

**PTA Board Meeting Notes
December 2, 2009
Mantua Elementary School**

The President called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. Present at the meeting were:
Executive Board: Nicole Armstrong, Monica Cameron, Julie Lifland, Amy Ivey, Ken Moles substituting for Lori Prendergrast
School Representatives: Mrs. Jan-Marie Fernandez, Mrs. Tina Tingler
General Membership: Janet Sottolano, Christie Choi, Jeri Gloege, Shannon Murphy, Bob Greene

Minutes from the November 7, 2009 meeting were distributed electronically and in print. A motion was made to adopt the minutes. The motion was seconded and the minutes were approved.

President's Report: Nicole Armstrong noted that the directories were distributed. Some will be kept for new families and some will now be sold for \$5.00 to current members. The By-Laws Committee will consist of Nicole Armstrong, Teresa Willebeek-Lemair, and Jeri Gloege. The vote for updated by-laws will occur in the February PTA meeting and will require a quorum of twenty members.

A presentation on Advanced Academics is scheduled for the January PTA meeting. A presentation on reading is planned for the May meeting to proceed summer break. A special alert is to be written by Nicole Armstrong regarding County Budget concerns. The intent is to provide a forum for communication to the FFXCO Board of Education, Board of Supervisors and state legislators who can impact the FY 2011 school budget.

Treasurer's Report: Julie Lifland noted no budget concerns as she reviewed the budget documents. Income from basketball and the book fair are recently in. Advertising and selling DVDs of school events has been successful. The Noodles and Co. family night was successful.

Principal's Report: Mrs. Fernandez noted that Thanksgiving Luncheon went well. "Peter Pan" went well.

The FY 2011 school budget will likely increase student classroom counts and decrease staffing. The cuts are also slated to affect full day kindergarten, the FLEX program, music instruction, and cost-of-living adjustments for teacher salaries. Mrs. Fernandez encourages parents to voice their concerns in order to positively impact the upcoming decisions.

Mrs. Tingler noted that Mrs. Fernandez is being nominated for National Distinguished Principal Award.

A Special Education Parent Support Group is being considered and was discussed at the last Special Education Parent Meeting.

Sign Language is being taught to parents during the day school hours.

Report of First Co-Vice Presidents for Community Outreach:

Amy Ivey discussed nomination of Teacher of the State Award.

Jeri Gloege discussed the Talent show. Audition forms are coming soon. There will be more time to prepare this year. New rules have been written and distributed to set limits on the acts. She also has plans for audition training.

Janet Sottolano noted that 3,700 lbs. of food was gathered for the food drive. The 6th grade gathered the most food.

Community Spirit is planning the next family night to be Legos night 1/15/10 at 7-9 p.m. starring "Sir Bricksalot."

Community Building Network has received the Mantua demographics on primary languages and will send this information to the school community through a "Did you know" section of the Alert News. The idea of communicating to all parents in foreign language through the Alert News is being investigated.

Jackie O'Brien is working on the auction.

It was noted that Carnival positions still need to be filled.

New Business:

A "Did you know" section will be added to the Alert News. Articles are to be received by Nicole Armstrong.

New additions are being made to the electronics for the school stage.

A donation location and process is being developed for the Christmas donation season. It has been noted that there is an increased need this year due to the economy.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Ken Moles – Substituting for Lori Prendergrast as PTA Secretary