

DRAFT
Notes of the Mantua PTA
January 4, 2006
Mantua Elementary School

The president called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m. Present at the meeting were:

Executive Board: *Mary Jo Kavjian, Donna Yudkin, Elizabeth Wasserman, Carole Thomas and Cheryl May.*

School Representatives: *Jan-Marie Fernandez, Cheryl Thompson, and Tina Tingler.*

Board Members: *Carole Thomas, Allen Clark, Beth Whitehead, and Donna McGrath*

General Membership: *Karen Diks, Melissa Morgan, John Jennison, Rene Pana-Cryan, and Maggie Weddell*

John Jennison made a **motion** that the minutes of the November 2, 2005 meeting be approved. Donna McGrath seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Cheryl May distributed the PTA Income Statement for the first half of the 2005-06 school year. The year-to-date net income is \$32,609. She said the PTA is in great shape and urged the board to start discussing the Principal's "Wish List" items for the school.

Mrs. Jan-Marie Fernandez said that the Principal's Office has undertaken initial discussions of "Wish List" items. Among those items that the administration would like to request the PTA to fund are the following:

- four digital cameras costing an estimated \$800 total
- \$3,500 in updates and new flat-panel monitors for student computers in the school Library
- \$6,000 for video editing computers and software for the Distance Learning Lab
- and \$4,000 to go towards airfare to Rome, Italy for third-grade staff under a new program to work with Italian educators on developing curriculum for the study of Ancient Rome.

Allen Clark made a motion to fund \$6,000 for the video editing system for the Distance Learning Lab. Maggie Weddell seconded the motion. The motion carried.

MaryJo Kavjian made the PTA **President's Report:**

- Print subscribers to the PTA Alert have dropped from 365 in October to 275 in January, as more parents have opted to get their newsletter online.

Mrs. Fernandes made the **Principal's Report:**

- There are several upcoming events. The winter choral concert is Jan. 10. The Woodson Pyramid Art Show at Woodson High School, featuring artwork from all

- the schools in the pyramid, opens Jan. 19. The strings concert is Feb. 8. The band concert is Feb. 9. The Kids Care Club Talent Show is Feb. 11.
- There is no school on Jan. 16, Jan. 27, and Jan. 30.
 - The second grading period ends Jan. 26.

Ms. Tingler made the following **Announcements**:

- The Total Communication after school program for starts Jan. 18 and runs for 10 weeks. Parents will be invited to come in and take sign language classes while their children are in the program.
- New video phones will be brought to Mantua to replace TTY phones for the hearing impaired.

Ms. Thompson made the following **Announcement**:

- Second grade scores on the CogAt Cognitive Aptitude Test are going out in the mail this week. This starts the process for Gifted and Talented screening that will wind up with parental notification by the school district in April or May.

The following **Committee Reports** were filed:

Membership – Carole Thomas stated that new directories have been received and will be distributed.

Auction – Carole Thomas said that the on-line auction raised \$27,000 and netted close to \$26,000.

Community Spirit – Mary Jo Kavjian said that she will be sending home a flyer for T-shirt orders in the next few weeks.

Hospitality – Mary Jo Kavjian is asking parents to donate desserts for the TC after school program over the next 10 weeks.

Kids Care Club – Donna McGrath said that the talent show flyers have been sent home. The Talent Show will be held Feb. 11. Auditions will be Jan. 17-18.

Old Business

New Business

John Jennison suggested to the board that the PTA recognize the school for the deaf by commissioning a sculpture, perhaps with a fingers illustrating the name Mantua spelled out in sign language.

Ms. Thompson said that Heritage Night and Literacy Night will be moved to March 30, providing that there are no conflicts.

Beth Whitehead mentioned that a microphone is missing from the audio visual and stage equipment.

Elizabeth Wasserman appealed for volunteers for the upcoming Spring Carnival March 25.

Motions Carried

A motion carried to approve the minutes of December 7, 2005.

A motion carried to allocate \$6,000 for video editing systems for the Distance Learning Lab.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 pm.

Cherie Curry and Elizabeth Wasserman
Co-Secretaries