



Mantua PTA Alert News September 27, 2011



Mantua Needs Your Help to Make 50th Anniversary a Success

Mantua Elementary is getting excited and geared up for a wonderful 50th anniversary celebration! In order to make the day run smoothly and offer lots of fun activities, we are looking for the following:

- **Volunteers:** Sign up for one or more 45-minute shift [HERE](#) or email Teresa LeMair at teresalemair@aol.com to let her know when you can help!
- **Balloon Animal Makers:** Do you know how to make balloon animals or are willing to learn? We are looking for some balloon artists! Adults or older children are welcome. Please sign up at the link above, or contact Teresa LeMair.
- **Old Cars:** If you own a car built in the 60's, 70's or 80's (or know someone who does), and would be willing to be a part of a car show, please contact our coordinators at Mantua50th@hotmail.com.

Fiftieth Anniversary Spirit Wear For Sale

Help celebrate Mantua's 50 years of educational excellence by ordering your anniversary spirit wear. T-shirts, hoodies, sweatpants, basketball shorts, pajama pants and car magnets are available. Samples are displayed in the cafeteria. Order forms were sent home in Tuesday folders. Additional order forms are available on the PTA table in the school lobby. Order forms should be returned to the PTA mailbox. Final orders will be taken on Friday, Oct. 7. Delivery will be on Friday, Nov. 4. Items will go home in your child's backpack. Contact Kathleen DeCarlo at kdecarlo@verizon.com with questions.

Sally Foster/Entertainment Book Fundraiser Wrapping Up

We are in our last week of our Sally Foster and Entertainment Book fundraiser. Don't forget we have TWO turn in days this week, Wednesday, Sept. 28, and Friday, Sept. 30. Bring your Sally Foster and Entertainment Book orders as well as

any materials you are returning to the "Turn in Table" outside of the cafeteria between 8 and 9 a.m. either day to redeem your prizes. Remember, if you've sold \$90 worth of products (combined Sally Foster AND Entertainment Books), you'll be handed your Golden Ticket to our Games to You party on Monday, Oct. 17. If you can't make it to the turn in table, simply drop off your orders in the office. Your prizes will be delivered to your classrooms. Contact Meri Farling at merifarling@hotmail.com with questions. Thank you for supporting the Mantua PTA!

School Picture Day is Sept. 28

School photos will be taken this Wednesday, Sept. 28, in the gym. An order form will be sent home in your child's Tuesday folder. You can also find it [HERE](#).

Parent Education

Each year, the Parent Education Committee, in conjunction with our school guidance counselors, plans and presents programs on parenting topics to our Mantua school community. We welcome any suggestions about programs that may be of interest to our parents. In the past, parents have expressed interest in some of the following topics: coping with anxiety in children; successful homework strategies; bullying prevention, and Internet safety for children. If you have any suggestions for topics you would like to see included in our programming, please email Margaret Scheele at Margaret_Scheele@yahoo.com on or before Oct. 4. We appreciate your input.

Kids Care Club School Supplies Collection Currently is at 20 Pounds

Mantua's Kids Care Club's (KCC) first activity of the year is its September School Supply collection for those in need. So far we have collected 20 pounds of supplies and are on our way to reaching our goal of collecting 100 pounds. Please consider sending in a donation (pens, pencils, crayons, erasers, etc.). We are looking forward to a year full of opportunities that allow us to show how much Mantua Kids Care!

Grocery Club Registration Forms

Please send in your grocery club registration forms as soon as possible. This is an easy (and free!) way to earn money for our school. If anyone has any questions or need a new form, you can contact Lori Recher at lorirecher@hotmail.com. Thank you and happy shopping!

Reminder: No Bus Passes Will be Allowed Through September

No student will be allowed to ride home on a bus other than his or her own through September (i.e., no bus passes will be issued). Please note this is NOT a Mantua Elementary School policy. If you have questions, please contact FCPS Transportation Supervisor Cleora Alexander at: Cleora.Alexander@fcps.edu. Thank you for your patience and cooperation.

Starting in October, if your child is going home with a friend both parents must notify the office. If permission is not received by both parents then each child is to go to his/her normal destinations after school. Only under extreme circumstances will the office call for permission.

Parking in Horner Court Cul-de-sac

Be careful when parking at the school. Cars will be ticketed for parking in the fire lane (yellow curb area from the fire hydrant to corner) on the Horner Court cul-de-sac facing the school. Please do not park in this area. Some cars may park parallel past the yellow curb towards the first house. However, you must keep a good distance from the mailbox and driveway.

Mantua Basketball 2011-12

It is that time of year again! We are really excited to start the 2011-12 Mantua Basketball season. You should have received the enrollment form that has all the details in last week's Tuesday folder. You also can download the [FORM](#) from the PTA website. Register early and save \$10. The fee is \$35 through the end of September. Beginning Oct. 1 the fee increases to \$45. If you have any questions email Sam Mayes, league director, at MantuaBasketball@mantuapta.org.

Mantua Chess Club

If you have a child in grades 4-6 who is looking for a fun environment to learn the game of chess and/or improve their skills, then the Mantua Chess Club is for them! The club will run October through May and meet every Tuesday. If your child is interested in joining, please contact Lori Prendergast at loripren@yahoo.com, with the following information: student name, current grade, level (beginner, intermediate, etc.) and parent contact information. PLEASE NOTE: This is a parent volunteer assisted program, so we will need parents to help our wonderful teachers/coaches! If you are interested in volunteering, please attend a parents information meeting on Tuesday Oct. 4, from 6 to 7 p.m. in the cafeteria.

Reflections Art Program

Create a piece of art, literature, photography, music, film/video, dance/choreography to the 2011-12 theme: "DIVERSITY MEANS..." Entries will be due to the PTA on Friday, Oct. 28, by 4 p.m. (deposit entries in the designated box near the PTA mailbox in front office). Please refer to the official Reflections entry rules. Additional entry forms are available at the front table in the lobby. PLEASE BE SURE TO FOLLOW RULES exactly for entries or entry cannot be sent up to the district level. All participants will receive a ribbon. All forms required for entries and rules for each category can be found on the Mantua PTA website at <http://www.mantuapta.org/activities/reflections.php> Contact Jackie DeScisciolo at jdescisciolo@gmail.com with questions.

Test your Mantua Elementary School Knowledge

This weeks 50th Trivia question:

Q: What did a hot school lunch cost at Mantua in 1967?

See answer below.

FLEX 2011-12 (Foreign Language Experience) Registration Underway

The Mantua PTA, in conjunction with FCPS, is pleased to offer a foreign language program before and after school. Languages will be taught through conversation using games, songs, drama, drills, dialogues, maps and culturally-related activities. Please sign up at www.fcps.edu/aceclasses. Click on ONLINE BROWSE/REGISTER, choose KIDS/TEENS, choose LANGUAGES. You also can search for a class by course number. Registration deadline is Friday, Sept. 30. Classes, which begin the week of Oct. 10, run for 15 weeks. Confirmation and room assignments will be sent out one week prior to start of classes. Flex classes for K-1 will be offered in the spring. Tuition is \$169. Contact Deirdre Mayes at deirdre.mayes@mayes.net or 703-477-8208 with questions.

CLASS*	COURSE	SECTION #	DAY / TIME
GRADES			
German 1 2-6	FPO6115	0001	Tues. 8-9 a.m.
French 1 3-6	FPO5115	0004	Wed. 8-9 a.m.
Spanish 1	FPO8115	0002	Wed. 8-9 a.m.

2-6			
Sign Lang. 1	FPO3115	0001	Thurs. 3:55-4:55 p.m.
2-6			
Chinese level 3	FPO7704	0001	Fri. 3:55 - 4:55 p.m.
1-6			

Chinese is for native speakers or children who have completed a Level 2 Flex Chinese course.

* Class Size: 8 to 15 students.

Advertise in Mantua Elementary School PTA Student Directory

The Mantua student directory currently is accepting advertisements for its 2011-12 edition. Ads are due Oct. 7. The back cover will be awarded via an auction to the highest bidder. Ad space is available for as low as \$30, so there are no excuses not to support your Mantua PTA and advertise your business! Informational letter can be found [HERE](#). Go to the [ORDER FORM](#) to get pricing and to place an ad. Contact Monika Brenner at monika.brenner@dhs.gov, 202-325-0038 (day); or 703-385-2516 (evening) to advertise or for more information.

Creating/Accessing FCPS Blackboard Accounts

If you are not familiar with Blackboard, it's a great way learn more about your children's classes, assignments, information and announcements. In order to see your children's Blackboard information you must first set up an account through Parent View. Once you receive confirmation of the account you need to bring that information along with a photo ID to the front office of your child's school to receive access.

You must use the same address and phone number that your child's school has on file in order to get a confirmation number. This account will give you viewing access to ALL of your children's Blackboard accounts as long as you enter them during the initial registration. Parents should use their parent accounts, not their children's to view class information. Click on the following links to learn how to create a parent account, use it, add children if you've done it in the past, and update your emergency care information. Information also can be found at

<http://www.fcps.edu/MantuaES/parents/parenthome.html>

Go [HERE](#) to learn how to create a parent account. Go [HERE](#) to get started. Go [HERE](#) for information on how to use Parent View. Go [HERE](#) to add a child to your

account.

Important Upcoming Events

Wed. Sept. 28: Picture Day

Mon. Oct. 10: Columbus Day, School Closed

Thurs. Oct 13: PTA Monthly Meeting

Sat. Oct. 15: Mantua 50th Birthday Celebration, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

PTA Members: Please Vote on Issues Related to Your Children

As mentioned last week, there is an upcoming vote on three items from the Virginia Proposed Legislative Program. A description of these items can be found on the PTA website. You may now vote on these items [HERE](#) (this link is also on Mantua's website). Your ballots are confidential, but we do require your name to verify PTA membership. Paper ballots will be available at the October PTA meeting, and voting will close the day after this meeting. Thank you for your support!

Facilities Planning Advisory Council Vacancy

The Fairfax County School Board is seeking applicants to fill a vacancy on the Facilities Planning Advisory Council (FPAC) for the Providence District. The appointment runs through June 2012, at which time reappointment may be considered. Previous applications for this position also will be considered in this process. Applications will be accepted through Friday, Sept. 30. For more information about the new council and member responsibilities, or to download an application form go to [Facilities Planning Advisory Council](#).

Grant Writer Needed

The Mantua PTA is interested in responding to grant proposals that are available to PTAs nationwide, but we need help! If you have any experience and/or time to help with this endeavor please contact Lesley Kowalski at mantuaptaprez@gmail.com.

The two grants currently available to PTAs are:

- Local PTAs can apply for up to \$1,000 in matching funds to support student-centered arts education programs. Units can apply at PTA.org/MLAgrant. The deadline is Saturday, Oct. 15.
- PTA Take Your Family to School grants can be used to build positive

partnerships with teachers and families, connect parents to their children's school experiences, and give children fun ways to share what they are learning and doing in class with their families. Units can apply at PTA.org/familytoschool. The deadline is Friday, Oct. 28.

Trivia Answer

In 1967 a hot school lunch cost at Mantua cost 35 cents.

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

한국어로 번역된 뉴스를 받아보시기 원하시는분은 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

