





# Mantua PTA Alert News, continued

January 17, 2006

## **Gifted and Talented Center Referral Deadline Approaching**

The Gifted and Talented Center (GTC) Program provides full-time academic placement for highly gifted students in grades three through eight. Teachers follow a curriculum framework to differentiate the depth, breadth and pace of instruction based on the FCPS Program of Studies. Students work with academic peers in all core subject areas. The eligibility is determined by the central selection committee. Parents of students currently enrolled in grades two through six may request to have their students screened for admission to the GTC Program. In order to initiate the screening process, parents must submit the GTC Referral Form to Melinda Matson, Mantua's GT Specialist, by 3:30 PM on Wednesday, February 1, 2006. The form and additional information about the GT screening process and GT services can be found at the GT web site at <http://www.fcps.edu/DIS/gt>. Parents with questions may contact Mrs. Matson at (703) 703-645-6300.

## **Woodson HS Renovation Update**

This is a VERY important issue for all of us who have or will have students at Woodson. Please keep informed about it. There are some key issues that the Woodson PTA would like resolved, and they will affect your children. School Board Members Tessie Wilson (Braddock district), Kaye Kory (Mason District), Phil Niedzielski-Eichner (Providence District), Cathy Belter (Springfield District) and Janet Oleszek (at-large) Steve Hunt (at-large); Dean Tistadt head of FCPS Facilities Department, and PTSA representatives from most schools in the Woodson pyramid attended a meeting regarding the renovation of Woodson on January 10. Recovering classrooms that are currently used by the Department of Instructional Technology (DIT) was one of the main issues discussed. Woodson is projected to be overcrowded by the year 2011. The PTSA feels that that space needs to be used for classrooms for our students.

For further information go to [www.wtwoodsonptsa.org](http://www.wtwoodsonptsa.org)

### ***Alert News Contributions***

Send items via email to [alertnews@mantuapta.org](mailto:alertnews@mantuapta.org).  
Submissions are appreciated by the Friday before distribution.  
[www.mantuapta.org](http://www.mantuapta.org)

## **Application Process for Elementary Magnet Schools**

The following information will explain the 2006-2007 magnet school application and lottery process for Hunters Woods Elementary School for the Arts and Sciences and for Bailey's Elementary School for the Arts and Sciences.

Bailey's Elementary School for the Arts and Sciences offers an interdisciplinary, concept-based instructional program with an added emphasis on technology, science, math, and the arts. Bailey's resources include a technology lab, a science discovery lab, an electronic music lab, a performing arts theater, a math exploratorium, a fine arts studio, and a communications center consisting of a television studio with video production capabilities. Resource teachers staff the resource areas and collaborate with classroom teachers to coordinate and integrate learning activities.

Hunters Woods Elementary School for the Arts and Sciences offers an interdisciplinary, concept-based instructional program with an added emphasis on fine and performing arts, science, and technology. A science specialist, a technology resource teacher, and additional art classes provide opportunities for all students to enhance their learning. The arts team includes music, art, drama, and film studies teachers. Resource teachers collaborate with classroom teachers to coordinate and integrate learning activities with classroom instruction.

To be eligible to apply, a student must be on or above grade level in language arts and math and demonstrate positive interpersonal and school behavior. Applications will be screened for eligibility, and a lottery will be conducted in mid-March.

Applications are available at your child's school. They are also located at the following web sites, <http://www.fcps.edu/DIS/OEIAS/magnet.htm> <http://www.fcps.edu/HuntersWoodsES>, and <http://www.fcps.edu/BaileysES>. Parents must complete the appropriate school application and return the form to the Office of Elementary Instruction at Lacey Center. **Applications must be post-marked no later than March 1, 2006.**

If you have questions regarding the Bailey's Elementary School magnet program, please contact Jean Frey, principal, or Marjorie McCarthy, magnet program liaison, at 703-575-6836. If you have questions regarding the Hunters Woods Elementary School magnet program, please contact Olivia Toatley, principal, or Diane Beers, parent liaison, at 703-262-7405.

If you have questions regarding the application process, please call the magnet information line, Office of Elementary Instruction, Lacey Center, at 703-846-8740.