

**General Meeting of the
Duval County Council of PTAs/PTSAs
February 15, 2011**

Call to Order

The General meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. by President Melissa Kicklighter. The meeting was held at the Cline Auditorium of the Duval County School Board Building on Tuesday, February 15, 2011. The Recording Secretary recorded the minutes for the meeting.

Attendance

There were 53 people in attendance and 41 schools represented.

Meditation

Diana Elenz read the meditation "Speak out for children" and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Parliamentarian - No report.

Minutes

The minutes for January 18, 2011 were approved and will be filed for audit.

Correspondence - No report.

Treasurer's Report

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

Total Disbursement	\$ 2,720.37
Ending Bank Balance	\$ 38,556.28
Ending Checkbook Balance	\$ 38,385.41

Executive Committee Report

President

Melissa Kicklighter introduced the speakers Mr. Doug Ayers and Ms. Kathy Leroy as the representatives for Superintendent Ed Pratt-Dannals.

Melissa Kicklighter welcomed the Past Presidents of DCCPTA/PTSA and shared with everyone a brief history of PTA.

There were 9 Past DCCPTA Presidents present at the general meeting.

Melissa Kicklighter cautioned everyone of the governor's budget proposal and explained that many community leaders were brought together in a meeting facilitated by the Save Duval Schools to work on a common ground. She announced the five common areas that they have identified:

1. No more budget cuts.

2. No more underfunded/unfunded mandates with potentially repealing the ones that are presently mandated.
3. Keeping our students in schools until they are 18 years old versus the current policy of students being able to dropout at 16 years old..
4. Change of High School grading system – having the ability to use the new grading system rather than just basing it on FCAT data..
5. Across the board consistent accountability for any school receiving State funds..

Melissa Kicklighter suggested that we fight back on the budget cut ahead of us.

She invited everyone to join the rally at the Metro Park to stop the cuts to public education on Monday, February 21st partnering with Save Duval Schools starting at 5 pm.

Melissa also announced that Florida PTA is hosting an all members conference call on February 27 at 7:30 pm. It is a half hour conference call and the information will be available sent out through constant contact when it is received from the FPTA State office.

Ist Vice President

Shelley Gill-Cain introduced Melissa Kicklighter to speak about Founders' Day.

2nd Vice President

Gretchen Lynch reported that 121 local units are in good standing. She added that local units should have elected their nominating committees at this time of the year. She encouraged everyone to join the council by signing up as committee chair to help assist local units.

3rd Vice President

Kim Sheldon reported that the nominating committee contacted the current executive board members and met with potential candidates for officers. She asked the membership to contact her if anyone is interested in joining the board.

Committee Reports

Awards

Mandi Welch reminded everyone that all the applications for the awards are available on the DCCPTA website.

Environmental

Chris Buckley reported that application for the 2011 Keep Jacksonville Beautiful School Award is available at the registration table. She reminded the local units who recycle, and perform clean up in their environment should apply. The awards will be presented at the 2011 Mayor's Environmental Luncheon on March 25th at the main Library-Downtown. She added that the mini-grant for the St. John's Celebration clean up is available on the DCCPTA website. She added that the application for the grant is due on March 19th. She encouraged everyone to apply for this grant and the more detailed the grant application, the better.

Hospitality

Thank you to Chets Creek Elementary PTA for providing hospitality at the general meeting.

Legislation

Melissa Kicklighter reported for Ted Corley and announced that the Rally in Tally is on March 24th. She stated that they are working with the students attending the Student Leadership Academy to join the Rally in Tally. She added that Florida PTA is offering advocacy training on how to speak to the legislators on March 23rd by reservation only. All information on the rally and FAQ's will be available on the website. She announced that there will be 2 buses available for transportation.

Membership

Melissa Kicklighter reported for Vilma Morgan and announced that PTA night at the Jacksonville Suns is scheduled on May 11th. Game time is at 7:05 pm. More information will be coming soon.

P&P Luncheon

Mary Lobello reported for Lisa Page and announced that tickets are available for sale. She stated that they have sold 6 tables so far. She added that table reservations will be made on a "first come, first serve" basis.

Resources

Kim Sheldon reported that they have officially received 3 checks for the Vendors Fair. She added that they are offering a discount of \$25 per table for early bird registration. She reminded everyone to invite their booster clubs and scout troops to the vendors fair. Vendors Fair will be open 9-11 am.

Scholarship

Shelley Gill-Cain reported that they are committed to providing 4 scholarships to high school students. She stated that the applications were sent via school mail to all high school guidance counselors. She reminded everyone that the deadline for application is April 2nd. High school students will be awarded \$599.00 check to help defray expenses going to college. She thanked everyone for the continued support of this scholarship fund.

Workshops

Terry Chrisley reported that Spring Workshop will be held on Thursday, May 19th at the Schultz Center. She stressed that it is important for the newly elected officers to come to the training. The workshop schedule will be available at the DCCPTA website. She encouraged as many board members as possible attend.

Unfinished Business – No unfinished business.

New Business - No new business.

Superintendent's Remarks

Kathy Leroy provided handouts about the comprehensive blue print for reading initiative. She stated that it has components for staff, parents and community members. She asked everyone to take the survey and that they are expecting feedback from everybody. She

added that they will continue to have district meetings regarding the reading initiative. She announced that classes fill up as they post the program across the district. She announced that Dr. Dick Ellington and other consultants from different states will be coming in and meeting to give recommendations. Kathy Leroy mentioned that in professional development and extensive learning, they need to identify the numbers of students from K-5 who are on level 1 and level 2 to consider for the program. She stated that based on the FAIR data, they will determine the children who will participate in the program.

Mr. Doug Ayers reported that they conducted a financial review last month in kind of ranking priority to determine where they are in terms of the budget. He added that they are looking at every dollar to argue to minimize but not affect the classes tremendously. He announced that they are tentatively looking at closure of Bank of America schools which are about ten years old. He said that there are 51 schools associated with those neighborhood schools and they are looking at all schools for savings and relocating. He added that they are bringing SRO's in house and they have 48-61 SRO's cleared for hire. He stated that they are committed to be ready by July. They are looking for seasoned officers who know how to work with principals and schools. He announced that priority 1 program remained unchanged and that they will review how it is working and how it should work.

He announced that they just renewed the custodial and Chartwells's contracts.

Consultants

Chartwells

Melissa Kicklighter reported for Sara Murphy and Karen Lombardi and announced that scholarship applications are available at the website. The first scholarship is a one time \$1,000.00 to one student for every high school. A culinary scholarship will be awarded for one student from each of the schools with a culinary program for \$1,000.00. The scholarship will cover one-year meal plan for the first year in college.

Exceptional Education Student Services

Rosemarie Parsch reported that the Tools for Success Family Conference is on March 9th at the Schultz Center from 8 am to 3 pm. She announced that Betty Burney will be one of the speakers. The conference will talk about the many area of Exceptional Education and Student Services and related programs.

Teacher Supply Depot

Chris Buckley reminded everyone about the different opportunities to come and volunteer at the Teacher Supply Depot.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:15 pm.

Signed:

Rowena Nagales