

MINUTES – FINAL, Approved 10/13/16

General PTA Membership Meeting

September 9, 2016

Mantua Elementary School

I. The meeting was called to order by Sam Leiber at 9:38 am

Executive Board and Membership Attendees: Nicole Willis, Kristina Clarke, Chanda McCarthy, Dawn Keene, Sam Leiber, Eva Orłowski, Shannon Matson, Lulu Yen, Mark Goossemer, Tara Kelly, Laura Champe Mitchell, Dave Eldred, Courtney Allen, Althea Bryson, Lauren Brennan, Kati Hesford, Bob Greene, Terri Radziewski, Sharon Toda, Katherine Gilbert, Sook-Yean Williams, Sarah Wells, Julie Middleton, Kathy Phillips, Amy Allen, Monica Guteirrez, Meredith Brimblecom, Rachel Lima, Alka Arora, Paula Gish, Kathleen DeCarlo, Susanne Fitch

Administration and School Representatives: Jan-Marie Fernandez, Amy Alley, Nick Rousos

II. Adoption of June 2016 Minutes – A motion was made and carried to approve the minutes as written

III. Reports

-President's Report

Sam Leiber

Welcome everyone, thank you for attending. Brief introductions were made by the Executive Board and Administration members.

All are encouraged to join the PTA- many great benefits including discounts on popular programs. Please check your open house folders for helpful information including the PTA and FCPS Combined Calendar and flyer on how to stay in touch with the PTA and school

Alert news is our weekly newsletter delivered via email or a paper copy is available if requested

PTA Advocacy – we have an opportunity to vote on what the PTA advocates for; part of our job is to advocate as a group. Of our \$15 membership dues \$3.75 goes to the state PTA, \$.25 to local PTA and the remainder stays in our school to support our students and staff

-Treasurer's Report

Nicole Willis

Fundraisers

INCOME

Sponsorships/Directory - \$400.00 from two sponsors placing ads in the directory

Donations - \$177.30 from Open House and MemberPlanet

Fundraising Partnerships - \$14.84 from Amazon Smile

Yearbook - \$105 collected over the summer in the front office for last year's books

EXPENSES

Ice Cream & Pizza Social - \$956 spent so far (\$200 to start the cash boxes, \$606 for pizzas, \$150 for DJ services)

Membership Dues

\$630 in dues received at Open House, which equals 42 members. Many more envelopes have been received in the PTA mailbox in the front office.

\$336.96 transferred through MemberPlanet's Campaign page for 24 members – more to be transferred soon.

Programs & Events

Sixth Grade Party – the Everything Entertainment check was destroyed by the DJ, so I had to void the original and reissue another check. This was from last year's party.

Total Other Income

Our checking account balance in the PTA's account after everything has cleared to date is \$18,902. In this section on the budget, we are showing \$14,000 of that amount available for use for this year's budget. In the past, this has not been done, therefore if we voted to spend more than what our budget allowed due to having more funds in the PTA's checking account, it then reflected a negative net income on the budget. This way, we can show what we really would like to be able to spend down in our checking account, while maintaining a "cushion" in the account for future use if necessary.

PTA meeting attendees had questions regarding the budget about member dues, last year's budget, bank fees and learning resources. Nicole Willis, Sam Leiber and Jan Marie Fernandez responded.

-Principals' Report

Jan-Marie Fernandez

Welcome everyone to the new school year and our first PTA meeting!

Events That Took Place:

Welcome Back Breakfast: Thank you to the PTA for the wonderful breakfast last week

Open House and first day of school: all went smoothly

Staffing and Student Enrollment:

Ms. Fernandez reviewed staffing changes and gave brief biographies of new staff members. Overall, class sizes are good, 24.6 is the average class size. Two grades (5th and 2nd) have higher numbers but others are all low. Two art rooms have been restored, space was gained by changing the computer labs to smaller rooms and laptops, i.e. 5th grade 1:1 technology.

Upcoming events:

Ice Cream Social is tonight on the playground

9/14 Back To School Night, 6:30-8:30pm for 4th -6th grades

9/21 Back To School Night, 6:30-8:30pm for K-3rd grades

For both Back To School Nights, please read the AlertNews and the flyers that will come home. Note the staggered starts by grade level; grade level presentations will be given just once to accommodate parking and students in multiple grades. The administration's presentation will be via video.

10/5 Restaurant Night – Dickey's BBQ

10/7 School Closed

10/10 School Closed

10/13 PTA Meeting, 7pm
10/14 Run for Rocky Kickoff!

-Assistant Principal

Amy Alley

We are on twitter! MantuaEs is the twitter feed; follow us for pictures and updates

Testing news:

Beginning of the year assessments in reading and math are underway in all classrooms

ESOL assessments completed to identify students who need support

WEDA oral, reading and writing assesments

CogATs – verbal, nonverbal and quantitative, 3 day test, given to all 2nd graders, scores are used for AAP identification, 3rd-6th graders who are new to FCPS and don't have any test data on file will also be pulled to take the test, window for test to be administered is 10/17-29. Requests will be taken for re-tests, one time only for 3-6th grades.

Composite CogAT score is the one used for AAP pool. It is one piece of information used to determine support services.

Family Life Education – emotional/social component and Human Growth and Development component, opt out forms available at Back To School Night, preview materials always available in library

-1st Vice President for Programs

Dawn Keene

Bob Greene- Cub and Boy Scouts information available at BTSN; Scouts is for families, not just boys

Drama Club Information Meeting 9/12, 7pm

Katie Hesford – Garden Committee, we have been doing tons of work in the garden including harvesting pumpkins and gourds, raising pollinating and colonial plants and presenting a soil science lesson. Please join us, helping hands are welcome!

Susanne Fitch – Global Plus, formerly known as FLEX offering Chinese, German I, Spanish I and II, classes before and after school, minimum of 8 students per class, please consider registering your child for this great opportunity

Susanne Fitch - Girl Scout troop formation and placement, info at BTSN, meeting on 9/29

Vanessa Hall – Academic Competitions, teamwork and problem solving are a big part of these teams; don't be afraid of "academic" or "competition!" It is great for all kids. Interest meeting is on Sept 19th at 7pm in the library; Destination Imagination and Odyssey of the Mind are very popular programs but there are many opportunities. These programs are great for development and character building for all students, it's not just academic!

Enrichment Class Registration starts next week, 9/14

Fundraising Opportunities for the year include:

Passive Fundraising (grocery stores and amazon) presented by Paula Gish- See the flyers in the Tuesday Folders, register your cards and check Amazon. Best to click through the direct link on the PTA website to Amazon; not Amazon Smiles

Book Fair – will be in November

Box Tops – contest is running through 10/26

Fall Fundraiser – Run for Rocky is our biggest fundraiser of the year; lots of fun, promotes school spirit and healthy choices while raising the funds to support our programs, staff and students

Ice Cream Social – join us on the playground for pizza and ice cream, visit with neighbors, friends and classmates

Spring Carnival – Fun community event in the spring, need many volunteers and is a great way to get involved

Homes Tour – currently looking for a coordinator

Recycling – a volunteer offered to help with this effort

Membership Drive

Fun Run! – 10/14 Pep Rally Kick Off, 10/21 is the Run for Rocky

IV. Old Business

None

V. New Business

2015-16 Audit Report – cash checks to “cash” is one item noted, we have updated the procedure; auditor is a CPA in the neighborhood and approved the report. Because of checking account changes some purchases were not able to be made over the summer so we have just recently purchased the refrigerators for the staff lounge and the basketball backboards

Motion made, seconded and approved to accept the 2015-16 Audit Report as written; all approved, none opposed

2016-17 Budget – Motion made, seconded and approved to pass the 2016-17 Budget as presented

PTA Advocacy issues reviewed, voting will be available online in the interest of time.

Meals Tax proposal was explained: up to a 4% tax at restaurants to pay for school funding; surrounding counties already have this tax, proceeds would be split 70/30 between FCPS and other public services.

VI. Announcements

Check out www.mantuapta.org and the AlertNews for more information on what is happening at Mantua

VII. Meeting was adjourned at 11:18am.