

**Notes of the Mantua PTA
October 1, 2008
Mantua Elementary School**

The President called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Present at the meeting were:

Executive Board: Bob Greene, Trish Williams, Monica Cameron, Nicole Armstrong, Julie Lifland, Ken Moles, Amy Ivey

School Representatives: Ms. Cheryl Thompson, Mrs. Janet Sottolano

General Membership: Kathy Phillips, Teresa Lemair, Gary Middleton, Shannon Murphy, Jeri Gloege, Jason Gloege, Diane Schenk, Jackie DeScisciolo, Raisha Vaidya, Shoeib Shaikh, Carrie Clawson

Minutes were distributed for the September 2008 meeting electronically and in print. Bob Greene made a motion to adopt the minutes from the September 2008 meeting. The motion was seconded. The minutes were approved.

President's Report- Bob Greene reported that separate meetings were and will be held by the Executive Board for discussion of PTA matters.

Treasurer's Report –Julie Lifland discussed the cash balance for the Ice Cream Social.

Principal's Report – Ms. Thompson reported that some of the Woodson H.S. band members have performed at Mantua in order to generate excitement about the music programs at Mantua.

The Naglieri tests are done.

The Coget testing is scheduled for the end of October.

The "Spirit Parade" is scheduled 2:00 p.m. on 10/31 probably on the field by the playground. Themes will be chosen using simple costumes with the idea to avoid violence. Parents are able to join.

Mrs. Fernandez is in Austria at a conference.

Custodian Appreciation Week is next week. Each grade will make a card.

The "Kiss and Ride" area has been noted as a concern. Ms. Thompson is going to redesign the crosswalk. An alert is to be placed on the PTA website regarding certain rules including no cell phone use, no U-turns, watch safety patrols, no passing, avoid socializing, and no drop-offs before 8:45 a.m. It was also noted that the bike rack could be moved to avoid congestion and that the Kirkland/Southwick intersection is also a problem.

A task force will be developed to address these issues.

Teresa Lemair noted that there is a volunteer list to help with these issues.

There will be an Evacuation Drill 10/15 or 10/16, rain date 10/17, information will be dispensed in the Tuesday Folders. The kids will evacuate to staging areas.

Report of First Co-Vice President for Community Outreach-

Trish Williams noted that there is a chess club representative and that the club is functioning.

The Cultural Arts program is not completed.

The Mantua Basketball League needs coaches. The forms for sign-up are on the PTA website.

Lego League headed by Karen Contreras is new this year. The plan is to have teams for Lego creations.

Odyssey of the Mind needs parents.

The Parent Education program speaker, Peg Tyre is being scheduled 11/12. She will discuss her book "The Trouble With Boys".

Monica Cameron noted that the FLEX program needs 1 more Spanish teacher and a Kindergarten Spanish teacher.

Multiple languages will be available.

Jeri Gloege provided a Drama Club update. There will be 3 shows: 11/21 at 7 p.m., 11/22 at 2 p.m., and 11/24 time TBA (Ms. Thompson suggested 9:30 start).

Teresa Lemair noted that she is currently working with 2 separate email lists to contact volunteers. There is much enthusiasm and only 5 rooms need a Room Parent at this point.

Report of Second Vice President for Membership and Fundraising-

Shannon Murphy noted that membership is going well. The total # of members is now 496. (Around 300 families). The database of members is being developed.

Sally Foster – Oct. 3 deadline.

Dogfish Head Alehouse Fundraiser – 10/14 – with silent auction, raffle, band, TBA in Tue. folder and Alert News.

Auction – 10 donations already.

Question was noted about whether to have Bake Sale at Election Day at Mantua in order to fund Cultural Arts.

Question was noted about whether to create supply kits from a store/supplier such as Staples. Past PTA consensus has held that there was too much variability between teachers and that other supplies would be required anyway. Manpower required for kit creation was another concern.

A parent noted that Camelot Elementary did this successfully in the past and that we should contact them as to method.

Old Business –

Website update – Jason Gloege is currently putting the parent database in place. He will forward to those in quick need of this information. Parents should be able to update their information.

There is currently no means to pay online for membership. This is being evaluated.

The old website information is being preserved and should be entered.

Financial forms should be added to allow PTA interaction.

The capability for the PTA to email the general membership is there.

Teresa Lemair wants no link to allow volunteering through the website.

BTS Nights – The slide show and parade of volunteers went well.

Volunteer Coffee - ~ 40 people attended. Went well.

New Business –

Multicultural Exchange is tomorrow 7:30 p.m. at the cafeteria. Everyone is invited. All cultures are present. These will occur every Thursday through October and November. Mrs. Janet Sottolano noted that the SCA program "Food For Others" program has a goal of 4000 pounds food donation. The FFX Co. SCA has provided prints/photos to the school. These have been a powerful teaching tool.

Jeri Gloege raised a concern about the paper costs within the school. A move to a paperless system was suggested noting the cost savings. This is to be added to the New Business at the next meeting.

The Mantua Chamber Chorus (comprised of 5th and 6th graders) will be shown on TV 7p.m. 10/23 on Channel 21.

There is a Fairgrade meeting with the FFX CO PTA upcoming. Information can be obtained from the FFX Council PTA website.

Motions Carried

Adoption of Minutes for September 10, 2008 meeting approved

Adjournment – 8:19 p.m.

Ken Moles
Secretary