

# **General Meeting of the Duval County Council of PTAs/PTSAs October 16, 2012**

## **Call to Order**

The General Meeting was called to order at 10:03 am by President Gretchen Lynch. The meeting was held at the Teacher Supply Depot Tuesday, October 16, 2012. Rowena Nagales and Kim Sheldon kept the minutes until 10:30 am when Ann arrived late after getting stuck in traffic.

## **Attendance**

There were **98 people** in attendance and **59 schools** were represented.

## **Meditation**

Robert Mitchell gave the meditation and led the pledge of allegiance.

## **Treasurer's Report**

**Mindy Eisman** presented the treasurer's report for the month of September, 2012. The treasurer's monthly report is attached. The report's overview is as follows:

### **September 2012**

Beginning Balance	<b>\$ 42,614.66</b>
Total Receipts	\$ 2,750.74
Total Disbursements	\$ 4,061.07
Ending Balance	<b>\$ 41,304.33</b>

The treasurer's report will be filed for audit.

County Council dues must be paid by November 1 (including any contributions to the DCCPTA eyeglass, scholarship, funds).

Local unit Taxes must be filed with the IRS by November 15.

## **President's Report**

Gretchen Lynch:

- a. Gretchen Lynch welcomed all the first time general meeting attendees.
- b. She also thanked Chris Buckley for hosting the general meeting at the Teacher Supply Depot and Hogan-Spring Glen Elementary PTA for providing refreshments today.
- c. Gretchen announced that 101 local units have attended the training for Presidents and Treasurers. There will be one more session available for the Presidents and Treasurers training. Notice will be sent out on Constant Contact to presidents and treasurers.
- d. Gretchen also announced that there are tickets available for the Southern Women's Show this weekend. We will have a door prize give-away for those at the end of the meeting.
- e. Get ready we are moving into our Legislative season after the holiday season....Next month prior to our meeting we will be posting the DCPS legislative agenda. Please read so that we can address any questions.
- f. Everyone is invited to the Parent University and flyer is on the back table

- g. Cultural Council speaker had to cancel today due to surgery.

## **2<sup>nd</sup> VP – STAR Team**

Mary Lobello reported that the STAR team is actively out answering questions in the local units.

She reminded everyone to file their 990 form and submit to the DCCPTA treasurer.

## **3<sup>rd</sup> VP - Committees**

- a) Margaret Godke encouraged everyone to refer to the Constant Contact "Highlights" message for future meetings and announcements.
- b) School Health Advisory Committee (SHAC) meeting is tomorrow - need volunteers (see Highlights e-mail message).

## **Advocacy**

- a) Vickie Hamby reported for Juliann Gaus-Graeser and announced that they are offering advocacy training to all local units. She stated that there will be an advocacy workshop at Neptune Beach Elementary on October 25<sup>th</sup>. Everyone is welcome.
- b) An advocacy training session with all 4 modules will be held on November 8<sup>th</sup> at the Schultz Center. Everyone is welcome to attend.

## **Legislation**

Beth Mixson reported that the Florida PTA recommends a "NO" vote on Amendment 3 and Amendment 8. She explained how amendments are voted on and the pros and cons of these amendments. There will be a PDF information sheet for these amendments available on the DCCPTA website for anyone who would like to print it.

## **Bylaws**

Betty Marty reported: There are several local units with expired bylaws (23). Please check the date in the upper right corner of the first page. Bylaws are good for 3 years from that date.

As of October 12<sup>th</sup>, there are 27 PTAs in good standing. The list is posted on the door. Please check the list and see Betty after the meeting if you don't know why your PTA is not on the list.

The other list posted contains the 60 PTAs that have filed their 990 forms with the IRS. **ALL** PTAs must file and the deadline is rapidly approaching. The directions for filing are on the Council's website. Please e-mail Betty at [bylaws@dccpta.org](mailto:bylaws@dccpta.org) if you need further assistance.

Gretchen Lynch reminded everyone who has filed their 990 that they need to email the receipt to her for DCCPTA's records.

## **Membership**

Gretchen Lynch reported for April Caldwell and announced that you must present your PTA Membership Card to take advantage of the benefits offered by our partners.

## **CCSSI –**

Jackie Jones reported that Henry Kite Elementary will host their CCSSI training tonight. Fishweir Elementary and Lone Star will be hosting their CCSSI sessions next month.

October 30 is the deadline for our gift card drawing for showing the common core video at your local unit.

Please check out their website: [iAdvocateforkids.org](http://iAdvocateforkids.org)

## **Cultural Arts**

Rowena Nagales announced that the online registration for Reflections is now available. Email her any questions about the registration and entry form. She added that bylaws must be current **through 3/31/13** in order to apply for awards. Dues Paid date and bylaws expiration date are the only required dates for the entry form.

## **Awards**

Patricia Beeman reported that DCCPTA Right Foot Award applications are due November 1.

Membership awards can be turned in online. **FLPTA user ID/password** = diversity / means (**case sensitive!**)

Melissa Kicklighter added that any questions about Florida PTA Membership awards, especially the Early Bird silver award due on November 1, can be directed to the Florida PTA office toll free at 1-800-373-5782 or you can email her.

## **Health & Safety**

Gretchen reported for Laura Maloney:

- a. There is a session for Kids Together Against Cancer Program on October 25<sup>th</sup> from 6-7 pm at Riverside Presbyterian Day School, 830 Oak St. (904)742-2916. 5:30 – 7:00 pm (FREE Dinner at 5:30 is included)
- b. Dekova Batey, Bike/Pedestrian Coordinator for the City of Gainesville will be doing two trainings Monday, October 22, from 6-9 pm, location TBD

Helmet fitting certification from 6-8 pm; this is required for anyone distributing helmets through the FDOT or other state programs

Bike rodeo leader training from 8-9 pm; teaches community and school leaders how to successfully set up and run a bike rodeo

This training is open to teachers, administrators, staff, PTA volunteers, community organizations, and anyone who works with kids on safety and bicycle issues.

- c. JASMYN will be holding its 5th Annual **Teaching Respect for All: Creating Safe Schools for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender students!** A one-day conference held on the Duval County School Employee Planning/In-

Service Day, Friday, October 26th from 8:00 AM – 3:00 PM at the Schultz Center.

### **Local Unit Program Presentations:**

Rowena Nagales introduced Lindsay Grayson from Sheffield Elementary to talk about the "No Phone in the Zone" program at their school.

Corree Cuff from James Weldon Johnson talked about the Wellness Initiative Program they started last year at Jacksonville Beach Elementary.

Betty Metz from Books-a-go-go talked about the books that are available for teachers from Title I schools. She reported that if anyone has old books to donate, Books-a-go-go can pick them up and distribute the books to students in need of them.

Chris Buckley introduced John Shellhorn and Dan Durbec from the City of Jacksonville Committee. John Shellhorn talked about the **Keep Jacksonville Beautiful** program and how PTA has helped the program tremendously in the past years. John presented a certificate to the Holiday Hill Elementary PTA for their participation.

Chris announced that America Recycles Day will be on November 15<sup>th</sup>. There will be three sites for shredding and recycling: Prime Osborn from 12-6 pm, K-Mart at the Beaches area from 1-6 are the first 2 areas. Complete information will be available in the next Constant Contact Highlights message.

Chris also announced that flyers for the Mister Rogers Sweater Drive are available at the registration table. There will be registration for the drive and prizes for the schools who submit the most sweaters.

Rain barrels are also available at the depot. If any schools are interested, please sign your name and she will have them delivered to the school with the direction kit.

### **Florida PTA:**

Melissa Kicklighter reported:

- a. Florida PTA is offering up to four (4) grants of \$250 local units who will hold their PTA Day in the Park event and submit the application along with a description of what you did that day to FPTA.
- b. On October 24, Florida PTA is also drawing 10 local units who reported on PTA Connect Day and will be giving 5 of those gift cards and 5 will receive free registration for the Leadership Convention.
- c. She also reminded everyone to activate their PTA cards online at the National PTA website, so they can access all of the member benefits National PTA has available online.
- d. Also reminded units about the importance of filing their local unit 990 tax form ON TIME.
- e. Advocacy & CCSSI training reminder.
- f. Insurance quotes: AIM has best rates.

## **Minutes**

**Ann Gipalo** reported that she will lay out the minutes from the September General Meeting for members to review while they “shop” at the TSD today. We will vote to approve them at the November meeting – but they WILL be posted on the DCCPTA website until then so members can have access to the information contained therein.

## **Recognition / Celebration:**

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

**Congratulations to Neptune Beach Elementary** for hosting the first multi-school Advocacy sessions!!

**Congratulations to Landon College Prep, and Lone Star Elementary, Jax Beach Elementary, Paxon School for Advanced Studies** – they each had 8 people at the Workshops!

**Congratulations to Seabreeze Elementary PTA** – for hosting a Beaches PTA President’s Breakfast to support one another. (This announcement was repeated from last month as they did not have anyone in attendance then to receive the certificate.)

**Thank you to Hogan-Spring Glen Elementary PTA** for the breakfast refreshments this morning!

## **Announcements**

Sharon Hodges recognized Annie Morgan PTA for going from internal account to external account.

The November general meeting will be at the Cline Auditorium.

## **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 11:15 am.

Signed:  
Ann Gipalo

Approved as:

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Written \_\_\_\_\_ Corrected \_\_\_\_\_