

DRAFT
Notes of the Mantua PTA
November 7, 2007
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, Virginia Fisher*
School Representatives: *Jan-Marie Fernandez; Tina Tingler; Janet Sottolano; Meghan Ryan-Harrington*

Board Members: *Monica Cameron; Trish Williams*

General Membership: *Gauri Shirolkar, Mary Brophy Marcus, Jeri Gloege, Loan Pham, Shavouna Farmerie, Jacquie Heller, Tom Heller, Deirdre Mayes, Filiz Unal, Andrea Mains, Suzanne Wayman, Lora McLain*

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

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

- Year to date income statement is \$23,000
- Sally Foster earned \$10,400 + \$2,500 in online sales. This was very close to the budget amount.
- Mad Science - Participation is about the same as last year in Hands on Science. PTA will break even on this.
- The Custodian appreciation checks were distributed by the office.
- Based on the Sally Foster proceeds, the PTA is in a cash position to pay off the computers that were encumbered from last year (\$6,000)
- Please leave any correspondence from United Bank in the PTA mailbox for the treasurer to pick up.
- Tax exempt form on the website expires on 10/31/2007. Updated letter received on 11/13 and will be posted on the website.
- Basketball participation is down this year. There will be a coaches meeting on Tuesday, November 13 at 7 to distribute the rosters.

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

- To date (November 7) 673 people have signed up and paid for membership to the PTA. This number includes 107 teacher members. She is trying to keep up with the distribution of PTA cards to all members.
- The PTA presented Marina Cronkite with a \$50 gift card as a farewell gift.

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

- Monica Cameron and Trish Williams have accepted the roles of Volunteer Activity Coordinators. They will work to fill any board or committee chair vacancies.

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

- Naglieri (NNAT) testing starts on November 8. This primarily affects 2nd graders and helps to determine GT eligibility.
- COGATs were completed during the first week of November.
- The Spirit Parade was a big success – Rocky Raccoon was the star.
- The Thanksgiving Dinners this year will fall on Nov 14 (4th – 6th) and Nov 15 (PreK – 3rd).
- The Book Fair starts on Friday, November 10 and runs through the following week.
- There will be an early dismissal on Wednesday, Nov. 21 at 1:30 for the Thanksgiving holiday.
- Mergie Kakouris, formerly the Cafeteria Manager, has replaced Marina Cronkite in the office. She will be managing the SASI system.
- A new Cafeteria Manager is needed.
- The Parenting workshops have started on Fridays.
- The Evacuation Drill and lockdown were conducted and the kids did very well.
- The Fairfax County school system is looking at a budget shortfall of \$146 million for next year. Discussions are beginning about where to make cuts. Mrs. Fernandez will keep us informed of developments. She is concerned that the teachers COLA increase will be reduced from 3% to 2%.

Mrs. Tina Tingler made the following announcements:

- The after school sign languages classes are starting – they are 1 ½ hours long.
- She spoke for Ms. Thompson and requested PTA funding of \$200 for the Chess Club. The PTA agreed to fund this program out of existing funds this year, and will create a line item for the club in next year's budget.

The following **Committee** announcements were made:

Community Spirit:

- Tom Heller (Jacquie Heller) made the **tee-shirt report**. He displayed the proposed colors/design. Colors are light blue, Kelly green and sport gray. The cost of a child's tee shirt will be \$8 (\$4 profit). The cost of a child's hooded sweat shirt will be \$15 (\$5 profit). Adult costs will be \$10 and \$18 respectively.

A minimum order of 288 tee shirts is required in order to get this profit margin.

The PTA will offer tee shirts to the staff at cost (\$6 per tee shirt). A separate order form (different color) will be provided to teachers.

A notice will go out in the Alert News this Friday and next Friday. Order forms will go out in the Nov 13 Tuesday Folder and the Nov 27 Tuesday Folder. All orders received by November 28 will result in a December 17 shirt delivery date.

Tom requested permission to set up a table at the Thanksgiving Dinners to take orders. Approval was given.

Orders will continue to be accepted throughout the school year.

- Mary Jo Kavjian reported on **Restaurant Nights**. A flyer went out in the Tuesday folders this week. The first night is this Monday, November 12 at Noodles and Company. You must mention Mantua Elementary when you order, and from 5 – 10 pm, 25% of the sale will go to Mantua.

The next Night will be at the Pizza Hut at the corner of Prosperity and Little River. Date is not set, but will include eat in and carry out orders.

- Mary Jo reported on the **Auction**. The staff has been given notices for volunteering. There is Principal for the Day, and a Pizza Party with Mr. Collins.

She is preparing the letter to go out to local businesses and also to parents, but is asking for assistance in coming up with a good list of organizations to request sponsorship (just a donation of money instead of an item or service).

- Monica Cameron reported on **Volunteering**. Jeri Gloege agreed to coordinate the Drama Program next fall. Ms. Dini is also going to check with a colleague of hers who may be interested in helping.

Jeri has also volunteered to coordinate the Talent Show that is scheduled for February 9. Allen Clark will help with the light board, but other volunteers are requested to handle lights, both in front of the stage and behind it.

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

Monica is also working to encourage non-English speaking parents to volunteer.

Old Business

None

New Business

Mantua Food Drive

- Janet Sottolano spoke about the food drive. The flyer went out in the Tuesday folders, and collections will be taken for the next two weeks. The class that collects the most non-perishable items will get a pizza party. The donations will be given to Food for Others.

Decorative Logo for Front Triangle

- Andrea Mains provided mock ups of the proposed decorative “M” for the triangle header on the front porch of the school. The cost will be approximately \$520. The PTA is unable to commit funds at this time, and several parents discussed having private fund raisers to raise the money. Cyndi Cliff will create camera ready art to show and advertise.

Creation of Third Vice President

- Bob withdrew his thought about creating a 3rd Vice President position – the process would involve too much paperwork and bureaucracy.

Motions Carried

- Adoption of Minutes for October 2007 PTA meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Virginia Fisher and Mary Rollins
Co-Secretaries