



# SANGSTER SOURCE

FEBRUARY ISSUE

FEBRUARY 4, 2010

**Sangster Elementary**  
**PTA**<sup>®</sup>  
everychild. onevoice.

## DATES TO REMEMBER

February 4th  
THURSDAY  
PTA Meeting

February 4th  
THURSDAY  
6:30 pm  
School Lobby  
Spring Fun Fair First Planning Meeting

February 15th  
MONDAY  
Presidents Day

**We're on the Web!**  
[www.sangsterpta.org](http://www.sangsterpta.org)

### PTA Officers

**President**  
Paul Sita  
703-455-0085  
[paulsita@gmail.com](mailto:paulsita@gmail.com)

**Vice President**  
Monica Grose  
703-456-1775  
[vp@sangsterpta.org](mailto:vp@sangsterpta.org)

**Secretary**  
Stephanie Leitzel  
703-456-1423  
[swleitzel@verizon.net](mailto:swleitzel@verizon.net)

**Treasurer**  
Mark Marsden  
703-913-7815  
[treasurer@sangsterpta.org](mailto:treasurer@sangsterpta.org)

## PTA PRESIDENT'S NOTE

Welcome to the February edition of the Sangster Source. The school year seems to be humming right along and it looks like the children are back into the swing of things. The PTA is offering some very exciting after-school programs to educate and entertain this half. The Science program turned out to be very popular with the second through six graders and filled up quickly. We will be offering a second session with brand new classes so keep an eye out for flyers in the Thursday folders. Please remember with a lot of the PTA's programs space is limited and classes are filled on a first come first serve basis so don't delay getting the registration back to the front office. Ms. Lambert and Mr. Redford will be holding auditions soon for the Sangster Musical

Theater's spring musical Beauty and the Beast. The Chess club will also be opened to new members if space is available. Thank you to all the parent and teacher volunteers that help keep these programs running smoothly.

The Spring fun fair has been scheduled for April 23<sup>rd</sup> so please keep that evening open on your busy social calendars. This is always an event not to be missed. Where else could you go on a Friday night to throw wiffle balls into toilet seats and launch rubber frogs into the air with a mallet along with many other games of skill.

Due to the recent tragic events in Haiti the PTA will also be partnering with Soles for Souls and holding a shoe drive. Please take this opportunity to look through your closets for gently used

shoes you no longer have use for and bring them into the donation boxes that will be set up at the school. After the drive is over the shoes will be boxed up and sent to the central collection point in Tennessee where Soles for Souls will see to their distribution in Haiti.

There has also been quite a bit of talk about the Fairfax County Public Schools 2011 budget. Nobody wants to see any programs cut, staff reduced or class sizes enlarged, but these are the realities that we might have to live with in the near future. If you have any interest in the subject please visit [www.FCPS.edu](http://www.FCPS.edu) and educate yourself on the latest budget proposal.



**Paul Sita**  
PTA President



---

## A NOTE FROM YOUR PRINCIPAL

---

### FCPS BUDGET

We are now half way through the school year. Our sixth graders start looking and acting more like middle school kids and the kindergartners seem taller every week. This is also the time of year for budget talks. FCPS sends budgetary updates to all parents who have registered their email addresses with the school. It is called "The Bottom Line". There is also a website where people can go to keep current. It is important that everyone stay tuned so that they have accurate information. All budget decisions have impacts at the local school. The website address is :<http://www.fcps.edu/news/fy2011.htm>. There will be a community budget information meeting with breakout sessions on February 6<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am-noon at Marshall High School. Please RSVP to this meeting by calling 571-423-1075 or electronically at : [budgetforum@fcps.edu](mailto:budgetforum@fcps.edu)

### GOVERNOR'S AWARD FOR EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE

We were notified that Sangster was one of 36 FCPS schools to be honored with the 2010 Governor's award. In the state there were only 153 schools selected. A part of our success can be linked to our continued use of flexible math grouping which has provided us year after year with large numbers of students with strong math skills who pass the SOL tests in the advanced range. Other factors are our focus on reading and the continued use of assessments to inform instructional practice and the strength of teacher efficacy through their work in Professional Learning Communities. Congratulations to our teachers and students for this accomplishment!

### STUDENT TEACHERS

This time of year also brings us student teachers. We are fortunate to have four working with our staff this semester. Denise Corcoran is with Rebecca Summers in art. Luke Stoothoff is working with Jill Wheeler in ESOL. Allison Bourne is currently with Linda Rydholm and then will transition to work with Patricia Kepler. Tricia Drummond is working with Susan White. We welcome these folks to Sangster where we know they will have a good experience.

### VISITING TEACHERS

In mid February, several British teachers will be visiting us for a day. They will be here to observe classes and to discuss our programs and curriculum as well as share strategies. We are looking forward to hosting them.

### VALENTINE'S DAY

Soon our Sangster cherubs will be bringing in their valentine cards to exchange with classmates. We ask that if your child is bringing in cards that they have one for each child in their class. Feelings can easily be hurt and that is not the purpose for the day. In the same way, we ask that children not bring in balloons or special treats for one or two friends. That kind of exchange is best reserved for home. We always have some valentines in reserve so if your child needs a packet, just let me or one of the counselors know.

### SAFETY CONCERNS

One of our neighbors has raised a concern about students who are walking to school through the power line area toward the back of Sangster. Students should not be walking through this area. They are to use the neighborhood sidewalk area. If you live in the areas that are next to the power lines, please discuss this with your child or children.

Another concern shared with us from school neighbors has to do with parking. Neighbors' driveways can not be blocked while waiting to enter Kiss and Ride or while visiting the school. Please be mindful of our neighbors' driveways.

Kiss and Ride drop-off and pick-up generally goes pretty smoothly. We gently remind people that they must stay in line even after dropping children off. Please do not pull out and try to get around someone. If you are parking in the lot and are leaving during morning or afternoon Kiss and Ride lines, you have to obey the flow of traffic. That may involve that you join the line. The safety of students is paramount.

Hope February is good to all of our families and here is hoping that all of the snow that we will get will come to us on the weekend!

---



## Cool the Earth

Sangster students and families have been busy recycling, reusing, and reducing. We now have 181 students participating in the program and have completed 620 actions. Way to go! We held a "No Waste Lunch" on Friday, Jan 22 and we reduced the amount of garbage generated from 14 bags down to 10 bags! Congratulations students on reducing the amount of garbage going to our landfills. We will hold another "No Waste Lunch" in the future, so look for the flyers. There will be more all school activities, so watch your Thursday folders for notices or check our PTA website at <http://www.sangsterpta.org/>.



Every 2 weeks, we will distribute trading cards and prize cards to students who have turned in their coupons. Please be patient while we process all the coupons. Prize cards can be redeemed at the front office.

### Actions Taken by Grade

- K - 31
- 1 - 45
- 2 - 165
- 3 - 94
- 4 - 189
- 5 - 46
- 6 - 73

### Giant Food A+ Bonusbucks Program

Sangster has earned \$2,726.17 from the Giant A+ Bonusbucks program so far this year.

The program runs through March 25, 2010.

Thank you to all of our Giant Food shoppers.

### Cultural Arts Presents:

"Nana Puddin" - Dennis Lee Productions, Inc. on Tuesday, Feb 23, 2010 at 9:15 and 10:15 am.



### Amazon School Rewards Program

Sangster has earned \$1,250.77 from the Amazon.com's School Rewards program so far this year.

Be sure to always keep Amazon in mind for all your shopping needs:

books, videos, toys, electronics, video games, housewares, etc.

Check out their bargain prices – many below retail!

Free Super Saving Shipping on purchases of \$25.00 or more.

Go to the PTA website [www.sangsterpta.org](http://www.sangsterpta.org) and click on the Sangster/Amazon link to begin shopping. It's that easy.

(Note: You must enter Amazon through the unique link on our website or from a special email sent by the PTA for Sangster to receive credit.)

Questions: Contact Carolyn Minesinger [ctminesinger@cox.net](mailto:ctminesinger@cox.net)

### FUN VOLUNTEER

### OPPORTUNITY!

We need a couple of parents to help out with our Family Fun events. These events include the ice cream social, bingo night at the school, Cosmic Bowling, Potomac Baseball Night, and Movie Night at the School. These are not fund raisers, but fun events for our children, sponsored by the PTA. If you have a few extra hours to lend (really, that's all it takes) please contact Monica Grose at [sangstervp@gmail.com](mailto:sangstervp@gmail.com) or 703 440-3716. Thanks for your help.

# Help with Family Fun!



# MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE FUN FAIR!

## FRIDAY, APRIL 23, 2010



### Let's Start Preparing!

The Fun Fair is a great night of fun for the whole family, but it takes some planning and lots of help to make it a success. The first planning meeting is scheduled for

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4th at 6:30 pm**

in the lobby outside the main office prior to the normal Thursday PTA meeting.



If you are interested in helping, please contact

Joyce Maryanopolis  
Fun Fair Chairperson

at 703-455-0264 or [jmaryanopolis@verizon.net](mailto:jmaryanopolis@verizon.net)



### Sangster Elementary School

7420 Reservation Drive  
Springfield, VA 22153

Phone: 703-644-8200  
Fax: 703-644-8297  
Attendance: 703-644-8282

[www.fcps.edu/SangsterES](http://www.fcps.edu/SangsterES)



### 2010 Census Jobs

The U.S. Census Bureau is recruiting temporary, part-time census takers for the 2010 Census. These short-term jobs offer good pay, flexible hours, paid training, and reimbursement for authorized work-related expenses, such as mileage incurred while conducting census work. Best of all, census takers work right in their own communities.



Census taker jobs are excellent for people who want to work part-time, those who are between jobs, or just about anyone who wants to earn extra money while performing an important service for their community. Apply Now! 1-866-861-



### The Library Needs TWO VOLUNTEERS to Fill Bi-Weekly Openings!

Tuesday and Thursday afternoons.

No experience necessary -- will train.

It's a great place to work as it's a "Red Zone" and volunteers get a library card too!

For those of you who don't know, the Red Zone is "No Talking" which means its the exact opposite of the cafeteria! It's nice and quiet!

If you can help please contact:

Heather Aycock, 703-395-6699, [hmaycock303@gmail.com](mailto:hmaycock303@gmail.com)



Sangster Elementary

# PTA

everychild.onevoice.