

**Notes of the Mantua PTA
March 4, 2009
Mantua Elementary School**

The President called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. Present at the meeting were:

Executive Board: Bob Greene, Trish Williams, Nicole Armstrong, Julie Lifland, Ken Moles, Amey Ivey

School Representatives: Mrs. Jan-Marie Fernandez, Mrs Tina Tingler, Mrs. Janet Sottolano

General Membership: Jeri Gloege, Bob Phillips, CeeCee Young, Shannon Murphy

Minutes were distributed for the February 2009 meeting electronically and in print. Bob Greene made a motion to adopt the minutes from the February 2009 meeting. The motion was seconded. The minutes were approved.

President's Report : Bob Greene introduced Dr. Bob Phillips who discussed the Alert News announcement regarding the HPV vaccine. The alert stated the immunization would be required for entering 6th graders. There is an opt out option. Actually more detailed information was sent home to the girls affected in their Tue. folders. The CDC website will be linked to the PTA website as an informational tool. Bob Phillips stated he would be happy to assist with any future educational presentations on this matter.

Treasurer's Report : Julie Lifland reported that the Auction proceeds were \$4,000 over budget and \$5,000 greater than last year. Julie also discussed proceeds from other sources including the Talent Show and Book Fair.

Principal's Report : Mrs. Fernandez reported that Take Your Family To School Week, the TaeKwonDo presentation, and Colonial Day (provided by Colonial Camp Group) all went well. The 6th graders visited Frost Middle School. WIDA testing occurred in February. Many hours are being spent in testing and there is concern being expressed about this matter.

The FFXCO School Board vote on the Bell Schedule is taking place this month.

The school received visitors from France.

The Governor's Award for Educational Excellence will be presented to Mantua Elementary tomorrow night.

Mrs. Tingler noted the After School Program for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing will be emphasizing health and fitness. Diane Peterson has been nominated for The Fairfax County Public Schools Support Employee of the Year Award. The paperwork for this is being submitted.

The Preschool playground and equipment is being misused; most of the problem seems to come from misuse during after-school hours. The Alert News and MCA Newsletter will be used to communicate this problem to the community. A sign explaining restrictions for use of this area will be posted as well. Neighborhood Watch will be notified as well.

The After School Program for Deaf and Hard of Hearing is selling bags to raise funds.

Report of First Co-Vice President for Community Outreach : Trish Williams noted that Freedom Hill Elementary in Vienna has invited Mantua Elementary to participate in a Staff Basketball Game at Marshall High School in Vienna. This will be a joint fundraising event. Tickets, food, megaphones, T-shirts will be sold. Referees will cost \$50.00 per ref. The date is set for 4/24/09.

Amey Ivey has been working on the next Parent Ed. event. This will be an Internet Safety Parent Program with a panel to discuss several different topics within internet safety.

Only Mantua parents will be invited. The tentative date will be 4/29.

The FLEX program is going well with the exception that the Friday am Spanish class had to be cancelled.

Heritage Night/ Literacy Night is scheduled for 3/19. Heritage Night will be held in the gymnasium this year and people will be directed through the gym to enter the school. The entertainment will be provided through video rather than live if this is possible.

Report of Second Vice President for Membership and Fundraising : Nicole

Armstrong reported that the Auction went well. Many thanks to all involved including Tom Morgan and Karen Levin.

The website is still having problems but moving forward. Cox.net addresses have not been able to receive emails. The website has been changed to a new server with hopes of fixing this problem. A mass email is being sent to all available addresses to develop a targeted email and hardcopy listing.

E – Backpack is being planned for next year. This is a parent’s online newsletter that will communicate better and reduce paper waste.

There are a few items left over from the auction and the use for these is being discussed.

Old Business : Take Your Family To School Week went well. The AXA Grant reply forms for the National PTA have been returned.

New Business : 5/4 – 5/8 is Teacher Appreciation Week. The Luncheon is being organized by CeeCee Young.

The plans for the Carnival are underway and communications for needed volunteers will occur through the Alert News.

Janet Sottolano is reorganizing the Evening Reading Program. This was missed due to a snow day. The Cat in the Hat will be present at that.

Shannon Murphy raised a question regarding Camp Invention for the summer.

Information is to be channeled through the Alert News.

3/10 is parent night for the FLE Program regarding Human Growth and Development education.

More students are still needed to maintain the breakfast program.

Kathleen Leonard, Lynne Baker, Jan Pry, and Amy Sheridan are being nominated for the VA Super Teacher Lottery Award.

Motions Carried

Adoption of minutes for February 4, 2009 meeting approved.

Adjournment : 8:25 p.m.

Ken Moles
Secretary