

Having trouble viewing this email? [View it as a Web page.](#)

mantua pta newsletter



November 23, 2021 | Issue 14

Important Upcoming Dates

November 24th-26th (Wednesday - Friday) - Thanksgiving Holiday, no school.

December 2 (Thursday): Virtual PTA meeting, 7pm.

Monday, December 20th - Friday, December 31st - Winter Break, no school.

Mantua PTA 2021-22 Directory is Available!



PTA Members - please check your emails! Link, login, and password have been sent to access the 2021-22 Directory. Thanks for your support!

If you are not a PTA member you can visit our webpage at MantuaPTA.org and click **join now!**

Parent Education Session

Mantua PTA presents Safe and Secure Online **Wednesday, December 8th at 6:30-7:30pm** (Virtual - link will be provided) Lars McCarter, a cybersecurity professional and fellow Mantua parent, will present internet safety strategies for children. This presentation is developed by the Center for Cyber Safety and Education and focuses on teaching parents about the risks of online activity. The presentation will focus on: (1) Internet Safety - protecting children from adult content; (2) Gaming Safety - protecting children from predators and bullying on gaming platforms like Roblox, Fortnite, etc.; and (3) Social Media Safety. This presentation is intended for adults. If you have any questions or

topics that you would like discussed, please contact Hope Sanders, hopesand1@yahoo.com.

Parent referrals for the Level IV (full-time) Advanced Academics Program (AAP)

Parent referrals for the Level IV (full-time) Advanced Academics Program (AAP) are due no later than **December 15**. This is a hard and fast deadline which may not be extended. For more information about the levels of AAP services offered in FCPS or the process for referring your child for AAP, please visit www.fcps.edu and search "AAP" or contact Kathy Van Dyke, Mantua's Advanced Academics Resource Teacher (AART) at kkvandyke@fcps.edu.

Winter Coat Fundraiser for Fairfax County Students

Join Firefighter & Friends to the Rescue and Fairfax County Fire & Rescue Department to give coats to kids in need. The Mantua ES Parent Liaison and School Social Worker receive a donation of coats from them every year for students in need. This year they are struggling to raise money for the coats and need our support. Any amount helps!

<https://secure.givelively.org/donate/operation-warm-inc/join-firefighter-friends-to-the-rescue-and-fairfax-county-fire-rescue-department-to-give-coats-to-kids-in-need>

Fairfax Turkey Trot

We are excited to be running/walking in person again this year, on Thursday, November 25, 2021!

The Turkey Trot starts at 9:00 am Thanksgiving morning.

Proceeds from the Fairfax Turkey Trot will be donated to [Britepaths](#) (formerly Our Daily Bread). For more than 30 years, Britepaths has provided help and hope to struggling residents in the Fairfax County area. This support has been a beacon of light to many affected members of our community during the COVID pandemic.

[Register today](#) for the 9th Annual Fairfax Turkey Trot!

Online **registration closes Monday, November 22, 2021**, at midnight.



Children Ages 5-11 Now Eligible to VaxUP!

This week marked a pivotal moment in the COVID-19 pandemic. Children ages 5-11 are now eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine. FCPS is collaborating with the Fairfax County Health Department, Inova, and the Virginia Chapter of the American Association of Pediatricians to offer community-wide access to vaccines as soon as possible.



Vaccines are expected to be available at mass vaccination sites really soon. Check with your local pharmacy or pediatrician for appointment availability. Up-to-date information about vaccination opportunities will be available on our website.

In the meantime, you may have questions about the vaccine. We talked with local pediatricians to answer some of the most common questions. First, we asked how the vaccine works and about its safety. Hear what they have to say in this short video.

- **[Return to School - COVID-19 Vaccination for Children Ages 5-11](#)**
- **[Message from the Superintendent](#)**
- **[FCPS Nov. 3 newsletter](#)**

How the School Year Calendar is Developed



The school year calendar is created with community feedback while also ensuring compliance with federal and state laws and policies. To understand the process and the framework FCPS is using, [watch this video](#) or [visit the FCPS website](#). The School Board has final approval on the calendar and is scheduled to vote on January 27.



Join the Mantua Elementary PTA Facebook Page

Let's get social! Don't forget to join the Mantua Elementary PTA Facebook page! Not only is a great place to ask questions and connect with other families, we hope to keep it up to date with important events and dates throughout the year.

Join the PTA!

Please visit our webpage at MantuaPTA.org and click **JOIN PTA NOW!** Dues are \$20 per family and get you discounts on PTA sponsored clubs. Our dues fully support our free programs so that every penny of our fundraisers goes right back into the classrooms. Follow us on Facebook to get the inside scoop on all our events and programs - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/MantuaPTA/> - Can't wait to get started!



Any changes in dismissal transportation need to be requested by emailing the Mantua Attendance (Mantuaelem.attendance@fcps.edu) by 11:00am, so the office has time to relay that change to the classroom teacher. No early dismissals will be permitted after 3:30pm.

Translators

Translators comprise another vital part of our outreach efforts. We want every Mantua ES family to feel included and connected—should families need to have a document translated into their native language, our volunteers are here to help!

- للحصول على نسخة مترجمة للغة العربية، نرجو الإتصال بالأخت بدرية كفالة على هذا الإيميل: cbn@mantuapta.org. If you need to have a document translated into Arabic, please email cbn@mantuapta.org.
- Если вам необходимо перевести документ на русский язык, пожалуйста обращайтесь к Анне Жердецкой или Виктору Жердецкому по электронной почте: cbn@mantuapta.org или cbn@mantuapta.org.
- 혹시 한국어로 번역된 자료가 필요하시면 좌승관씨에게 연락주세요 (cbn@mantuapta.org.) If you need to have a document translated into Korean, please contact Kristina Clarke.
- Para obtener una copia en Espanol favor de contactar a Kristina Clarke at cbn@mantuapta.org. If you need to have a document translated into Spanish, please contact Kristina Clarke.

Email Kristina Clarke at cbn@mantuapta.org if you have any questions or would like to volunteer as an ambassador or translator with Mantua ES's

Parent Information Relating to Special Education

All these opportunities are **FREE** unless noted.

In most cases **you must register** if registration information is provided.

Tue. Nov. 23, 3 pm

Learn what to do in an overdose situation, how to administer naloxone, and what to do afterwards. Supplies may be provided.

Register: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/community-services-board/heroin-opioids/revive

Ongoing and On Demand

Family Coaching — *8-12 week program*

Work weekly one-on-one with a coach to identify individualized goals and create a targeted family plan.

Register: <https://a109092.socialsolutionsportal.com/apricot-intake/e8afd273-4daa-4525-a1f1-b8ee33528344>

Fairfax County's Pre-Notification 9-1-1 Program

Enroll now in this new public safety program for individuals with disabilities.

Details & Registration: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/911/emergency-health-profile>.

Special Education During a Pandemic

Learn what the laws specify that schools should provide, and how you can best support your child.

Access: <https://drroseann.com/special-education-during-a-pandemic/>

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>

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.logue@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:gary.logue@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://www.nami.org/Videos/NAMI-Basics-OnDemand>

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/webex/law.adv.index.htm> **\$50-\$90**

The Parent Playbook — 9 Module Online Course on Autism

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 for Parents

All these support groups are open to newcomers, 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 to be respected.**

AAC Parent Group meets occasionally on Saturdays. Contact:
Amanda amandam@skillbuildersllc.com or 703-941-7757 ext. 316

African American Culturally Focused Virtual Parent Café meets Thursdays, 6:00-7:30 pm. Register at least 24 hours in advance by [email BuildingStrongerFamilies@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:BuildingStrongerFamilies@fairfaxcounty.gov) or 703-324-7720

Alpha Moms This support group for adoptive parents meets monthly in McLean. Contact: robin4brady@gmail.com

Arlington Epilepsy Support Group, a list-serve, can be accessed at ARLEpilepsy@googlegroups.com

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

Autism Society of NoVA Support Group meets on the 2nd Saturday of the month, 1:00-2:30 pm via Zoom. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9466001682>; Meeting ID: 946 600 1682; One tap mobile (301) 715-8592

Business Networking Event for Special Needs Parents

Alternate Fridays, May 29 and following, 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://thearcofloudoun.org/networking/>

Cafés Virtuales Para Padres: Miércoles de 7:00-8:30 pm. Regístrese con al menos 24 horas de anticipación: BuildingStrongerFamilies@fairfaxcounty.gov o 703-324-7720

CHADD: Children & Adults with Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder

- **Alexandria CHADD Parent Support Group** 4th Mon. of each month at 6:30 pm. Contact: Susan, ADHDParentMountVernon@gmail.com or call 303-903-9972.
- **Loudoun County CHADD Parent Support** 3rd Wed. evening of the month. Contact: Bonnie Little 571-306-2932 or on Facebook [@loudounahdhsupport](https://www.facebook.com/loudounahdhsupport)

- **West Fairfax/Burke CHADD Parent Support Group** 1st & 3rd Thur. of each month at 8:00 pm Contact: Cathy, ocgreulich@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/a07eh2rnzqrk9vdghmb/a0179kbgrhbj1/questions>

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/10c0a44abab29abf85-juvenile>

Family F.I.R.S.T. Fridays Autism Support Group meets on the 1st Friday monthly, noon-12:45 at Gum Spring Library 24600 Millstream Dr. Stone Ridge

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

Formed Families Together consists of monthly peer support groups for adoptive, kinship, and foster caregivers and parents. Register: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/formed-families-together-support-groups-tickets-147657582805>

Virtual support group meets the 1st Sunday evening monthly.

In-Person support group meets the 3rd Wednesday evening monthly.

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/2VoU2vw> (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.)

Grupo de Educación y Apoyo a Padres en Española se reúne el cuarto sábado de cada mes, de 10 a 11 a.m. en Zoom en <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9466001682> ID de reunión: 946 600 1682

Kinship Café meets online 6:30-8:00 pm the 2nd Wednesday of the month for those raising the children of relatives and friends. To attend, call 703-324-7720 or email BuildingStrongerFamilies@fairfaxcounty.gov .

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

NAMI Family Support Group meets on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays on Zoom for parents of children living with mental health challenges including ADHD, ASD, etc. <https://zoom.us/j/94509229914>

OCD Family Support Group meets the 1st Mon. of each month, 7:30 pm. Contact: ela.mike@verizon.net or call 202-215-5859

Parent Café (for all Fairfax County parents and guardians) meets via Zoom in English on Mon., 7:45-9:15 pm, 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, 5:30-6:30 pm on Tuesdays. Register: <https://thearcofnova.org/jun-dates-for-virtual-parent-support-group-meetings/>

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

REACH Parent Support Group meets monthly to support parents of individuals with developmental disabilities who also have mental health or behavioral issues. Contact: Dr. Pourmand mojgan.pourmand@eastersealsucp.com

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.