

**General Meeting of the
Duval County Council of PTAs/PTSAs
September 20, 2011**

Call to Order

The General Meeting was called to order at 10:02 am by the first Vice -President, Kim Sheldon. The meeting was held at the Cline Auditorium of the Duval County School Board Building on Tuesday, September 20, 2011. The recording secretary recorded the minutes.

Attendance

There were 63 people in attendance and 47 schools were represented.

Meditation

Gretchen Lynch led everyone to the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes

The minutes from the August General Meeting was approved and will be filed.

Correspondence

Terry Chrisley reported that she has sent sympathy cards to Ann Gipalo for the passing of her mother-in-law, Ms. Vickie Drake for the passing of her mother and for Melissa Kicklighter and family for the passing of her husband's grandfather.

Treasurer's Report

Mary Lobello presented the treasurer's report. The treasurer's handouts are attached. The report's overview is as follows:

Total Receipts	\$	7.00
Total Disbursements		651.20
Total of all Accounts	\$	37,049.50
Ending Checkbook Balance	\$	37,049.50
Ending Bank Balance	\$	37,317.90

Executive Committee Report

President

No report.

Ist Vice President

Kim Sheldon thanked everyone, on behalf of the president, Melissa Kicklighter who attended the Fall workshop. She reminded all local units presidents and treasurers who was not able to attend the workshop that the next officer training is scheduled on October 13th, 6:00-8:00 pm at the Cline Auditorium in the DCPS building.

Kim Sheldon also announced that there will be more information coming out about the Common Core Standard. She stated that 45 states have signed up for CCSSI.

Kim reminded everyone that there are forms available at the registration table for anyone who needs information on programs. She asked that if any PTA has done a program worth sharing to please email her the idea at ksheldon.pta@att.net.

2nd Vice President

Mitzi Cavin reported that she and the STAR Team are working on 25-30 schools. She asked that those who need help in getting parents involvement or re-establishing their PTA's can contact them and they will go to their schools and help. Her email information is mitzicavin@aol.com.

3rd Vice President

Gretchen Lynch announced that the position for membership chair is still open. She asked if anybody who would be interested for this position please see Gretchen.

Committee Reports

Advocacy

Mitzi Cavin announced that 6 members of the Board attended Tampa to train for advocacy. The County received \$20K for the Common Core Standards and Grassroots Advocacy grant. The first advocacy training session is on October 1st from 9:30-2:00pm at Sandalwood High School. Lunch will be served. This training is open to anyone who would like to get involve in advocacy.

There will be four parts to the training and it will be split into 2 sessions:

1. Issue Strategy
2. Coalition Building
3. Meeting with Decision Makers
4. Working with the Media

A video presentation on Common Core Standard was shown.

An email through Constant Contact will be sent out asking to register for the October 1st training.

Awards

Mandi Welch and Gretchen Lynch distributed more State Awards certificates to the local units.

Council/Local Unit Relations

Betty Marty reported that she is keeping track of local units who have filed 990 forms. She announced that there were 90 PTA who has filed and 5 local units who need to file 990 EZ. It is a 10-minute process. She added that when local units filed their 990 forms to send verification to Melissa Kicklighter and Bruce at the state. For the internal account PTA, she reminded them to work with their bookkeeper.

Cultural Arts

Rowena Nagales reported that the deadline for Reflection Arts is on December 2nd, 9-12noon at the DCPS building, Room 613. Flyers are available at the www.ptareflections.org website.

Health/Safety

Kim Sheldon reported for Laura Maloney and announced that the Community Resource Fair was a success. We had approximately 35 vendors representing our cultural and health resources available to and for the community. Laura is preparing a resource document, which will include organization names, contact information, and a brief description of the organization.

She stated that Laura attended the Health Kids Healthy Communities Steering Committee Quarterly meeting on September 15th. The Food Policy Council is in the final stages. The group held it's introductory meeting on Monday, September 12th. The Food Policy Subcommittee members have been selected. The committee is now surveying for interest in leadership positions.

Report is attached.

Hospitality

Thank you to Alimacani Elementary PTA for providing refreshments at the general meeting.

Membership

Gretchen Lynch reminded everyone to go to Florida PTA website to apply for awards.

Kim Sheldon also reminded everyone of being PTA members and the benefits are listed on the DCCPTA website. Pizza Palace was added to the benefits listed.

Student Leadership

Gretchen Lynch reported Karen Nuland and announced that all principals received a letter asking them to nominate a student from their school to attend the Student Leadership training. Students will be notified this week about their nominations.

Workshops

Margaret Godke thanked everyone for attending the Fall Workshop and thanked all the presenter at the workshop.

Consultant Reports

Community and Family Engagement

Kim Sheldon reported for Vickie Drake and announced that the volunteer background screening is new this year. Volunteer applications are now done online. We do not accept paper applications. Principals were asked to identify two people at their school to be trained to access the Infomart screening system to learn how to check on the volunteer status. Over the summer, into the new school year, multiple

training sessions were held and schools learned how to go online at their school to confirm that their volunteers were cleared to volunteer.

Once a person fills out the volunteer applications, they are usually cleared to volunteer within one to three days. They can confirm this by going to, or calling their local schools that can check their status online. Volunteers will no longer receive a card or letter confirming their volunteer status.

Food Service

Sara Murphy from Chartwells reported that those students who are on free and reduced lunch meal need to re-apply before October 3rd to re-instate their free and reduced status. For any question and applications, the District Office number is 732-5117.

Teacher Supply Depot

Chris Buckley announced that the October general meeting will be at the Teacher Supply Depot. She encouraged everyone to shop school supplies at the depot to use at their schools to help with their programs and projects or incentives for their teachers. She stated that they may bring 2-3 tote bags.

Chris also announced that Mr. Rogers Sweater Drive will start on November 3rd and will continue until the end of November. More details will be coming out soon. She reminded that this drive touched a lot of lives and continues to make an impact on people. She added that they can send pants and sweaters.

Unfinished Business

New Business

Program

Mayor's Education Commissioner Dr. Donnie Horner thanked the PTA for the service they do for the kids. He exclaimed that there are four things they do to help.

1. We advocate for education
2. Engage
3. Partner
4. And Act.

He stated that they help businessmen and women and kids and parents working together and asked to keep doing what we are doing. For any questions, his email is dhorner@coj.net.

They are working to make private organizations doing a public good.

He announced that Comcast offered to those who are qualified for free lunch only a \$9.95/monthly broadband lock in for 3 years. Information was sent out to all elementary schools.

Superintendent's Remarks

Deputy Superintendent Ms. Patricia Willis announced that the schools are finally coming into their final budget process. They are working with principals on trying to

work out their needs, making sure schools have what they need. The principals have submitted their school improvement plans. She stated that they kick-off the Read It Forward Jax at Pinedale Elementary. She thanked the PTA/PTSA for the good start of the year and asked to encourage everyone to attend the PTA meeting about the assessment.

Announcements

Mary Lobello reminded everyone to send Melissa Kicklighter and to her the local units budgets after being approved at the local units general meetings. She added that deadline for the Right Foot Award application is on November 1st.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 am.

Signed:

Rowena Nagales

Recording Secretary