

FINAL
Notes of the Mantua PTA
January 2, 2008
Mantua Elementary School

The president called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. Present at the meeting were:

Executive Board: *Bob Greene, Donna McGrath, Terry Murphy, Erin Spilman, Mary Rollins*

School Representatives: *Jan-Marie Fernandez; Cheryl Thompson, Tina Tingler; Janet Sottolano*

Board Members: *Monica Cameron; Kathy Phillips*

General Membership: *Jason Gloege, Jeri Gloege, Loan Pham, Jacquie Heller, Missy Greene*

Minutes were distributed for the November 2007 meeting electronically and in print. Bob Greene made a motion to adopt the minutes from the November 2007 PTA meeting. The motion was seconded and carried.

(Note: The December 2007 meeting was cancelled due to inclement weather.)

Bob Greene made the following **Announcement(s)**:

- Per PTA bylaws, Bob is forming a nominating committee to recommend board members for SY2008/09. More to come in future meetings.
- Bob is serving on the Providence Schools Impact Monitoring committee. The next meeting is January 15. He will keep all updated as appropriate.
- We discussed the recent fires among Mantua families. Jan-Marie Fernandez mentioned that the school had reached out to the families to offer support, and will continue to check in with the families through the Mantua guidance staff. All in attendance agreed to check back in with the families in coming months, to see if additional assistance is needed.

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

- The Winter Sing-a-Long was a success. Mrs. Fernandez congratulated Ms. Thompson and staff for the great work.
- Thanks to Andrea Mains, for orchestrating the beautiful decorations in the school's front foyer and for the donation of three trees by Merrifield Garden Center.
- Upcoming events:
 - Choral concert: 1/15/08
 - Colonial Day (Fourth grade): 1/18/08
 - Iowa Testing (some 6th grade students): 2/6/08
 - Orchestra Concert: 2/12/08
 - Band Concert: 2/13/08

- Jan-Marie submitted the PTA wish list, organized by priority. (The full list will be included in the official meeting minutes.)
 - The list includes computers, art supplies, reading materials for both primary and upper grades and Smart Boards.
 - The Board will take the wish list into consideration and update school administration as soon as possible.
- Thanks to Monica Cameron and Carlotta Urban for organizing the volunteer coffee. Monica mentioned that the event was very successful, with great participation from parents.
- Monica is hoping to organize a school fundraising night at a Korean restaurant in the coming months.

Terry Murphy submitted the following **Treasurer's Report**:

- Profit through 12/31/07 was \$24,260.00. Profit is mainly due to the proceeds of the book fair. Invoice from the book supplier has not been received yet. Library should receive approximately \$10,000 of the proceeds.
- Cash balance is \$49,000
- Profit from the sale of t-shirts was \$2,000.00 reflected in the community spirit line item.
- There have been several recent issues with the PTA bank where statements haven't been received on a timely basis, charges have been incurred and a check was deducted from the account twice. United Bank has been informed of these issues and is working to resolve them. If these issues continue to be a problem, the PTA may want to consider changing banks.
- Motion was made and approved to provide \$790.00 towards transportation for the 5th grade field trip to Medieval Times.

Missy Greene made the following **Carnival Report**:

- Carnival date: March 8
- Carnival theme: Under the Big Top
- All main carnival committee positions are filled.
- Missy is looking for help with the following committees: Set-up and Clean-up; Food; and Raffle. Anyone who is interested is encouraged to reach out to Missy. Carrie Clawson is heading up the publicity committee. The student poster contest will be underway this month.
- Discussion about whether or not to have the rummage sale – the sale accounts for less than 10% of the carnival proceeds. Final decision to be made by the next meeting.

Donna McGrath made the following **Membership Report**:

- To date (January 3) 698 people have signed up and paid for membership to the PTA.
- Directories have been sent home with students. Anyone who is interested in obtaining a directory and signing up for the PTA should contact Donna.

Erin Spilman made the following report:

- The parenting classes from last fall were successful. About 20 parents took part in the evening events.
- Erin recommends scheduling the workshops every other year.
- Sharon Weiss, noted child behavior specialist, will be speaking at Mantua this spring (date tbd).
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The following **Committee** announcements were made:

Community Spirit:

- Jacquie Heller reported that net proceeds for the t-shirt sales were nearly \$2,000.
- Attendees agreed to take orders for more shirts at the upcoming talent show.

Mary Jo reported on the **Auction**

- The auction will be live beginning Tuesday, January 9 continuing through 1/30/08.
- A catalog of auction items will be included in the Tuesday folders the week of 1/7.
- We are in need of additional services to auction off. A note requesting additional donations was included in the 1/7 Tuesday folder.
- A suggestion was made to include an option for people to be able to print out an instant receipt for tax deduction purposes.

Jeri Gloege reported on the talent show.

- The Talent Show that is scheduled for February 9. Rehearsals are planned for: 1/22, 23, and 24.
- Volunteers are needed for set-up, back-stage performer assistance, and clean-up.

Committee Chair vacancies: Carnival Co-Chair, Community Spirit Coordinator, Odyssey of the Mind Coordinator, County Council Liaison and Superintendents Parent Liaison.

Old Business

None

New Business

Mantua Food Drive

- Janet Sottolano spoke about the successful Fall 2007 food drive. The school achieved its aggressive goal of collecting 3,000 pounds of food. School and parent volunteers delivered 7 vans full of donated items to Food for Others. The response from the school community was incredible.

Motions Carried

- Adoption of Minutes for November 2007 PTA meeting.
- Approval of PTA donation of \$790 for 5th grade trip to Medieval Times.
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The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Mary Rollins and Virginia Fisher
Co-Secretaries