

MINUTES  
General PTA Membership Meeting  
9:30 A.M. Sept. 12, 2014  
Mantua Elementary School

I. Call Meeting to Order - 9:40 AM

Julie Middleton

Attendees – Julie Middleton, Nicole Willis, Meri Farling, Lisa Libby, Ellen Lemieux, Teresa LeMair, Jan Marie Fernandez, Amy Alley, Nick Rousos, Irfan Hussain, Mushtari Khan, Kathy Phillips, Christin Nolan, Tre' Krupnick, Tracy Roussey, Becky Fisher, Lori Recher, Saradha Peri, Susannah Hopkins, Socco Duvall, Lauren Brennan, Brooke Whitney, Jennifer McFadyen, Vanessa Hall, Scott Zucker, Rachel Lima, Sam Leiber, Louise Touber, Christine Hall, Helene Cohen, Page G, Geiger Stafaniya, Amy Mireku, Jack C, Sonya Brechey, Louise Rajack, Priya Kasuthodiyil, Heather Hill, Gwen Hiu, John Hiu, Sisilia Astuti, Allen Richards, Chanda McCarthy, Cinnamon Pham, Shannon Murphy, Megan Burski Wells, Karen Gaughan, Susanne Fitch, David LeMair

II. Adoption of June 2014 Minutes – A motion was made and carried to approve the minutes as written.

III. Reports

• President's Report

Julie Middleton

- Julie welcomed everyone to the first PTA meeting of the year. She asked the Administrators and PTA Board Members to introduce themselves.
- Julie thanked all of the PTA volunteers who have been working through the summer to get ready for the school year.

• Treasurer's Report

Nicole Willis

- A motion was made and carried to adopt the audit that was done over the summer. The audit will be posted on the Mantua PTA website.
- Julie introduced the idea of opening a Wish Fund, which will be a small grant-like program that will be open to Mantua faculty and families to apply for. Proposed amount for this year is \$4,000. We would establish a Budget Sub-Committee that would create guidelines, finalize an application, accept applications, discuss at a meeting, and then bring proposed expenditures to a PTA meeting for approval. Program is modeled after the Frost and Woodson Grant Programs.
- Nicole went through proposed budget – took out Auction (Income/Expenses), Performance DVDs (Income), Type To Learn (Income/Expenses), American Sign Language (Expenses); name changes to a few items – Carnival to Carnival/Spring

Fling, Directory Advertising to Sponsorships/Directory, Run For Rocky to Fall Fundraiser/Boosterthon. Boosterthon is a new fundraiser, so the numbers are anticipated numbers. Raccoon Runners will now include boys and girls, so budget amount is doubled from past years. Have not budgeted for Donations, as it is so unknown. New budget item is Homes Tour, which is based on last year's actuals. Enrichment Programs is greater as we have added one session this year. Carnival/Spring Fling expenses different than last year's actuals because we are hoping to have inflatables. New also is the Mantua Wish Fund. Question about significantly larger amount for Boosterthon than last year's Fall Fundraiser. Meri explained that this fundraiser is our new fall fundraiser and is set up to be very successful, with a team coming to get students, families and staff excited through assemblies, daily messages, and incentives. As the Fun Run is done during the school day, all of the students can participate. The numbers are actually much lower than what Boosterthon has projected we will make (although once you subtract expenses from income, we "only" have budgeted to profit \$9,000).

➤ Motion was made and carried to approve the budget as proposed for 2014-15.

- Principals' Report

Jan-Marie Fernandez,  
Amy Alley, Nick Rousos

- Many changes this year. One big one is that all five days are full days. Elementary schools must have 6:50 hours of school time each day. As a result, school time is officially 9:00 am to 3:50 am each day. Doors to classrooms will open at 9:00 am, morning announcements will begin promptly at 9:10 am and students are expected to be in their seats promptly at 9:10 am. A very positive change, allows for full blocks for teaching. Teachers have one hour of planning every day and a number of other things are built into the schedule, which Ms. Alley will discuss shortly.
- Thanks to the PTA for Welcome Back Breakfast.
- Open House and Ice Cream Social went smoothly.
- Sept. 26<sup>th</sup> – Woodson Feeder Night, all schools in pyramid invited over for football field, students get to run the length of the football field.
- Sept. 29<sup>th</sup> – No School, Staff Planning Day
- We have a new TV in the front lobby – will run Good Morning Mantua in the mornings and bus dismissal in the afternoons on one channel, messages from school and PTA about upcoming events on the second channel.
- Funds from PTA and school have made it so we have been able to successfully update the Distance Learning Center.
- Back To School Nights next week. Tuesday is grades 4-6 and Thursday is grades K-3. Significant changes have been made to BTS Nights as well. Each grade will have a separate time. There will be a video presentation with Principal Fernandez. Mr. Rousos presented new BTS staggered schedule. Times are shorter, half hour block per grade level. No PTA meeting, no Principal's presentation. EG – 4<sup>th</sup> Grade is 6:30-

7:00 pm. At 7:00 pm, session will be held in the cafeteria with PTA information, Principal's presentation, specialists, etc. until 7:30 pm. 6<sup>th</sup> grade a little longer than half hour, 7:30 to 8:15 pm, as parents will follow students' schedules and visit each classroom. **Do not be late for your grade presentation as there will not be a second session!** Kindergarten is also a little longer, 45 minutes, 6:30 to 7:15 am; 1st grade 7:00 to 7:30 pm; 2<sup>nd</sup> grade 7:30 to 8 pm; and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade 8:00 to 8:30 pm. Multiage classrooms – look for message from teachers about your time.

- Activate – building executive functioning skills in children, for grades K-2. C8 Sciences and Yeo University have brought in people to create much more exciting version of the tool. Will start this highly engaging program around the end of October. This is our second pilot year with this program. Results on last year's progress were phenomenal. Looking to use exercise components for grades 3-6 in P.E. starting this year.
  - Ms. Alley talked about Boosterthon. Monday there will be a pep rally for all students. Every day of specials, for 10-15 minutes, students will be meeting with the team to talk about working together, taking risks, helping other people, etc.
  - Fun Run on Wednesday, September 24<sup>th</sup> in the morning starting with 3-4<sup>th</sup> grades, then K-2, and finally 5-6<sup>th</sup> grades
  - Everyone will get a t-shirt, each lap is marked off with a sticker
  - Sponsorships can be a flat donation or amount/lap
  - Ms. Alley talked about testing, she reports at the PTA meetings on current/upcoming testing. Have already finished first set of testing, language assessments for Kindergarteners based on home survey. Next testing is the Cognitive Abilities Test, given to 2<sup>nd</sup> graders, 3-day test (also given to 3-6<sup>th</sup> graders that do not already have a Cognitive Abilities Test). NAGLIERI given to all 1<sup>st</sup> graders online will be given in the spring this year (give in the Fall in past years). If you would like a one-time retake of either of these tests, please let Ms. Alley know via email by Friday, September 26<sup>th</sup>. Scores are used for AAP placement.
- 1st Vice President for Programs Lisa Libby, Ellen Lemieux
    - Lisa thanked all program chairs, all of which have already been working hard over the summer
    - Shannon, Enrichment Program Coordinator, reported that online registration opened yesterday morning. We already have one class that is full. As of the first day, we already had 191 registrations. More than half of their classes have already met their minimum. If you don't have access to online registration, please let us know and we will help you. The 4% processing fee is charged by the credit card companies to process credit card payments; PTA fee is convenience fee charged by the PTA.
    - Question about PTA discount. Does not apply for Enrichment Program as that is outside vendors, applies for PTA-run programs including Drama Club, Raccoon Runners, Chat N Chew and Basketball.

- Susanne Fitch, FLEX Coordinator, reported that we are offering Chinese Levels 1 and 2, German Level 1, and Spanish Level 1. If there are other languages that you are interested in for future classes, please contact Susanne. Registration for the fall classes has opened.
- Teresa LeMair, Volunteer Coordinator, reported that Classroom Signup Sheets were out at Open House and will be back out at Back To School Nights. School-wide Volunteer Signup Sheets were in Open House Folders and can be found online as well. The Volunteer Information Meeting will be held right after this PTA meeting today. If you have questions, you may contact Teresa.
- 2nd Vice President for Fundraising/Membership      Meri Farling
  - Yearbook sales – discount going on right now through end of September
  - Yearbook Club – starts in October, open to 6<sup>th</sup> graders, more details to come
  - Ice Cream Social huge success! Sold out of ice cream, water, etc. Looking for a new co-chair for next year to shadow one of the current chairs that will be graduating out.
  - Box Tops – contest has begun, please send in Box Tops in Ziploc bag with teacher’s name on it.
  - Directory Ad Campaign has started
  - SpiritWear – items are on the walls in cafeteria, will have table at BTS Nights, forms in Tuesday Folders, can purchase online
  - Membership –Christin Nolan – 279 memberships sold so far, about 50% online, 50% via the envelopes
  - Almost \$2,000 Friends of Rocky donations so far, thank you!
  - Boosterthon

#### IV. Old Business - none

#### V. New Business - none

VI. Announcements- Check out [www.mantuapta.org](http://www.mantuapta.org) for more information on these and other events:

9/12	PTA Event: Volunteer Info Meeting, 10:30am
9/15-24	Boosterthon Fundraiser (Fun Run 9/24)
9/15	PTA Event: Drama Club Info Meeting, 7:00pm
9/16	Back-to-School Night: 4 <sup>th</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup> Grades, 6:30pm
9/18	Back-to-School Night: K-3 <sup>rd</sup> Grades, 6:30pm
9/22	PTA: Academic Competition Mtg, 7:30pm
9/29	SCHOOL CLOSED: Student Holiday
10/2	PTA Event: Restaurant Night
10/15	School Picture Day
10/9	PTA: Monthly Meeting, 7pm, Library

VII. Adjournment – 10:42 am