

DRAFT
Notes of the Mantua PTA
December 6, 2006
Mantua Elementary School

The president called the meeting to order at 7:11 p.m. Present at the meeting were:

Executive Board: *Mary Jo Kavjian, Terry Murphy, Maggie Weddell, and Elizabeth Wasserman*

School Representatives: *Jan-Marie Fernandez and Janet Sottolano.*

Board Members: *Donna McGrath, Faye Henris, Loan Pham*

General Membership: *Melissa Morgan, Jacqueline DeScisciolo, Sara Schneider, Nancy Lee*

Minutes were distributed for November 2006. Mrs. Fernandez made a motion to adopt the minutes from the November 2006 PTA meeting. Donna McGrath seconded. The motion carried.

MaryJo Kavjian delivered Terry Murphy's Treasurer's Report. She said the PTA had a \$49,636 cash balance as of Nov. 30. The Book Fair brought in \$21,281 in revenue, the profit, which is about \$7,300 goes to the school to be used for the purchase of new books for the library.

MaryJo Kavjian made the PTA **President's Report:**

- A volunteer has stepped forward to organize restaurant nights to benefit the PTA. The benefits may start with Glory Days or Brian's Grill.

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

- Drama performances were coming up.
- The winter sing-along is Dec. 22 at 2 p.m.
- Mantua recently received a visit from 12 people from China's Tianjian School for the Deaf. The visit was part of a program run by Galludet University to help improve education for the deaf in China.
- She thanked Mrs. Janet Sottolano for her work leading the Food Drive, which raised 3,435 pounds of food for a charity called Food for Others.

Mrs. Sottolano made the **Teacher's Report:**

- The two classes that brought in the most food for the Food Drive – Ms. Graap's class and Ms. Rutherford's class – will be rewarded with pizza parties.
- Read Across America is scheduled for Friday, March 2.
- An announcement was made to the teaching staff urging them to donate to the upcoming PTA auction.

The following committee announcements were made:

Kids Care Club

- Donna McGrath said that the club raked lawns of 15 homes in Mantua. Neighbors were so pleased that they donated \$250 to the program.
- Volunteers washed the Lost & Found clothing before it was donated to Bailey's Elementary School.
- The club is taking up a collection in the school foyer through March for adult and children's clothing for homeless of Fairfax County.
- The Talent Show form will go home Dec. 14. Auditions will be Jan. 16-17. The Talent Show is scheduled for Feb. 10.

Carnival

- Elizabeth Wasserman said that Mantua's Spring Carnival is set for Saturday, March 24.
- Many of the committee chairs who helped make last year's Carnival a success will be returning, but we have a need for volunteers to run Set-Up/Clean-Up, the Poster Contest and the Class Basket Auction.

Auction

- MaryJo Kavjian said that donations are coming in from businesses, families and staff members. The Auction goes live online Jan. 10, when all categories open for bid. Some of the categories will close after two weeks. All categories close on Jan. 31.

Old Business

Faye Henris outlined progress on the fundraiser based on students' art work. Art work, which is being shepherded by the art teachers, will be finished and submitted by Feb. 20. The school should receive sample magnets made from the art work during the first week of March. Parent orders for products made from the art work are expected to be distributed the first week of April, making these wonderful Mother's and Father's Day gifts.

Maggie Weddell said the parenting seminar she's been coordinating with Mrs. McConnell was a success, as 28 parents attended and the PTA provided childcare for 32 children. She suggested that we ask parents to help defray the costs of childcare. It was agreed that the program would ask for \$5 per family donations. She asked that the budget for this program be increased so that we could pay higher honorariums to attract speakers.

Sara Schneider reported that she had attended the Fairfax County School's meetings on proposed boundary changes for middle school GT Centers to ease overcrowding at Frost and Kilmer Middle Schools. She said that parents in some of the schools that would be feeding Luther Jackson Middle School under the proposed boundary shifts were very unhappy, were starting a petition drive, and had developed alternative boundary proposals that may or may not impact Mantua. A third hearing has been scheduled on this

issue for Dec. 21, at 7 p.m. at Luther Jackson. She urged concerned parents to attend. A public hearing follows Jan. 8 and 9. The school board will announce its decision on the boundary changes Jan. 22.

Motions Carried

Adoption of Minutes for November 2006 PTA meeting.
The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm.

Cherie Curry and Elizabeth Wasserman
Co-Secretaries