

PTA General Meeting Notes
March 14, 2013
Mantua Elementary School

The president called the meeting to order at 7:06 PM.

Present at the meeting were:

Executive Board: Lesley Kowalski, Carolyn Stephen, Jennifer Epley, Shannon Murphy, Julie Middleton

School Representatives: Tina Tingler, Amy Ally

General Membership: Serena Chen, Amy Halstead, Janet Sottolano, Megan Burski Wells, Wende Mays, Aibu Vijay

President's Report: The four out of six Mantua Destination Imagination teams that competed at the Regional competition did very well. All four teams placed either 1st or 2nd and move on to the State competition which will be on Saturday, April 13, 2013. Sarah Hassan, a 4th grader, described what her DI team Amazingly Energetic Artists did for their presentation and presented their trophy to Ms. Alley to be displayed at school for a temporary period. Lesley Kowalski presented her team's trophy on their behalf as well

Fairfax High/Lanier Middle School Boundary Study- The staff are likely to propose the following changes: (1) Move a portion of the Greenbriar West Elementary School attendance area east of Stringfellow Road from Lanier Middle to Rocky Run Middle School and from Fairfax High to Chantilly High School. (2) Move the Fairfax Station, Fairview Woods, and Fairfax Manor Subdivision portions of Oak View Elementary School's attendance area from Frost Middle School and Woodson High School to Robinson Secondary School. (3) Move all of the Fairfax Villa Elementary attendance area (including areas north of Lee Highway) from Lanier Middle to Frost Middle School and from Fairfax High to Woodson High School. The proposed change reassigns approximately 330 students at the high school level and 160 students at the middle school level by the 2017-18 school year. The middle school AAP assignment for these students would change from the AAP Center at Rocky Run to the AAP Center at Frost Middle School, impacting approximately 20 students.

The Valentine's Dance for Family Fun night on February 15th was awesome.

We are in the process of finding nominees for next year's PTA for committees such as drama club, enrichment programs, carnival, among others. Monica Cameron and Sandy Spector are the nominating committee.

Treasurer's Report (Carolyn Stephen): Not many changes from last time. We had to fund the Carnival cash boxes so the Carnival line item looks out of balance. Income from Carnival this weekend should put us back in the black. We received \$411 from Baja Fresh for our last restaurant night. We've added Raccoon Runners as a new entry in the income statement. Winter Basketball is almost done, but we still have some expenses to come.

Principals' Report: Mrs. Tingler reminded parents to not drop off their children until 8:45 a.m. Children are not supervised before that time. The Science Olympiad was held on February 20th. We had orientation for Rising 7th Graders going to Frost. The Dr Seuss-themed Spirit Week- was held the week of Feb 25th. Another Family Fun Night was held March 1st- LEGO night was a success as

always. We are looking forward to the Carnival this weekend. Spring Break is coming up at the end of the month. The front office will be closed along with the rest of the school. We are in the process of planning a Mantua Science Fun night scheduled for the end of April. There will be an evening event for 3rd-6th graders and a daytime event for K-2nd graders.

Ms. Alley reminded everyone of the SOL schedule for the Spring. The 5th grade is finished the writing SOL today. Make-up tests will be in the upcoming week. The IOWA test scores will be available shortly. The IOWA is the algebra exam given to 6th grade students to determine their algebra readiness skills. Some grades will be taking the Horizon Assessment- a county test- used to be called an ECART test. Our Italian program has been smaller this year. We have had a problem finding a 3rd qualified Italian teacher. Therefore, the 3rd-6th grades will be having Italian all year. 1st and 2nd graders will each have 2 quarters of Italian this school year. 3rd-6th grade- testing in Italian will start after Spring Break. They will take both speaking and written tests.

There has been a question as to where the trophies from different team events should be kept and displayed. The Administration is suggesting that they be displayed in the Parent Library in the future. However, for right now, they can be displayed in the showcase across from the office for a period of time and then go back to the team leader.

Type to Learn is the keyboarding software that the school uses. The company is offering a version that can be bought for home use. The PTA can offer the bulk price to parents.

Lesley suggested that we make a motion to adopt the minutes from the March PTA meeting because we finally reached a quorum of PTA members. So, the motion to adopt the minutes passed with minor spelling changes.

Report of First Vice-President for Community Outreach (Teresa LeMair): Shannon Murphy (reported out on behalf of Teresa LeMair) has been helping Teresa with registration for Spring Enrichment programs and gave a quick overview. Registration for the various programs is due March 20th. The time for the yoga classes we printed was incorrect on the original flyer, but it has now been corrected.

Report of Second Vice-President for Fundraising (Jennifer Epley): The yearbook is still looking for group shots for some remaining classes. The Yearbook reps have been in contact with the room parents for those classrooms by email. Our next Restaurant Night will be April 17th at Chick-fil-A (night before Literacy Night). Carnival wrist-bands are on sale through tomorrow. The winter box tops contest raised over \$2000. Ms. Loach's class is in 1st place.

There will be a Mantua Faculty Basketball Game against Camelot Elementary faculty. The game is April 12th at 7 p.m. at Woodson. Advance ticket sales will take place Wednesday, April 10- Friday, April 12th.

Old Business: Drama Club- there will be a Drama Club next year that looks similar to this year's Drama Club as long as there is sufficient support from parents to make the environment safe and calm for the kids.

New Business: Ms. Sottalano announced that parents will be allowed in the volunteer lounge even if they don't have their ticket with them. The lounge is for parents only, no children allowed.

Lesley mentioned that If anyone is interested in being a host family for a HS student from another country, Woodson is in need of more volunteers.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 PM.