

**Manhattan Middle PTO  
Board Meeting Minutes  
Date: 12/13/2012**



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**Attendance: Suzanne Lee, Robbyn Fernandez, Libby Black, Jennipher Murphy, Barb Hoyt, Allison Faarand, Kathy Patrick, Cindy, Trina Faatz**

**I. Welcome**

- a. Suzanne started the meeting at 6:40p.m. and thanked everyone for attending the holiday PTO meeting.

**II. Principal Report**

- a. Robbyn began her report by discussing some reasons Manhattan has to celebrate. Student, Marco Hospina won a contest competing against mostly high school students (1000 kids). Manhattan won 2nd place in Colorado Radon poster. Barb Miller was celebrated at the honor roll at district.
- b. She announced that Open Enrollment tours began today which replaced the traditional shadowing. Shadowing became too difficult to schedule and took too much time away from class so she wanted to do a format that respected school schedules. A total of 248 people came to take a tour of Manhattan! The January tour date is already full. The tour focuses on trying to be the best we can be and communicating that to the families and making sure that the families feel both welcomed and comfortable at the Manhattan school. There were lots of Flatirons and Mesa families. Robbyn said it is up to the principal to decide who will be taken off the waiting list and she said that they have to put Manhattan as their first choice to be considered. There are potential 180-200 students. Robbyn said that advocating for resources is one of the most important things she does and she focuses on keeping small class sizes. Kathy gives feedback about open enrollment experience. Her friends came to TAG night and said the school was friendlier than other schools and they felt very welcome. Robbyn said Open Enrollment reflects who we are and Manhattan is getting bigger but 550 or below is still one of the smallest in the district. Manhattan sports have been increasing and we are happy about our athletics. The basketball team (girls) is undefeated! Robbyn encourages everyone to give feedback because she listens. She encouraged PTO and parents to give her feedback.

**III. Events**

**a. Magic Phoenix**

- i. Barb gave report. The final numbers have yet to be determined. A few donations are still coming in. She has a \$500 check to deposit with matching funds so that will add an additional \$1000. Currently the total is around \$19,000.

There is \$16,000 in cash and checks and \$1250 in matching funds from companies. Paypal is around \$2750. Trina asked what our percentage is and Barb said it was around 2%. What about Colorado Gives day? Can we be on the list?

**b. Conferences**

- i. No report.

**IV. Treasurer Report**

- a. Barb gave treasurer's report. So far there have been no expenses for second quarter. Joni never asked for anything for the Arts festival. Robbyn said that the PTO should assume that at every event PTO should be included. Maybe the PTO could help enhance the Arts Festival for next year. Robbyn will mention it to Joni.
- b. Barb said that the numbers for the school store are around a net of -\$470.00 and is on par with last year. Allison said she thought the store was in the black the last few months and Barb said it was because there are outstanding deposits etc... that have not yet been tallied. Robbyn asked if the school store could use an entire box of Christmas items. It was suggested that possibly the teachers might be able to use them as incentives in their classrooms.
- c. Expenses coming up are the winter family social, conferences and the PTO holiday food.

**V. Committee Reports**

**a. Volunteers**

- i. Allison gave report. Lost and found will be on Monday. Pick it up or its going to goodwill. Jennipher asked how the online sign-ups are going? Allison said they are going fine.

**b. School Store**

- i. No report.

**c. Fundraising**

- i. No report.

**d. Community Dinner**

- i. Suzanne gave report. She said that the committee will be rethinking the Twirl fundraiser because we only raised \$50 on the last one. Twisted Pine was very successful although employees were slightly overwhelmed with the amount of people that showed up. PTO raised over \$700 and Twisted Pine said they would do it again. Fran is going to try to get Chipotle because they give 50%. Wrestling only made \$235 because it was a snowy night. May give wrestling another opportunity after break.

**e. Technology**

- i. No report.

**f. Hospitality**

- i. No report.

**g. Vision and Hearing**

- i. No report.

**h. Winter Social**

- i. Kathy stepped up to take over the winter social. Barb gave a little history on the winter social. The winter social started when the bond passed and began as a ground breaking party when Martha was principal. Families went inside and had ice cream and games for the kids. A year later the school had a ribbon cutting ceremony and continued with the ice cream and game activities. Manhattan developed a tradition; Ice cream with lots of toppings and activities that kids can do . It is spread out all over the school so everyone can check out. The entire event is always free but there has been a budget the past few years. Someone asked if the event should steer away from dodge ball and Robbyn said that yes, there are always a few injuries or feelings hurt. Dance, Dance Revolution was popular. Jennipher asked who Kathy should call if she has any questions and it was decided that Soraya would be best because the committee heads from last year are no longer at the school.

**i. Book Fair**

- i. No report.

**j. PEN**

- i. Trina gave report. Natural highs has been presented to the community. Trina said that when you hear the kids talk about their experiences, it is so inspirational. There are meetings throughout town. There is an event on January 24 at Fairview. She said it was important because kids are doing drugs in school and that marijuana is socially accepted. Tabacco is not accepted. 2,000 kids have gone through the program.
- ii. The PEN presentation at Manhattan on the teenage brain was successful, about 240 people showed up. PEN wanted to tell the PTO that they were impressed how organized the volunteers were and how much support they received.

**k. Protocol**

- i. Suzanne gave report. A protocol committee was set-up to review the PTO procedures on giving out funds. The committee came back with a draft on policies. Suzanne passed out the draft and asked everyone to review and to send back comments by the end of the year. The members discussed if there was a need to vote on the money in the bank that was left by the Latino community and it was decided that the PTO does not need to vote as long as it goes towards the same community. Libby said the Magic Phoenix does not have a lot of rules and that is why the teachers like it. She wondered how specifically it will change? Ex. Does it have to be the exact item i.e. game? Can the donation be flexible? Libby mentioned that the old timers are still working within the old \$600 limit. Robbyn and Libby asked if they could meet with the committee to

discuss some of their comments. They are concerned about the flexibility of requests because that is important to retain. They feel that having a \$\$ maximum is a better way to go, less restricting. Suzanne will ask the protocol committee to email Robbyn to set-up a meeting.

#### **VI. Comments**

- a. Suzanne has the DPC report and will email it to members.

#### **VII. To Do**

- a. Robbyn will talk to Joni about the PTO supporting her and the Arts Festival.
- b. Suzanne will ask the protocol committee to email Robbyn to set-up a meeting.
- c. Kathy will get started planning for the Winter Social.