

**General Meeting of the
Duval County Council of PTAs/PTSAs
October 18, 2011**

Call to Order

The General Meeting was called to order at 10:00 by the President, Melissa Kicklighter. The meeting was held at the Teacher Supply Depot located on 3108 Lenox Avenue on Tuesday, October 18, 2011. The recording secretary recorded the minutes.

Attendance

There were 89 people in attendance and 36 schools were represented.

Meditation

Sharon Hodges read the meditation and led everyone to the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes

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

Correspondence

No report.

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	\$ 2,981.77
Ending Bank Balance	\$39,457.02
Ending Checkbook Balance	\$39,349.52

Executive Committee Report

President

Melissa Kicklighter discussed the calendar of events. She referred everyone to go to the DCCPTA website for more information. Melissa thanked the Board of Managers for facilitating the general meeting last September in her absence. Melissa reported all the events that happened the past months including the Student Leadership Training, the Grassroots Advocacy and the Roundtable training. She reminded everyone of the upcoming Grassroots Advocacy training on November 5th at Forrest High School from 9:30-12:30 pm. She encouraged everyone to participate on the grassroots advocacy's future sessions.

Melissa asked everyone to send her ideas about PTA in the Park so she can share them with the Florida PTA.

Melissa mentioned that issues for the postcard campaign will be posted on the DCCPTA website. She stated that the Duval School Board asked us to focus on 4 issues:

1. Adequate funding- public k-12 education
2. Class size amendment- the district is asking for the statute to be amended and penalties to be reduced.
3. Opportunity Scholarship Programs –students attending a D or F grade school to be taken back to just F schools in 2 school year over 4 year period.
4. Textbooks – to allow local control in deciding what textbooks we will use.

Melissa also asked everyone to dedicate a PTA Day in the Park. She encourages local unit to come up with ideas to spend time with families in the park.

Melissa will be asking the Superintendent to sign and declare November a Healthy Lifestyle month.

1st Vice President

Kim Sheldon asked everyone to email her any program idea that local units have done in their schools. She stated that she would like to highlight those ideas and share with other local units. Her email address is ksheldon.pta@att.net.

2nd Vice President

Mitzi Cavin announced that if any local unit is interested in doing self-study with their PTA to please contact her at mitzicavin@aol.com.

3rd Vice President

Gretchen Lynch introduced the new Meditation Chair Sharon Hodges and Diana Elenz as the new Membership Chair.

Committee Reports

Advocacy/Legislative

Julianne Gaus-Graeser reported that the 21 parents participated in the workshop and 11 people attended at the Schultz Center training. The next workshop is on November 5th, which will cover 2 modules: meeting with advocacy and working with media. She announced that they will be sending out postcards to send to the legislators in Tallahassee for postcard campaign.

Awards

Melissa Kicklighter reported for Mandi Welch and announced that the Right Foot Award application deadline is on November 1st. She stated that they have received some applications already and encouraged everyone to keep the applications coming.

Council/Local Unit Relations

Melissa stated that Betty Marty is helping us follow up with the local unit dues.

Cultural Arts

Rowena Nagales reminded everyone that the deadline for the Reflection Arts is on December 2nd, 9-12 at the DCPS building Room 613. She reminded everyone that if they have not filled up the entry form, to use the entry form from the Florida PTA website. It was revised with the addition of County name at the bottom.

Hospitality

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

Consultants Report

School Liaison Officer

Judy Cromartie talked about the impact aid-what the federal government owed us. She asked everyone to encourage people, not only the military families but also the one who works for the government to file and submit their blue form to their schools. She explained that these blue cards are used to pay districts what the government owed. These blue cards are being collected this week until the end of October.

Melissa encouraged everyone to go back to their schools and help advocate to the other parents to fill these cards and bring it back to our schools.

For any questions, they can call Sally Hague at the School Choice office at 390-2082.

Teacher Supply Depot

Chris Buckley talked about the giveaway items have to be used back to school and faculty members. She added that they have zip books available today and showed a sample of a dye cut art made by a parent. She stated that if people need to schedule a day to do crafts to just let Chris know. Everyone is going to get 2 bags for the giveaway.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:06.

Signed:

Rowena Nagales

Recording Secretary