

MINUTES
2021-2022 PTA Meeting
Thursday, February 3rd, 2022 @ 7:00pm
Zoom call via Schoology

I. The virtual meeting was called to order at 7:12pm by Kristina Clarke

PTA Board in Attendance: Kristina Clarke, Jody Agnew, Gretchen West

Executive Board in Attendance: Linda Shannon, Amy Alley, Richard Deixler

II. President and VP Report: Kristina Clarke

It's been a quiet-ish couple of months. When we last met, we finalized and approved the Wish Fund grants and those funds are being put right to use! The new math program, Reflex, aimed at math fact fluency, has been purchased and is being rolled out this week. The tables for outdoor lunch have been subsidized. Ukuleles have been purchased and are to be delivered this week for the music department. And – I believe – we have air purifiers in all classrooms now!

Upcoming events:

Planning for the remainder of the school year, will hear more events in the programs and fundraising reports but two that I'll mention here are our hospitality and appreciation events – we'll have several big weeks in April and May to celebrate our administrative assistants are principal and assistant principals, cafeteria staff and of course our teachers, IAs and specialists. For community fun programming, I'm hoping to bring in the Woodson Computer Science Honor Society to do a programming workshop with students. Room parents are in the process of coordinating Valentine parties and Pi Day festivities for our sixth graders. Just to name a few of the fun things to come this spring!

Upcoming Volunteer Needs:

Nominating Committee

6th Grade Party

Art Volunteers (Natalie Shirley)

Programs:

Enrichment schedule and registration date: registration opens 2/14 and runs through 2/22, classes go from 3/7-5/5

Talent Show – Brooke Aiken

Working through the details. Maybe doing different sessions, since it is so long. Suggestion on having concessions outside. More to come.

Drama Club starting rehearsal for the spring show on 2/15

Basketball running smoothly, great to see the kids on the court again, final games wrap up at the end of February and playoffs run for the first two weeks in March. Playoff and championship games are exciting – come out and cheer them on

III. Principal's Reports: Linda Shannon

School improvement plan:

<https://mantuaes.fcps.edu/about/school-innovation-improvement-plan>

Lexia has been a great program. Impressive program, and seeing tremendous gains.

ADMR and ST Math are Math programs. All kids are able to do this independently and can move to the next level at their own pace. Jane Dunfee helped to organize targeting some learning gaps due to not being in the building learning. Helping to identify learning gaps. Intervention happening at every level – very intentional approach and doing this again next year.

Wellness, school wide plan. Focusing on social/emotional learning in the classroom. All systematically support kids and provide support.

Working with kids individually taking a different approach with SEL – volume of kids based on teachers feedback and check ins, more kids would benefit. Looking into starting Mantua Minds Matter. Trying to work with that organization to see how that might work in mantua. It is a pilot program that would identify and invite kids with needs, but is open to everyone.

Any questions, reach out to Ms. Shannon.

Masking is still continuing. We have been fortunate that no cases have had cross transmission. Speaks a lot to mantua intervention. Susan Palamino new covid coordinator. So grateful for that.

Library raised so much money from the book fair, using profits towards a mural in the library. Based on books, and tailored to our kids and what they like to read. Will be done when kids are in school and get to see it happen.

Some concerns around computers going home around k-2 kids. Let any concerns know and they have been sharing with the district – working through that. 3-6 will always go home as they have. Looking at k-2 keeping computers at school.

Hoping to have volunteers in the school soon. Sub coverage is tough. County has been sending central office staff in to help. Hopefully the surge is fading and back to business soon.

IV. Assistant Principal's Report:

Rich Deixler:

IOWA test was given to 6th graders enrolled in advanced math, given this assessment as one criteria for advanced algebra in middle school. Went well, 2nd window for make ups schedule 1st week after the last week of school. Results won't be available until mid - April.

In the middle k-2 winter window for SEL screener. Teachers fill out a questionnaire instead of students taking something directly. 2/11 window closes.

WEEDA access test window is under way = any language other than english is the main language. This is federally mandated to be evaluated. 4 part assessment , first 2 parts are done 1-6 in the next week or so. Helps to learn where our students sit in language acquisitions and assure instruction and learning is appropriate.

Questions :

The test you just described... is that about to determine if students were behind bc of pandemic?

Answer: You might be talking about the VGA - Virginia Growth Assessment. They were planning on giving this test, but it worked out to test after being out of school. It was a test to show gaps in learning.

Amy Alley:

iReady winter window isn't required by all the students. Certain kids might have needed to retake the math, etc. Some teachers had the entire class retake the test.

Not doing reading i Ready, did lexia instead. IReady actually monitors how quickly they answer a question. They flag if it takes too long or too short to answer a question.

County was partnering with UCLA - survey teachers complete on each child looking at physical and emotional health, communication, that is shared, no names attached . They look at what are the needs in the community connected to early childhood. Compared nationally - no names attached and can opt out. Teachers do surveys, and it doesn't affect kids.

Kathy Timberlake, KCC:

Mr. Wilson class won the food drive. Supposed to coordinate “mummying” Principal Shannon
Skipped last meeting in Jan due to covid

Questions: No questions

V. VP of Fundraising Report : Gretchen West

VI.

Spring Fling might look a little different this year. Maybe more of a movie night and food trucks - looking for volunteers to help chair this, scaled down version, trying to do something but probably not as big as events in the past

Working on restaurant nights.

Working on school supply kits - working with admin

Read-A-Thon - have a group of volunteers, hoping to encourage kids to read, prizes and tracking minutes, new event working out details now

VII. Announcements

Check out Mantuapta.org, and weekly newsletter for more information on things happening at Mantua Elementary.

Meeting is adjourned at 8:02pm.

Members in Attendance:

Patricia Dunfee

Gretchen West

Namir Kassim

Katie Lieb

Amy Alley

Ruth Lagera

Sara Taylor

Kathy Timberlake

Rich Deixler

Helen Keil-Losch

Laura Tetreault

Linda Shannon

Tom Stauber

Emily Cathey

Brooke Aiken

Jody Agnew

Kristina Clarke