

AGENDA
General PTA Membership Meeting
7:00 P.M. April 9, 2015
Mantua Elementary School

I. Call Meeting to Order

Julie Middleton

II. Adoption of March 2015 Minutes – a motion was made and approved to adopt the minutes with two edits.

III. Reports

• President's Report

Julie Middleton

- Very successful Spring Fling, lots of positive feedback. A huge thank you to everyone who volunteered their time to help with the Spring Fling!

• Treasurer's Report

Nicole Willis

Fundraisers

- *Box Tops*: We received a check for the first Box Tops contest in the amount of \$1814.69 (includes online submissions through November 1, 2014). The pizza parties were held in Mr. Wilson's & Ms. Boyd's classrooms for the contest winners, so the cost of the pizzas were deducted within the Income as we do not currently have an "Expense" line item for Box Tops. Just got word that we are expecting another \$700 to come in for Box Tops.
- *Spring Fling/Carnival*: I have deposited thus far \$15,241.86. This includes all wristband sales, vendors, concessions, cotton candy, some silent auction payments, dunk tank, jewelry/donations sales, etc. There were additional expenses paid. So our current profit is \$9,106.55 – but we are still waiting for some larger items to come in for sponsorships and some additional auction payments.
- *Escript*: received almost \$70 at the end of February that I recorded after receiving the bank statement
- *Fundraising Partnerships*: We received just over \$300 from Amazon at the beginning of March.
- *Yearbook*: We've received another \$140 to bring our total to \$621.00

Programs & Events

- *Basketball*: Paid out a little over \$300 for custodial fees and purchasing the teachers' jerseys for the parents/teachers upcoming basketball game
- *Raccoon Runners*: Received payments from participants in the new season of runners in the amount of \$2,930.00, have paid for shirts.

Mantua ES Wish Fund

- \$633.70 was spent on cummerbunds and bow ties for the 6th grade musical (and future performances) as approved by the PTA for up to \$750.

- Principals' Report

Jan-Marie Fernandez,
Amy Alley, Nick Rousos

Mrs. Fernandez

- Family One did attend Skippyjon Jones
 - Fabulous Spring Fling, thanks to the many staff members who sat on the dunk tank
 - Heritage/Literacy Night was a great night
 - Dr. Tyler Dewitt spoke about bacteria to 4th through 6th graders, wonderful speaker
 - Spring Break
 - Talent Show this Saturday evening, 5:30 PM, Mrs. Fernandez will emcee
 - April 14/15 – 3rd grade to Colvin Run
 - April 16 – Early release, teacher appreciation luncheon
 - April 17 – Teacher workday
 - April 20-24 – Secretaries week
 - April 21 – National Symphony Orch 4th grade
 - April 23 – Woodson Art Show at Woodson
 - April 24 – Staff/Parent Basketball Game at Woodson
 - April 25 – 6th Grade All County Choral Festival
 - April 27 – GMU Center for the Arts, Family Two
 - April 28 – Progress reports
 - April 29 – Spring Picture Day
 - May 1 - Lego night
 - May 4-8 - Teacher Appreciation Week
 - May 6 - Colonial Day, 4th grade
- New start times for Mantua ES for next year will be 9:20 AM (will open at 9:10 AM) to 4:05 PM. Mrs. Fernandez has nothing to do with the new schedule, it has been determined by FCPS. Every school will have a 6 hour 45 minute day, which is why Mantua's total time is 5 minutes longer.
 - Dr. Garza is asking for people to write to their Board of Supervisors to ask them to support/fully fund the budget put forth by Dr. Garza, which includes a small increase in pay (step) for staff members. The current budget that the Board of Supervisors is looking at is \$14 million shy of what has been put forth by Dr. Garza. Mantua is already experiencing a difficult transition in staffing cuts. It was suggested to put something into the Alert News and/or to draft a form letter and pass the word as much as possible.

Ms. Alley

- SOL testing has changed:
 1. Fewer SOL's being given
 2. 6th grade Math SOL (given to 5th grade advanced math students and 6th grade general education math students) will be CAT, Computer Adapted Test, in which the answer to first question determines what the second question will be; this type of test is similar to where other assessments are going; scores will still be same, questions are weighted based on difficulty; cannot skip questions and go back with this test (reading test will stay same and allow skipping). Scoring will be the same – 400 is passing, 500+ is advanced. Letter will go out soon to describe these new tests, there will also be a link to go online to see a sample of this type of test at VDOE website (Virginia Department of Education). All students will practice at school, online practices also available for home.
 3. In high schools, have previously had the ability to retake any SOL's that were not passed. That will now apply to elementary schools as well. The Mantua administration will be monitoring test scores and looking at any students that score between 375 and 399 (1-4 questions missed off of passing), as we will now have the ability to retest after remediation. School will need permission to retake a failed test so all students will get a permission slip ahead of time just in case. What are the benefits of retesting? Keeps more schools away from not being accredited. Will decide who will retake – eg if someone tends to struggle with reading, may not retest. If a child struggled with something in particular (eg an area of math, was confused about something that day), will retest. Dr. Garza has suggested we focus on math for this reason.
- SOL window May 11-June 5
- Junior PALs will be given to 3rd and 6th graders to see how the students are picking up the Italian Language – window is April 20 to June 19
- K-2 will be doing DRA (Reading Assessment), one-on-one with teacher – window is April 27 to June 3
- New information about this year's Kindergarten Orientation will be coming out soon.

- 1st Vice President for Programs

Lisa Libby, Ellen Lemeiux

- Volunteers needed for Talent Show, Teacher Appreciation Week will be May 4-8 and more information will be put in the Alert News
- Lego Night May 1
- No winter enrichment next year, survey results are back from the winter enrichment
- Members of the PTA are in the process of developing ideas for next year's fundraising, more information to come.

- 2nd Vice President for Fundraising/Membership

Meri Farling

- Spring Fling was very successful! We had a lot of teen volunteers, getting harder and harder to get adults as volunteers
- Staff versus Parents Basketball Game Friday Night April 24th, 7:00 PM – tickets will be presold, pom poms and food being sold
- Teacher Appreciation Luncheon – items we need to be contributed listed in Alert – Thursday April 16th 2 PM
- Homes Tour, June 7th – Sharon Schechtl – coming together faster than last year, 9 homes already, starting to solicit advertisers and sponsors, if you know of contractors in the area that you love to use, please send contact information to Sharon so she can try to get them as advertisers. Will not partner with MCA picnic, but will have a table at MCA picnic and Raccoon Run. Early bird fee of \$15 instead of \$20, tickets will start being available soon.

IV. Old Business

- Nominating Committee – Committee members Liz Schatzman, Shannon Murphy and Rachel Fleming. They will establish the slate of officers for next year. All positions are officially open, although some current board members are willing to continue. A motion was made and approved to have these three people be our nominating committee for next year's PTA board.

V. New Business

VI. Announcements- Check out www.mantuapta.org for more information on these and other events:

April 11: Talent Show, 5:30 p.m.

April 16: Teacher Appreciation Luncheon

April 16: 2-Hour Early Release

April 17: No School, Student Holiday

April 29: Spring Picture Day

May 1: Family Fun Lego Night (rescheduled)

May 4-8: Teacher Appreciation Week

May 8: PTA Meeting, 9:30 AM, Cafeteria

May 18: Meeting for Parents of Rising Kindergarteners, 2:00 PM

VII. Adjournment - 8:28 PM