

**DRAFT**  
**Notes of the Mantua PTA**  
**June 4, 2008**  
**Mantua Elementary School**

The president called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. Present at the meeting were:

**Executive Board:** *Bob Greene, Donna McGrath, Terry Murphy, Virginia Fisher*

**School Representatives:** *Jan-Marie Fernandez, Tina Tingler; Janet Sottolano*

**Board Members:** *Trish Williams, Monica Cameron; Mary Jo Kavjian*

**General Membership:** *Susie Kaiser, Julie Lifland, Shannon Murphy, Teresa Lemair*

Minutes were distributed for the May 2008 meeting electronically and in print. Bob Greene made a motion to adopt the minutes from the May 2008 PTA meeting. The motion was seconded and carried.

Terry Murphy made the following **Treasurer's Report**:

- YTD profit through the end of May \$14,241.56
- Cash balance at 31 May \$39,600
- Remaining expenses to be paid total approx \$9,000.
- Motion was approved to fund \$5,000 put towards the principal's wish list this year. It was agreed that the Sep-08 expenses that the PTA funds for field trips and staff development will be deferred until after the Sally Foster proceeds are received in the Oct-Nov time frame. Other beginning of school year expenses for teacher welcome checks, principal's fund and the Renzulli software license will be paid in Sep-08.
- Motion to encumber \$4,000 for the community care fund was approved.
- Motion to encumber the remaining ASL funds of \$795 was approved.
- Paypal account has been closed. Can be reopened at any time if the PTA wants to continue to use it. Cons – more work for treasurer and the PTA reps for basketball, carnival, etc, fees, inconsistent notification of payments completed. Pros – ease in making payments for parents.

At most a parent would have to write 5 checks instead of using Paypal.

- Terry thanked the board for the opportunity to serve the past two years. He reminded the board that spending decisions for items not included in the budget must comply with guidance provided in the Virginia PTA Fundraising document that was distributed in April.

Bob Greene made the following **Announcement(s)**:

The approved slate of nominees for next year's Executive Board was voted on and accepted by the board.

- President: Bob Greene
- 1<sup>st</sup> VP: Monica Cameron and Trish Williams
- 2<sup>nd</sup> VP: Nicole Armstrong
- Treasurer: Julie Lifland
- Secretary: Ken Moles

Heritage and Literacy Nights will be broken out as separate events in the 2008/2009 calendar. The dates will be determined in mid-July.

Jan-Marie Fernandez confirmed that any monies left in a 6th graders lunch account from this year will be accessible at Frost next year by using the same access code they're currently using at Mantua.

#### START LATER EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION PROPOSAL (SLEEP)

Goal: To change Fairfax County Public School (FCPS) middle and high school start times to later in the morning. Research shows that later start times correspond with teen sleep needs and improve health, quality of life, and school performance. Jan-Marie and I both agree that this is an excellent idea IF it can be implemented without impacting the schedules of our little ones in elementary schools. We share a concern that in reallocating the bus schedule to accommodate a later high school start time, the elementary school bus schedules may be negatively impacted so that our children are waiting at the bus stops at an earlier time. In the winter months this will mean that our grade schoolers will be standing at their bus stops in the dark. I advised Jan-Marie that at a recent FCCPTA meeting, I voted against the motion supporting SLEEP, but that the motion carried anyway.

#### NEW COMMITTEE CHAIR ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Shannon Murphy for membership
- Susie Kaiser for auction

The (presumptive) incoming PTA board for the 2008/2009 school year attended a Fairfax County Council of PTA's (FCCPTA) leadership training at Hayfield HS on 5/29.

Jan-Marie Fernandez made the following **Principal's Report**:

- School is scheduled to end on Friday, June 13.
- The 6<sup>th</sup> Grade science fair was judged by Ms. Thompson, Mrs. Bousbouras and Mrs. Fernandez. Lots of interesting scientific facts revealed.
- The 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Global Awareness Project was a big success. Mantua was a pilot school for this project, which will continue next year. 5<sup>th</sup> Grade also performed "Odysseus, the Musical". Enjoyed by all.
- The Choral Concert was held on June 2. The 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Chorus and the 6<sup>th</sup> Grade County Chorus performed.
- 6<sup>th</sup> Grade awards ceremony will be held on Friday, June 13, and the 6<sup>th</sup> Grade party will be held following the ceremony.
- 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Hemlock trip is scheduled for Friday, June 6.
- SCA Elections – June 5, installation on June 9.

Monica Cameron and Trish Williams made the following **Volunteer Coordinator's Report**

- Trish Williams announced that she has found a good plexi-glass protected bulletin board to put on in the lobby. There are 8 8 1/2 X 11 sections for display. Cost is \$150.
- Some Parent Ambassadors have been selected to represent different cultures at Mantua. Korean, Spanish, Vietnamese and Mandarin language speakers are ready to assist.
- The new front office Secretary Ann Marie DelValle, who is scheduled to start work on June 16, speaks Spanish.

#### Committee Reports

- **Webmaster** Jason Gloege has plans to update and expand the PTA website. He has been busy with other commitments but hopes to begin work soon.

- **Volunteer Coordinator** Teresa Lemair and **Family Sponsor Coordinator** MaryBeth Abel have developed two welcome packets for next year. One will go to new families starting Mantua at the beginning of the school year, the other will go to families who enroll their children during the school year.
- In addition, they are making a list of all communication that occurs at orientation and during the year, to be available for all families.
- A representative from each grade will be appointed to meet with one teacher from each grade (or family for grades K-2) each month to create a calendar for the next month of all activities for their grade.

#### **Old Business**

- Missy Greene and Jeri Gloege are planning to clean out the PTA closet. It contains supplies for the Carnival, as well as the Drama Club.

#### **New Business**

- Field Day will be held Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, June 10 – 12. Children are reminded to dress appropriately and wear sunscreen and a hat.
- Note. All volunteers in the school will have to undergo a background check. Tina Tingler is coordinating the compliance with this memo that has come down from Fairfax County.

#### **Motions Carried**

- Adoption of Minutes for May 2008 PTA meeting.
- Final approval of slate of candidates for 2008-09 PTA Executive Board.
- Motion to fund \$5,000 toward Principal's Wish List this year was approved.
- Motion to encumber the remaining ASL funds of \$795 was approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:07 pm.

Virginia Fisher and Mary Rollins  
Co-Secretaries