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**Mantua PTA News 2021, Issue 28**

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April 6, 2021 | Issue 28

**Important Dates**

- April 15 (Thursday): Virtual PTA Meeting.
- May 8 (Saturday): Virtual Raccoon Run.
- May 31 (Monday): Memorial Day, No School.

**Volunteer Opportunities with the Mantua PTA!**

We have two immediate opportunities to get involved with PTA! We are hard at work planning for next year. The first step is the nominating committee in charge of finding nominees for the executive board and other committee chairpersons. Three people serve in this position for just one month, April to May 2021. The second position takes even less time! Just one afternoon, Friday April 9th, to observe the audit process. No qualifications required.

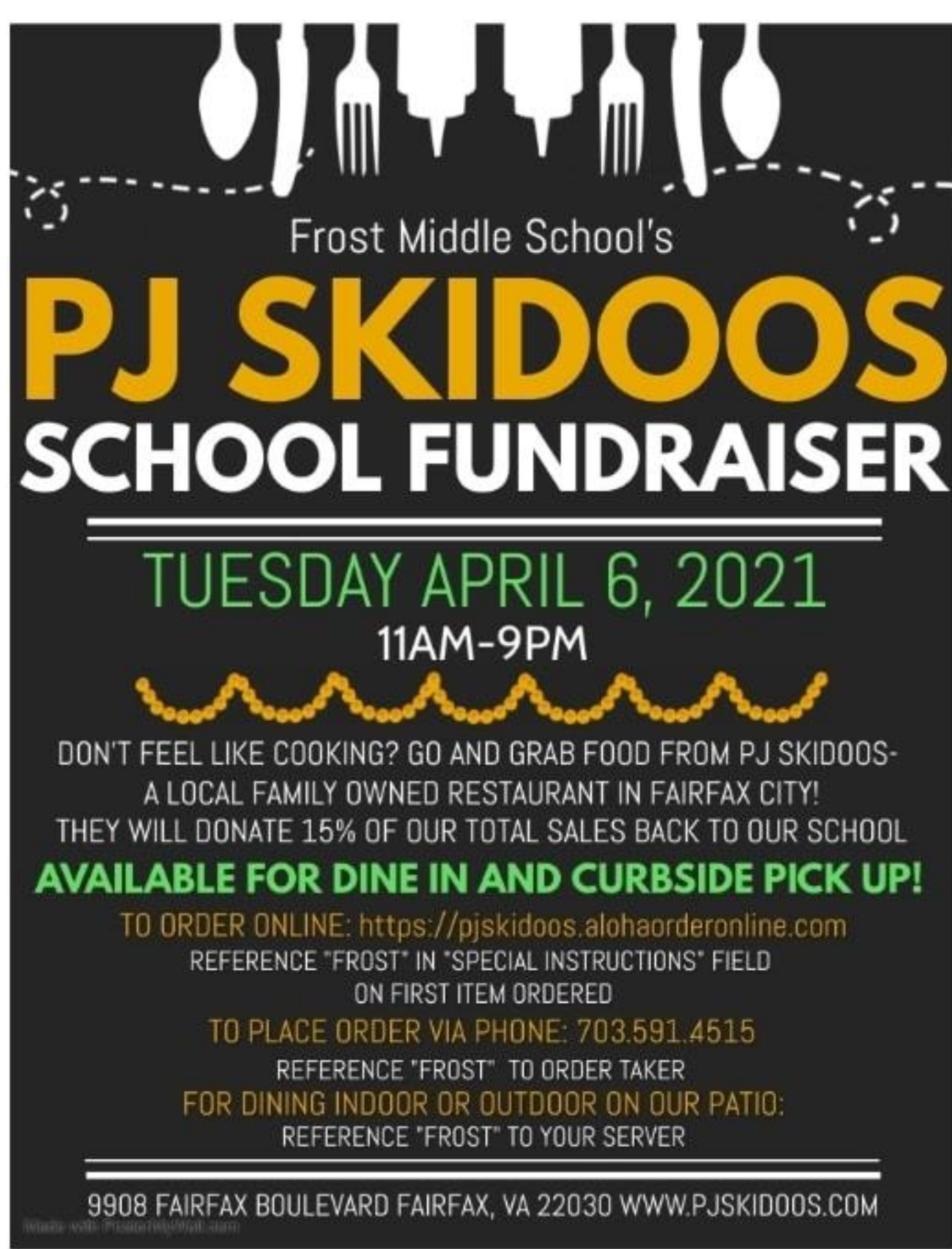
If you're willing to help with either of these important but short term roles, please email Kristina Clarke at [president@mantuapta.org](mailto:president@mantuapta.org)

**21st Annual Raccoon Run: VIRTUAL**

Join in the fun with those in your own "bubble" for a Virtual RACCOON RUN in support of Life with Cancer on or about **Saturday, May 8, 2021**. Although there isn't an official start/finish line or ROCKY Raccoon cheering you on, the Raccoon Run runs on!



Visit [www.raccoonrun.org](http://www.raccoonrun.org) for all the details Contact Jennifer Lewis-Cooper, [jalcooper@aol.com](mailto:jalcooper@aol.com) 703-966-830 with any questions.



**Mantua Parent Liaison Seeking New or Gently Used Clothing**

Hello Mantua Families, Thank you for your continued and generous donations of food and other items through our Parent Liaison, Luis Uribe, to those Mantua families in need. A recent need he identified is children's clothing sized 8-16, primarily for boys. If during your spring clean out and return to school you find that you have pants, shirts, or other clothing to donate to Mantua please contact Luis at [lauribegambo@fcps.edu](mailto:lauribegambo@fcps.edu) to set up a time for donation drop off. Thank you!

**Mantua's Got Talent!**

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE EXTENDED!** The Mantua Music Department and the PTA are teaming up to bring this year's Talent Show to you virtually. Now is your time to shine! To enter your two minute act into the Talent Show, please click the registration link below. Registration form is due by **Wednesday, April 7**. After you register, your confirmation email will include instructions on how to record and upload your video talent submission. **Videos will be due on Monday, April 12**. If you have any questions, you can email Anita Aberle at [AC.Aberle@fcps.edu](mailto:AC.Aberle@fcps.edu)

<http://www.memberplanet.com/s/mantuaelementaryschoolpta/2021talentshow>

**PICTURE DAY COMING SOON**

- April 19 – ALL Virtual students – parents will be emailed a sign up genius to parents with 5 min. appointments (or parents can download a picture if they do not want to come into the building)
- April 21 – ALL T/W students
- April 22 – ALL TH/F students

Picture envelopes are going out the week of April 6<sup>th</sup>. Parents can order online ahead of time and print the confirmation or send money in the day of the event.

**Mantua Food Drive – Grade Level Competition!**

The Mantua Food Drive aims to support families from our own neighborhood and school. Luis Uribe Gamboa, Mantua's fabulous parent liaison, started this incredible effort last spring. No donation is too small, so if you are able to grab a few cans or an extra box of cereal, every little bit helps. From **now until April 18th**, we are going to see which grade at Mantua ES can drop off the most food! The PTA will have a surprise for the teachers of the grade that collects the most food! Drop off is at 9214 Ponce Place (please leave donations outside of the garage door), just add a label to your donation to indicate your child's grade. Here is a list of items needed:

- Oil -Flour -Tortilla Flour (Maseca) -Dry Beans, red, black etc.. (No Cans Please!)
- Rice -Pancake Flour -Pancake Syrup -Tomato Sauce for pasta -Mac & cheese -Spaghetti -Pasta (all kinds) -Canned Tomatoes -Canned Vegetables (green beans, carrots, mixed vegetables etc.) -Canned fruit -Snacks (energy bars, chips etc.) -Coffee -Sugar

**ADVANCED ACADEMIC PROGRAMS (AAP)**

**SCREENING FOR SCHOOL-BASED (LEVEL II-III) SERVICES**

Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) offers a continuum of advanced academic services for all students in grades K-8. Learning experiences are designed to develop higher-level thinking through enrichment, acceleration, and extensions of the Program of Studies (POS). Teachers, administrators, and advanced academic resource teachers (AARTs) work together to provide the following levels of school-based services in each elementary school:

- **Critical and Creative Thinking Lessons, Grades K-6 (Level I)**
- All students in kindergarten through grade six receive level I services which consist of model lessons that are designed to teach critical and creative thinking skills. The lessons are modeled in all classrooms by AARTs and the thinking strategies are then used throughout the year by classroom teachers and other teachers who work with students. Student responses to these model lessons are used as part of the identification process for AAP services. Parents may also practice the thinking strategies during family conversations and activities. A description of the nine critical and creative thinking strategies can be found at <https://www.fcps.edu/academics/elementary-school-academics-k-6/advanced-academics/critical-and-creative-thinking>.
- **Differentiated Lessons in Areas of Academic Strength, Grades K-6 (Level II)**

The AART collaborates with classroom teachers to provide additional challenge through lessons and resources that extend and enrich the POS.

- **Part-Time Advanced Academic Programs, Grades 3-6 (Level III)**
- Students identified by a local school screening committee for part-time advanced academic services are challenged through models and strategies designed to extend and enrich the POS in the four core subject areas. Students receive direct instruction from the AART at the local school using curriculum from the AAP Curriculum and Resources to Support the Differentiated Framework. Students identified for Level III services continue to receive level III services through grade 6.

Screening for school-based services is done schoolwide in spring to determine services for the next school year. Parents or guardians may initiate the screening for school-based level III services by submitting the AAP School-Based Services Referral Form (available at <https://www.fcps.edu/registration/advanced-academics-identification-and-placement/elementary-school/current-fcps>) at the bottom of the page in Forms) to the Eva Bousbouras at [vsbousbouras@fcps.edu](mailto:vsbousbouras@fcps.edu) prior to spring screening by Friday, May 7th. Multiple criteria are used to screen students for all levels of AAP services. Parents or guardians who submit a referral will be notified by Mantua Elementary School of their student's eligibility status by Friday, June 11, 2021.

If a parent or guardian wishes to appeal an ineligible decision, they may submit an appeal with new data for consideration by the local school screening committee. This new information should be submitted to Eva Bousbouras at [vsbousbouras@fcps.edu](mailto:vsbousbouras@fcps.edu).

If you have any questions, please contact Eva Bousbouras at [vsbousbouras@fcps.edu](mailto:vsbousbouras@fcps.edu).

**2021 Spring Line is Finally Here!**

**10% OFF**  
**RAINBOW HOODIES**  
 (Items \$11.92, \$12.92)  
 Coupon Code: **SPR1710**  
 Valid 04/01/21 - 06/30/21

**MONTHLY SPIRITWEAR COUPON FOR April, 2021**

Use this coupon the entire month of April for great savings!

**Library Curbside Pick Up - Update**

Library books that have been checked out will be left outside the main door bagged and labeled with students' last names and first initial. Books can be picked up between 8:30 and 3:30. We will no longer have pick up on Thursdays. Pick up will only be available on Mondays from 8:30-3:30. If this change presents difficulty for your family, please email Katie Marmol ([kgmarmol@fcps.edu](mailto:kgmarmol@fcps.edu)) or Michelle Hawk ([mahawk@fcps.edu](mailto:mahawk@fcps.edu)).

*Please understand that this may change but we will do our best to inform you as soon as possible.*

**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://fweb.fcps.edu/itsupport/>

**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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