

**Notes of the Mantua PTA
June 2, 2004
Mantua Elementary School**

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

Executive Board: *Carole Thomas, Beth McKeown, Laura Mead and Rob Luftglass.*

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

Board Members: *Peter Brandman, Kathy Frongello, Randi Kirkland, Cheryl May, Beth Whitehead, Suzanne Summers, Nancy Robinson and Laura Samotshozo.*

General Membership: *John Jennison.*

Laura Mead made a **motion** that the minutes of the April 14, 2004 meeting be approved. Beth Whitehead seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Beth McKeown distributed an income statement through 6/30/04. Beth stated that it is her recommendation not to encumber items for next year because there will be a new board. Any expenses for this school year should be provided to Beth by June 30, since books are closed July 1. The Audit Committee is Jeanne Baker, Mary Rollins and Sarah Schneider.

Beth made a **motion** that the incoming Treasurer be authorized to pay reasonable and necessary expenses of the PTA upon completion of the 2003/2004 audit and prior to the adoption of the 2004/2005 budget in September, 2004. Laura Mead seconded the motion and it carried.

Beth made a motion that the PTA sponsor the tuition for the five rising safety patrol captains who will attend the safety patrol leader camp offered by the Fairfax County Police Department from August 2-6, 2004. Tuition is \$230 per camper for a total of \$1,150. Nancy Robinson seconded the motion. Beth Whitehead asked if this is something that we have done before. Beth McKeown explained that the county had funded this in the past, but it no longer does. Cheryl Thompson discussed the duties of patrol captains and the whole patrol force. There are over ninety patrol members with five captains. Ms. Thompson and Mr. Collins select the patrol captains. Cheryl strongly supports this motion since this program is so beneficial and this camp provides great training for the kids. The motion carried.

Carole Thomas presented the **Announcements:**

- Carole distributed thank you notes that the PTA received from:
 - The teachers for the teacher appreciation luncheon;
 - Ms. Sottolano's class for the Baltimore Aquarium trip; and

- The administrators for the PTA sponsored lunch and flowers.
- Upcoming Meetings/Events include the Volunteer Appreciation Tea, the Hemlock Field Trip for 6th Graders, Class Parties, and the 6th Grade Assembly and party.
- Carole requested feedback on the need for the monthly Newsletter. Now that the Alert has become so prevalent, along with the use of the PTA website, the PTA needs to decide if the current Newsletter is relevant. Carole suggested the Newsletter be changed to a quarterly document that includes what is going on at the school, e.g., in classrooms, school goals, and teacher professional achievements. Mrs. Fernandez mentioned that surveys have indicated that people want bullet-type information with easily accessible information. The general consensus was that a quarterly document will work as long as it still includes letters from the PTA President and Principal.
- Carole announced that openings for board positions for next year are shown on the PTA website. She suggested that if anyone knows of new children coming to the school, they should suggest that the new parents might be interested in one of these positions.

Mrs. Fernandez made the **Principals' Report**:

- She thanked the PTA for the lunch and flowers for the administrators.
- There have been many recent activities, including:
 - Another successful Raccoon Run;
 - ESOL Parent Meeting (5/10);
 - An 'incredible' Aida performance by 6th grade ESOL Students;
 - A Cluster 3 Principal's Meeting where students provided a Chamber Strings performance and a Choral Group performance;
 - Strings and Band Concert; and
 - Mrs. Yoon's retirement party.

Staff that will not be returning for the next school year include:

- Margaret Stalford,
- Licia Tunick,
- Jennifer McClelland,
- Meghan Ryan-Harrington,
- Greta Fairbanks,
- Pat McDaniel,
- Sandra Serafin,
- Katrina Hawryluk,
- Lisa Conselatore and
- Kristen Toth.

Mrs. Fernandez ended her announcement by thanking the PTA board for all its support during the school year.

Cheryl Thompson discussed the SOL testing. SOLs were a major undertaking from a scheduling perspective. She also mentioned how several students were principal for the day. These students were presented with pre-arranged problems which they handled well.

Additional upcoming events include several parties (SCA, Patrol, Band and classes), performances (e.g., Chorus) and the SCA elections/installation.

Tina Tingler announced that Deaf-eralla was presented on May 10 and it was 'wonderful.' Ms. Tingler expressed her thanks to the PTA for the support for the after school TC program. She also mentioned that Ms. Kaplan and Ms. Hanpeter were honored at the Teacher of the Year reception and that Mantua was well represented in the audience.

Teacher Representative Report: Janet Sottolano thanked the PTA for the Baltimore Aquarium trip support. The trip was fun and also connected well to what the students are learning. Mrs. Sottolano also mentioned that Mrs. Yoon's celebration was wonderful. Next year, Tina Gasser and Amy Woodburn will be the co-chairs for Success by 8. Janet will again be one of teacher reps for PTA

The following **Committee Reports** were filed:

Drama – Beth Whitehead announced that next year there will be three plays and one mini-musical, all related to Mark Twain. The plays will be presented on November 19-20. Beth was happy to report that the sound system is working well.

Beth made a **motion** requesting that the PTA provide an additional \$150 for the 6th grade party for food and supplies. Pete Brandman seconded the motion. Beth McKeown indicated that there is \$285 available. Beth Whitehead indicated if the funds were ultimately not needed, that would be turned back in. Beth amended the requested amount to \$100, just to make sure we are covered. The motion carried. Beth McKeown indicated that the expense line would be increased from \$350 to \$450.

Yearbook: Laura Samotshozo announced that after much activity, the Yearbook will be coming out on time. There were many issues that we did not have last year, many associated with the alphabetical listing of names.

Old Business

Executive Board Elections:

The nominations announced from last meeting are:

John Jennison – President

Nathan Merrells – 1st Vice President
Carole Thomas – 2nd Vice President
Cheryl May – Treasurer
Nancy Robinson – Secretary

There were no new nominations from the floor and the slate received unanimous approval.

New Business

Laura Mead, representing the whole PTA, expressed her thanks to Carole for all her hard work as president.

Motions Carried

A motion carried to approve the minutes of the May 5, 2004.

A motion carried that the incoming Treasurer be authorized to pay reasonable and necessary expenses of the PTA upon completion of the 2003/2004 audit and prior to the adoption of the 2004/2005 budget in September, 2004.

A motion carried that the PTA provide an additional \$100 for the 6th grade party for food and supplies.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 pm.

Robert Luftglass
Secretary