

DRAFT
Notes of the Mantua PTA
December 7, 2005
Mantua Elementary School

The president called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. Present at the meeting were:

Executive Board: *Mary Jo Kavjian, Donna Yudkin, Elizabeth Wasserman, Carole Thomas and Cheryl May.*

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

Board Members: *Carole Thomas, Randi Kirkland, Allen Clark, Laura Mead and Donna McGrath*

General Membership:

Allen Clark made a **motion** that the minutes of the November 2, 2005 meeting be approved. Donna Yudkin seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Cheryl May distributed the PTA Income Statement for the four months ending November 30, 2005. The updated income statement showed net income of \$22,806.

Cheryl May made a motion to create a line item in the budget of \$500 for the Take Home Reading program. Allen Clark seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Mrs. Fernandez made the **Principal's Report:**

- The Principal's Office will be working with staff to conduct "Brain Gym" activities – exercises designed to get the brain working – before tests.
- An economics researcher with a grant from George Mason University has been meeting with teachers at the school to talk about teaching economics through literature and studies of Mali.
- The results of 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th grade Benchmark Assessment Tests (BART) in reading and math have been shared with teachers and staff. Our results came back as expected. Early next year, there will be a way for parents to access results of their child's tests through the FCPS Blackboard site.
- An education research group visited the school to videotape a segment about integrating technology into school programs in the distance learning center. The group gave a \$2,000 honorarium to Mantua.

Ms. Tingler made the following **Announcements:**

- The Total Communication after school program starts Jan. 18 and runs for 10 weeks.
- New video phones will be brought to Mantua to replace TTY phones for the hearing impaired.

- More than \$400 was raised by the TC program and Kids Care Club for the Louisiana School for the Deaf and victims of Hurricane Katrina.

Ms. Thompson made the following **Announcement**:

- Fourteen Mantua students went to Washington, D.C. to participate in a youth conference involving the United Nations on water as a human right. They were the only elementary school students who participated. A representative of the program will be visiting the school to speak to students.

Mrs. Sottolano made the following **Announcement**:

- Mantua raised 3,000 pounds of food that was sent to Food for Others. Mrs. Foulger's class raised the most and won an ice cream party. The 5th grade also won an ice cream party for raising the most food as a grade.

The following **Committee Reports** were filed:

Basketball – Laura Mead (for Rob Mead) stated that 299 children registered. Games were scheduled to start that weekend.

Membership – Carole Thomas stated that the PTA is at 63% membership. She said that more directories are being printed and that students who receive free and reduced lunches will get PTA directories without having to become members.

Auction – Carole Thomas said that the on-line auction was going great. Case Design recently became a \$500 sponsor. Fundraising is exactly where it was expected to be. Faculty fun and restaurants will be the last sections to close Dec. 14.

Hospitality – Mary Jo Kavjian said that she will be setting up community spirit nights at local restaurants. She will be soliciting volunteers to provide desserts for a program for the deaf that starts Jan. 18 and runs through March 28.

Kids Care Club – Donna McGrath said that the group's effort to collect books was a success and that some of the books were donated to the School Aged Child Care (SACC) program. The club also helped raise more than 200 school supplies that were sent to Hurricane Katrina victims through Borders. Eleven yards in Mantua were recently raked by club members. The Talent Show will be held 6:30 p.m. on Feb. 11.

Hands on Science – Randi Kirkland said 153 students registered for the fall session. The winter session registration is closing the following week.

Odyssey of the Mind – Mantua may field four teams this year. We still need two coaches.

Old Business

New Business

Carole Thomas made a motion to donate \$250 from the PTA Benevolent Fund to Cameron's Cause, the charity set up on behalf of former Mantua student Cameron McLain, who died in early December. Allen Clark seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Motions Carried

A motion carried to approve the minutes of November 2, 2005.

A motion carried to create a line item budget of \$500 for Take Home Reading.

A motion carried to donate \$250 from the PTA Benevolent Fund to Cameron's Cause.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Cherie Curry and Elizabeth Wasserman
Co-Secretaries