

**General Meeting of the
Duval County Council of PTAs/PTSAs
October 20, 2009**

Call to Order

The General meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by the President, Annette Worthen. The meeting was held at the Teacher Supply Depot on Tuesday, October 20, 2009. The recording secretary recorded the minutes for the meeting.

Attendance

There were 98 individuals in attendance, which consisted of 7 guests and represented 69 schools.

Meditation

George Marsh read the meditation and led group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Parliamentarian – No report

Minutes

The minutes from the August and September 2009 General meeting were approved as corrected and will be posted on the website.

Correspondence

Tiffany Reed reported that get well cards were sent to Janice Bailey, the Executive Director of the Florida PTA State Office, and Africa Davis, the DCC Newsletter Distribution Chair. Frances Soper read the letter of resignation from Chris Guajardo, DCC Health and Safety Chair, and moved to accept her resignation from the Board of Managers with regret. The motion was seconded and passed.

Treasurer's Report

Shelley Gill-Cain presented the treasurer's report. There were no questions, so the report will be filed for audit. The treasurer's handouts are attached. The report overview is as follows:

Money Market Account:

Beginning Balance as of September 1, 2009	\$27,924.49
Ending Balance as of September 30, 2009	\$34,554.71

Checking Account:

Beginning Balance as of September 1, 2009	\$816.45
Ending Balance as of September 30, 2009	\$ 660.39

Total of all accounts	\$35,215.10
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Executive Committee Reports

President

Annette Worthen gave special thanks to Chris Buckley for hosting the meeting at the Teacher Supply Depot. She encouraged local unit leaders to attend the Florida PTA Convention. Items to be voted on include a resolution to combine the Florida PTA Leadership Conference and Convention into one event, and it was very important to be there to vote. Annette also stated that the information and platform item supporting documentation available on the Florida PTA website was poor, and she was very disappointed.

1st Vice President

Frances Soper reported that the speakers for the meeting will be Harry Reagan from Smoke Free Jacksonville and Meredith Berkner from Florida Kidcare.

2nd Vice President

Annette reported on behalf of Gretchen Lynch that anyone who did not receive the October DCC newsletter needs to contact her, so she can make sure we have correct e-mail address information.

3rd Vice President

Victoria Richmond-Davies shared that there was now the opening for a new Health and Safety Chair.

Committee Reports

Archivist – No report

Awards – No report

Bylaws – No report

Council/Local Unit Relations

Betty Marty reminded members to send in their Right Foot Award applications. She has received four applications so far. She also asked everyone to make sure they had paid all their dues.

Character/Spiritual – No report

Cultural Arts - No report

Environmental

Chris Buckley shared that the Mister Rogers' Sweater Drive will be held from November 2 – 27, 2009. The three schools that collect the most items per student will receive a Blue Bell ice cream party. This year they would like to encourage schools to collect pants, shirts, socks, scarves and gloves in addition to the sweaters and coats. They need both children and adult sizes. After the collection is over, the district mail drivers will pick it up and deliver it for you. It just needs to be boxed up and addressed to the Teacher Supply Depot, School #10.

Exceptional Student Education – No report

Eyeglass Fund – No report

Health/Safety

Chris Guajardo stated that she was really proud of all the new health and safety activities going on in schools since she started as the Health and Safety Chair. She thought the Health and Community Resources Fair was great, and she thanked everyone for coming. Chris encouraged members to contact Lowrie Ward at the Duval County Health Department for help in getting information and with planning health and safety programs at the their schools. She shared how much she enjoyed working with everyone while she served on the Board of Managers.

History – No report

Hospitality - No report

Legislation – No report

Marketing/Communications

Kimberly Sheldon reported that she is working on a media resource list to distribute to local units interested in sharing information with the media about event and activities at their schools. She also has sample press releases for anyone interested. Kimberly also encouraged local unit leaders to work with local businesses and informed them of the business partnership information available on the district website. She asked everyone to watch for the information coming out to Elementary School families and possibly Middle School families about the www.bethere.org website. Kimberly stated that they are looking for our support in promoting this way of getting families better connected with their children.

Membership – No report

Newsletter – No report

Parent Education – No report

P&P Luncheon – No report

Publications – No report

Registration – No report

Resources – No report

Scholarship – No report

School Education - No report

Student Leadership – No report

Technology – No report

Volunteers – No report

Workshops

Annette Worthen thanked everyone on behalf of Samantha Lowery, Workshop Chair, for attending the Fall Leadership Workshop. She shared that Hospitality and Hot Topics will begin at the January General Meeting. Annette explained the importance of attending the Hospitality and Hot Topics because it is important to already be thinking about the end of the school year in January and topics will include how to do it right.

Unfinished Business – There was no unfinished business

New Business

State Convention Platform Items

A motion was made by Ted Corley that by direction of the Legislative Committee to approve adoption of the platform item entitled “Use of Hands Free Device and Texting While Driving.” The motion passed.

A motion was made by Ted Corley that by direction of the Legislative Committee to oppose as presented the platform item entitled "Teen Driving." After much discussion regarding the importance of driver preparation, the motion passed.

A motion was made by Ted Corley that by direction of the Legislative Committee to oppose adoption of the proposed resolution combining the FPTA Leadership and Convention as submitted by the streamlining committee. After discussion regarding the pros and cons of a combined event, the motion passed.

Program

Meredith Berkner from Florida Kidcare discussed the importance of children being insured. She stated that research indicates that insured children are more successful in school. She shared some helpful tips when completing the insurance application and offered to serve as a resource to schools with questions and/or if they would like to offer a program at their schools. She also mentioned that she had information available about the Florida Healthy Kid Corporation mini-grants that are available to PTAs to apply for up to \$5,000.00.

Harry Reagan from Smoke Free Jacksonville and Friends of the Jacksonville Public Library shared that he volunteers with both organizations. Smoke Free Jacksonville was formerly the Tobacco Free Coalition of Jacksonville and is working to make Jacksonville a tobacco-free community. The organization has information available to share and is always looking for volunteers. One of the main initiatives he is working on right now is smoke free cars because of the effect of second hand smoke.

The Friends of the Library are hosting the Great Jacksonville Book Sale starting on the evening of Thursday, October 22 for members only. It is open to the public Friday, October 23 through Sunday, October 25 at the Jacksonville Fairgrounds. Membership prices are \$10.00 for students and seniors 60+, \$15.00 for individuals and \$25.00 for families per year. You receive a 20% discount on all used books with a membership, and you should bring bags, suitcases, etc. to carry the books. Proceeds from the event benefit the Jacksonville Public Library. Book donations can be made to libraries at any time to the Friends of the Library.

Superintendent's Remarks

Annette reported that the Eric Smith, Commissioner of Education, was visiting so Superintendent Ed Pratt-Dannals and his leadership teams are not able to be at the meeting.

Ex-officio Reports

District Advisory Council – No report

State Board Members – No report

Consultants

Teacher Supply Depot

Chris Buckley welcomed members to the Teacher Supply Depot and informed them that they were invited to shop after the meeting for items to benefit their schools and/or PTAs. She encouraged them to at least pick up items that might be of use to the schools to show the teachers samples of what the Teacher Supply Depot has available for them. Chris explained that after the meeting bags would be handed out to everyone. She also asked members to please volunteer to help at the depot. Students can receive volunteer hours. The depot is open every day other than major holidays.

Chartwell – No report

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

Signed: _____
Melissa Kicklighter