

General Meeting of the Duval County Council of PTAs/PTSAs August 21, 2012

Call to Order

The General Meeting was called to order at 10:02 am by the President, Gretchen Lynch. The meeting was held in the Cline Auditorium of the Duval County School Board Building on Tuesday, August 21, 2012. The recording secretary Ann Gipalo recorded the minutes.

Attendance

There were **83 people** in attendance and **44 schools** were represented.

Meditation

Sharon Hodges read a meditation entitled "Who Packed Your Parachute?" and led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Honorable Betty Burney, Chair of the Duval County School Board:

Ms. Burney thanked PTA for all that (we) do. The School Board appreciates our time and talents. Ms. Burney was a charter member of the Abbess Park Elementary PTA.

Kathy LeRoy, Chief Academic Officer of DCPS

Ms. Leroy also thanked PTA – the administration of DCPS couldn't achieve what they have with our students without PTA.

Summer Update: They found that of DCPS 8,000 teachers, only 5% participated in professional development. With Common Core on the way to full implementation, they developed an extensive model for reading and math training; the stipend teachers receive when they go to training has been doubled from \$60 per day to \$120 (using Federal funding – NOT DCPS operating funds!) They have trained 2500 teachers this summer.

Common Core: What's the Plan?

DCPS has partnered with the Dana Center at the University of Texas in Austin, which has many of the writers of the Common Core standards, to develop a program to train standards coaches, the DCPS leadership and principals.

They are doing professional development of teachers **K-12**. We will be moving from skills testing to content testing; connecting Reading to Writing, etc.

Read it Forward Jax: will continue this year; they will have an event to thank donors to the program tomorrow at Highlands Elementary.

DCPS is working with Terry Brady of Duval Teachers United to ease teacher workloads.

Parliamentarian

Betty Marty went over proper parliamentary procedure for general meetings. These procedures are for the protection of the members who are present at our meetings AND those who are not.

Minutes

Ann Gipalo reported that the minutes from the April, 2012 General Meeting were audited over the summer and have been filed in the Recording Secretary binder.

Correspondence

There was no correspondence to report.

Treasurer's Report

Mindy Eisman presented the treasurer's report for the months of April, May, June, and July, 2012. The treasurer's monthly reports are attached. The report's overview is as follows:

April 2012

Total Receipts	\$ 4,676.87
Total Disbursement	\$ 1,270.82
Ending Checkbook Balance	\$52,300.21
Ending Bank Balance	\$52,852.64

May 2012

Total Receipts	\$11,570.69
Total Disbursement	\$17,918.38
Ending Checkbook Balance	\$45,952.52
Ending Bank Balance	\$50,381.15

June 2012

Total Receipts	\$ 127.60
Total Disbursement	\$ 4,364.50
Ending Checkbook Balance	\$41,715.62
Ending Bank Balance	\$46,579.12

July 2012

Total Receipts	\$ 7.54
Total Disbursement	\$ 1,795.19
Ending Checkbook Balance	\$39,927.97
Ending Bank Balance	\$41,259.88

The April through June reports were included in the end of year audit. The July report will be filed for audit.

Mindy also reminded local units to approve their PTA budget at the next general meeting, pay DCCPTA dues by November 1st, and to file the appropriate 990 well before November 15th.

DCCPTA Dues (\$35 per unit) are due by November 1. See the remittance form on our website.

New Business:

Audit Committee Report

The Audit Committee – consisting of Terry Chrisley, Sharon Hodges and Rachel Raneri – met on July 19. The books were very clear and no problems were found.

The audit report was accepted.

2012-2013 Budget:

Mindy Eisman read the proposed budget for 2012-2013. By direction of the budget committee, Mindy Eisman moved to accept the proposed 2012-2013 Duval County Council of PTA's Budget as presented. Motion passed.

Executive Committee Reports

President

1. **Gretchen Lynch** reported that the DCCPTA theme for this year will be "Invite, Educate, Advocate". The County Council is here to serve you (the local units).
2. DCCPTA trained over 70 Presidents and Treasurers over the summer at evening and weekend training sessions at public libraries around the county. More evening training sessions are planned – dates to come.
3. We need a New Officer form from EVERY local unit.
4. DCCPTA sends a monthly "Highlights" e-mail newsletter to every President, Treasurer, Secretary and DCCPTA delegate of every local unit. Please read it and pass it on to your board.
5. Please take a copy of the 3-panel Calendar Brochure – available in the basket at the sign in table. This calendar gives you all the dates for DCCPTA meetings and an outline of the items "highly effective PTAs" should be doing month by month throughout the year.
6. DCCPTA also helped coordinate School Board candidate forums over the summer.
7. **Remember: We are ISSUE related. PTA does NOT endorse individual candidates.**

1st Vice President - Programs

Rowena Nagales distributed file cards to the attendees asking them to write down Program ideas or Program questions they had.

2nd Vice President – STAR Team

Mary Lobello introduced all the members of the STAR team: Africia Davis, Alicia Fuller, Sharon Hodges, Kathy Kaiserian, Jenifer Morgan, Tina O'Brien, Patti Simons, Michelle Tipton, and Stacy McKendree who is our accounting specialist.

Mary asked each local unit to remember to remit Membership Dues monthly.

3rd Vice President - Committees

Margaret Godke introduced all of her Committee chairs.

Consultant Reports

Teacher Supply Depot

Chris Buckley reminded members that each PTA President is allowed to come to the giveaways at the TSD.

Last year she had 23,000 hours of volunteer help at the Depot. Please contact her if your local unit would like to volunteer; you can even hold a meeting there and then volunteer.

Committee Reports

Workshops

Mandi Welch reported that Fall Workshops will be held Friday September 7 from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm at the Schultz center. Registration and the Advocacy Sessions will begin at 9:00 am. The Health Fair will also open at 9:00 am. There will be a 30 minute lunch break.

If your unit sends 5 or more people (for at least 2 hours each) you are eligible for a Study/Discussion Group Award! Be sure to apply!

Health & Safety

Laura Maloney reported that we have 10 Health Fair vendors registered so far; we hope to have 20-25. The Blood Alliance will be there from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm. Nemours is sending registered dieticians.

Cultural Arts

Rowena Nagales announced that this year's Reflections Theme is "The Magic of a Moment". December 3rd is the last day you can turn in your unit's entries for county wide consideration, but you MAY turn them in EARLIER. The student entry forms are NEW this year – it is a 2-sided form. Form A and Form B will be done online. **Entry forms should come from Reflections Chairs** with the bottom part filled out already by the local unit– tell parents NOT to get them off the PTA website themselves.

CCSSI (Common Core State Standards Initiative)

Jackie Jones reported that DCCPTA has assembled Parent Resource Guides in English and Spanish for EVERY local unit in Duval County. You can take one home today. Please keep them in your school's office. Today we also handed out green paper folders with the local unit guide.

We have special incentives for running a Common Core program at your school:

- 1.** Show the DVD at your Open House and turn in the Local Unit Parent Education Advocacy form (located in the CCSSI unit program folder) before September 30th, and your unit will not only qualify for the **Advocacy Parent Education Award**, but also be eligible for a **SPECIAL Office Depot gift card raffle drawing!** This is in addition to the raffle that will be held for units in October which is described in detail in the unit program folders.
- 2.** HOST an Advocacy or CCSSI training session at your school and you will receive a \$25 Office Depot gift card; DCCPTA will provide the drinks; AND you will be entered to win a \$100 Office Depot gift card (if done by October 30th).
- 3.** Attend ALL 4 of the Advocacy workshops on September 7 and be entered to win a \$75 gift card to Marker 32 restaurant.

Please check out the **iAdvocateforKids.org** website!

Advocacy Training

Juliann Gaus-Graser reported that she is all about "How to get what you want!" (Persuasion of decision makers)

She will come to TEN schools this year – first come first served – to train however many people you can gather in Advocacy strategy.
Neptune Beach Elementary will be hosting 7 schools at the Beaches!

Membership

April Caldwell reminded attendees to make sure their members know they MUST show their current PTA Membership card at the time of purchase in order to receive the discounts we have arranged around town.

See **www.DCCPTA.org** for the complete list of member benefits for this year. She is working on a deal with the Alhambra Theater.

Awards

Patricia Beeman announced we have revised the "Right Foot Award" this year to reflect "best practices of highly effective PTAs". The application is due November 1 and you can fill it out online. You MUST include: A copy of your end of year Financial Audit and Board roster with your application this year.

Program

Sally Giles and Ywanna Allen (Community Engagement coordinator: cell phone 404-429-1112 – please call her for info!) presented information about the Cathedral Arts Project: (they also brought a goody bag with information and handouts)

1. ACE – "Arts for a Complete Education" – the ability to be in arts keeps kids in school for the academic areas they might not like.
2. CAP will celebrate its 20th anniversary in 2013. They provide FREE after-school classes, 2 times per week for 1 or 2 hours in the performing or visual arts.
3. CAP served 1200 kids last year – the majority in elementary schools (those with a proportion of kids on free/reduced lunch) and at community centers. They have field trips and visiting artists at the schools. They charge a \$15 supply fee to get "buy in" of parents and students.
4. High school and middle school students can volunteer with CAP.
5. Ms. Giles encouraged everyone to:
 - a. Learn more! At www.capkids.org and on their Facebook page.
 - b. Endorse and encourage the arts in your schools.

Program Ideas from Schools:

Lone Star Elementary Bike Rodeo: (contact Amy Barker) e-mail: LSEPTAPresident1@gmail.com

Was done with the help of Shands Jacksonville Hospital which brings their own bike trailer. They set up an obstacle course for the kids to teach them about road safety and traffic rules. The Dads did safety checks and minor repairs on the bikes. They received 175 free helmets from FL DOT and AAA came out to show how to properly fit helmets.

They had 350 students and parents participate!

Paxon School For Advanced Studies: (contact Beth Mixson) e-mail: BMixson@earthlink.net

Paxon hosted a series of four Q&A sessions for parents entitled **Academics `R Us**

1. Jacksonville Public Library: Mia Clark presented online student resources available for high school students
2. Florida Virtual School: Dr. Jessica Webb

3. Krystal Culpepper, Paxon International Baccalaureate (IB) coordinator, spoke on year by year planning for your high school career.
4. Royce Turner, Paxon Principal, spoke on service learning for HS students-getting beyond service hours.

They had 120 parents come to this 1st time program!

They have now made it a quarterly program with 1 speaker/topic per quarter.

Recognition / Celebration:

At every General Meeting we are going to recognize several schools:

Congratulations to Fletcher High School – they were the first to file their 990!!
Thank you to Landon Middle School for the breakfast refreshments this morning!
Congratulations to Sallye B. Mathis: at their Teacher Breakfast they DOUBLED their PTA membership in ONE day!
Congratulations to Melissa Kicklighter – our immediate past president – for being honored at the White House on August 10 as a “Champion of Change”!

Florida PTA

1. Melissa Kicklighter was elected Vice President for Regions and Councils this summer!
2. The Board of Directors will be meeting in Orlando to plan the year.
3. Melissa encouraged everyone to look to the PTA Vision, Mission and Purpose whenever you need a boost to reenergize yourself in the work you do.
4. Why PTA? Why NOT! We are GREAT at what we do!
5. Please send any feedback you have about the new membership cards to National PTA
6. PLEASE READ the eNews alerts from Florida PTA.
7. **Look up “sequestration”** (the plan by the federal government to make across the board cuts to the federal budget if they can’t come to a budget agreement after the November election). Find out what the impact will be on Jacksonville and our schools....
8. May 1st is the Florida PTA Award application deadline.
9. Membership awards have 3 deadlines.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:43 am.

Signed:
Ann Gipalo

Approved as:

Date _____ Written _____ Corrected _____