

**Notes of the Mantua PTA
April 5, 2006
Mantua Elementary School**

The president called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. Present at the meeting were:

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

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

Board Members: *Loren Brandman, Martha Parsons, Donna McGrath, Randi Kirkland*

General Membership: *Loan Pham, Maggie Weddell*

Minutes were distributed for April 2006. Martha Parsons made a motion to adopt the minutes from the April 2006 PTA meeting. Carole Thomas seconded. The motion carried.

Cheryl May distributed the PTA Income Statement for the 10 months ended April 30, 2006. She said we are where we expected to be right now. We have \$53,000 in the bank. We have expected expenses of \$18,000 for the rest of the year. We like to leave a cushion of about \$22,000 in the bank. We should be prepared to vote in June to fund about \$10,000 in items from the Principal's wish list.

Cheryl May said that the PTA would fund three students to attend the Patrol Captain Camp this year at \$190 per student.

MaryJo Kavjian made the PTA **President's Report:**

- The last issue of the PTA Newsletter will be distributed May 23. Articles about summer activities are due May 11 to mnjrparsons@cox.net
- Sunday, June 11 will be a special school day to see the Nationals play. We should be getting information about discounted tickets.
- The SLEEP program to start junior high and high school later in Fairfax will go into its second phase with a \$150,000 study over the next six months.
- The PTA recently treated the Mantua office staff to lunch at Maggiano's.

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

- The school is moving forward with construction of a modular unit. An article will be appearing soon in the Alert News about the project. The unit will have eight classrooms – six for the 5th grade and hopefully on additional class to act as a second computer lab/math lab.
- On May 27, most of the third grade teachers will be traveling to Italy to develop new curriculum for teaching about ancient Rome. The funding for the trip comes from grant money given to Mrs. Fernandez for her work with Gallaudet University. Mrs. Fernandez is using the funds for staff development. Teachers will be communicating

daily with 3rd grade students and developing an instructional Web site about ancient Rome that will hopefully be used nationally as a model. A letter will be going home soon to parents of 3rd graders explaining that there will be substitutes in most classes – with the exception of Mr. Starocik’s class – for seven days. Teachers return June 7.

- We have several families of Mantua students who are struggling financially. Mrs. Fernandez asked if the PTA could help social workers provide supermarket gift cards for three local families to help them through this difficult time.

Donna McGrath made a motion that the PTA buy \$375 in supermarket gift cards -- \$125 per family – from proceeds from the Talent Show. Martha Parsons seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Ms. Cheryl Thompson made the following **Announcements**:

- Testing calendars will be sent home in the Tuesday folders. From now until the end of the school year, SOL testing will be conducted in several grades. Construction will hopefully be halted on days that 5th graders have tests.
- Several concerts for band, string groups, and choruses are scheduled in May.
- The science fair will be held June 13, 14, and 15.
- Field days are scheduled June 6, 7 and 8.
- Kindergarten orientation is May 8.
- GT orientation is May 22.

Mrs. Sottolano added that the 5th grade Renaissance Fair will be June 9.

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

- The Total Communication program is using an accelerated reader program.
- Video phones will be set up in the building in the teacher’s lounge to communicate with families.

The following committee announcement was made:

Kids Care Club

- Preparation for the club’s last even of the year, the Raccoon Run, on May 13th, is under way. We expect to hopefully match last year’s results, when \$9,372 was raised.
- Lost and found items that have not been claimed by the second or third week in May will be given to Bailey’s Elementary School.

Hospitality

- The teacher appreciation luncheon is scheduled for May 12th. Special arrangements will be made for 4th grade teachers, who will be on a field trip.

Old Business

Maggie Weddell agreed to participate on the Nominating Committee.

New Business -- None

Motions Carried

Adoption of Minutes for April 2006 PTA meeting.

Motion to purchase \$375 in food gift cards for Mantua families.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:32 pm.

Cherie Curry and Elizabeth Wasserman
Co-Secretaries