through 9th grade students. Each camp is \$130 per child, or attend both camps for \$220 per child.

For more information contact camp coordinators Betsy Nerdahl, frances.nerdahl@fcps.edu, and Madelyn Weaver, madelynweaver@yahoo.com, or 703-609-2416, or go [HERE](#).

Alert News Contributions

Send items via email to alertnews@mantuaapta.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

한국어로 번역된 뉴스를 받아보시기원하시는분은 크리스티씨께 연락주세요. 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

