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## SD of L school to introduce laptops on mobile carts

According to a paper, “**Computer Initiative Technology Grant**”, produced by Amanda Funk, Dean of Students at the George Washington Elementary School, grant money and private donations will be used to obtain two “*multimedia technology exploration carts*” that will be available upon completion of construction.

Each will consist of 15 laptops, a wireless hub, a black-and-white printer, 15 headsets, 15 mice, 6 iPod Touch devices, an iTunes account, and a set of SMART Response Clickers.

The report states, “*Learning with laptops gives students the opportunity to construct their own meaning, explore individual paths to knowledge, and provides vast amounts of information at their fingertips. With laptops and Internet access, students can visit a museum anywhere in the world, perform a virtual dissection, exchange data with students from anywhere in the world,*

*and create multimedia presentations for a world audience.*”

It continues: “*The iPod touch has a vast amount of potential in the classroom to revolutionize the way students learn and teachers teach. The applications that are available through iTunes are endless... Vocabulary applications that students can create and share flashcards, math fact fluency applications, planetarium applications that allow easy exploration of the sky, health and nutrition applications make it easy to look up caloric values in food and create examples of healthy meals, audio books, creating podcasts, recording a sound and automatically composing music...*”

“*With SMART Response interactive response systems, teachers gain accurate and immediate insight into student learning while increasing comprehension, retention and engagement.*”

**SUNDAY NEWS:** In his column, Editor Marv Adams reports “*An Allentown woman, 45, was charged with open lewdness after Manheim Township police were told that she got out of her vehicle and urinated in the open at Route 501 and York Road. On a Friday. At 11:04 a.m.*”

suddenly. A man can keep a cup in his car. What is a woman to do?

Columnists can get desperate to find things to write about this time of year. But that is not a legitimate excuse for bad journalistic taste.

**WATCHDOG:** In a more civilized setting, people would just look the other way. Some people have weak bladders and the urge comes

## **PAM's and Lancaster's futures intertwined**

The dream of husband and wife team Fran Veri and Michael Jamanis and those others, public and private, that helped bring about the Pennsylvania Academy of Music can yet be achieved...but much depends on the actions of PAM's Business Committee.

PAM's future can far transcend what would be the circumstance if it were but a school for local students whose parents would like them to learn to play a musical instrument. However, as an international music school for talented high-school age musicians from throughout the world, PAM's potential impact on the future of the City, and secondarily the County, is unparalleled.

First, without PAM, to what use can this \$32 million dollar facility be put? Art Mann, Chair of PAM's Business Committee, likens it to the proverbial 'white elephant'. When an ancient Asian king desired to destroy a member of the nobility, a gift was given that required so much upkeep as to be financially ruinous.

Second, what is UNCB bank to do with a structure that represents around \$9 million in debt, a significant chunk of its capital? Perhaps a buyer will emerge for the single purpose structure, despite its extraordinary cost of operations. Otherwise, PAM donors may be its best prospect if and when PAM's revenue can be expanded and its expenses reduced, a mammoth undertaking, if indeed possible.

Third, the Brunswick Hotel remains closed, although it can readily qualify for an Occupancy Permit. If PAM is to become a boarding school for musicians, the Brunswick's ample lower level meeting room space, several floors of rooms, and its pool and ample common areas are key. (The long closed movie theatre might also be put to

use.) This also would provide essential 'base business' and needed activity for a hotel that has been virtually dormant on the Lancaster scene for three decades, despite the fact that it is fundamentally a superior facility to the recently completed Marriott Hotel. (It was opened as a four star Hilton as compared the three star Marriott.)

Fourth, a flourishing PAM and revitalized Brunswick would revive Lancaster Square, helping to attract a user to the empty former Bulova (Hess Department Store) Building.

Fifth, downtown Lancaster would benefit greatly from having a music academy campus in its midst. Shops and restaurants would spring up to serve the students. Family members and tourists would be attracted to the year-round programs. The city would bask in the same prestige that Julliard brings to Manhattan and Curtis to Philadelphia.

There is much that can be justifiably criticized about how much money was spent and for the incredibly inept board leadership and management by artists since PAM's inception. The question now is whether Business Committee Chair Art Mann and committee members Mary Burton and Jon Tryon can take effective steps to turn the institution around.

It will take much dedication and work, bold actions, 'tough love', a strong vision, and the courage to do so. Once it is apparent that business competence is present, donors will rise to the occasion because PAM is much loved. (Certainly the Steinman Foundation and Lancaster Newspapers, Inc. generously cooperation helped to make the current arrangement possible.) However, if we don't see signs of radical changes at PAM over the next couple of months, it is unlikely we ever will.

**The above have been excerpted from [NewsLanc.com](http://NewsLanc.com).  
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