

Duval County Council of PTAs  
General Meeting  
November 25, 2014

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| School Board       | The Honorable Paula Wright welcomed everyone and thanked the PTA . She discussed the superintendent’s recommendation on moving the GRASP academy at R.L. Brown to Justina Road and creating a K-8 school there. There is a middle school reform plan being discussed. 25% of middle school students transfer from traditional public schools to charter or private schools. The School Board would like accelerated courses to be offered at all public middle schools. She would like to see a K-6, 7-9, and 10-12 model. Miss Wright would like middle school band and art to be restored. She would like elementary, middle and high school programs to align more efficiently. Miss Wright’s focus this term is mental health and a grant from the Brother’s Keeper Initiative has been received towards this goal. |
| Call to Order      | The general meeting of the Duval County Council of PTAs was held in the Cline Auditorium of the Duval County School Board. The president, Margaret Godke, called the meeting to order at 9:32 am. The secretary was present.  |
| Meditation         | The meditation was directed toward giving thanks.   |
| Quorum             | A quorum was established.   |
| Minutes            | The minutes of October 2014 were approved as corrected.   |
| Parliamentarian    | Mary Lobello reminded everyone that yellow cards are available to write a question for the Superintendent to address. Please ask a question that is for the good of all students, not an individual. Once recognized, please stand and state your name and local unit.  |
| Correspondence     | none  |
| Treasurer’s Report | Jenifer Morgan reported that the beginning balance on October 1, 2014 was \$52798.81. Receipts totaled \$3898.76. Disbursements totaled \$303.88. Balance on hand October 31, 2014 was \$56393.69. Report is filed for audit.   |
| President’s Report | Margaret Godke was part of the high school mental health forum, family fun festival, and JPEF’s school choice. She thanked everyone for their hard work on behalf of all children.  |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> VP | VP LOCAL UNIT DEVELOPMENT: Victor Melone thanked Betty Marty for her hard work on the 990s. 57 units are in good standing. Thanks to everyone on the Facebook page for asking and answering questions with one another.   |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> VP | VP LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT: Juliann Gaus-Graeser asked anyone interested in serving on the district committee regarding textbooks to please e-mail her. The JPEF One x One Convention will be Saturday January 31, 2015. This is an excellent opportunity to be involved with other community members who are concerned and interested in education.   |

## Committee Reports

**AWARDS:** Right Foot recipients are Abess Park, Alimacani, Crown Point, Dupont Middle, Douglas Anderson, Greenland Pines, Hendricks Avenue, James Weldon Johnson, Julia Landon, Jacksonville Beach, Kirby Smith, Kernan Trail, Loretto, Mandarin Oaks, Paxon, Frank H. Peterson, Pine Forest, Seabreeze, Stanton, Sabal Palm, Thomas Jefferson, Waterleaf, San Pablo, and Sandalwood.

**BUSINESS PARTNERS:** Kim Sheldon introduced Celeste Ayers from Office Depot. Info attached. The Jacksonville Jaguars December home game will be buy one get one free for PTA members. Club seats are not included. Information from School Aids is also attached.

**LEGISLATIVE:** Melissa Daniel welcomed District 2 School Board member Scott Shine, winner of the election runoff. DCCPTA will post the DCPS legislative agenda on our website once finalized. Legislative members will be at their local offices in January so make an appointment to meet them and share your thoughts on public education. Florida PTA's legislative agenda will be posted to DCCPTA website once finalized as well. Sign up for the Take Action Network and review the Guide for the PTA Advocate at [www.floridapta.org](http://www.floridapta.org) under the advocacy tab. Report attached.

**RECORDS:** Betty Marty reported that all but two PTA's filed their 990 forms timely. Please make sure your PTA is registered with Florida PTA. Your school secretary or bookkeeper should have the name of your PTA contact. Please try to file your taxes in July next year.

**REFLECTIONS:** Mindy Eisman reported the deadline for county entries is Friday, December 5, 2014 at noon. Entries will be accepted at the Duval County School Board Room 613 from 9am to noon that day. Late entries cannot be accepted. Handouts to "Prepare your winning entries for County Judging-Summary" were available at the meeting and at [www.dccpta.org](http://www.dccpta.org). Remember Visual Art and Photography entries must include a print of the entry.

**TEACHER SUPPLY DEPOT:** Gary Kimball reported that the next Teacher Supply Depot giveaway is December 4, 2014 from 3pm-6pm. High school students can earn many volunteer hours over the winter break.

## Superintendent

Dr. Vitti addressed the boundary change at Sandalwood High. Every school directly or indirectly affected has had a PTA and SAC meeting. Representative working groups will meet for the 5 proposals being recommended. After all meetings, the recommendation will be brought to Dr. Vitti. Community meetings at affected schools will be held. The January School Board meeting will be open to public discussion. The vote will be held in February. 6<sup>th</sup> grade classes were opened at Pickett Elementary and Pearson Elementary. Rising 6<sup>th</sup> graders could stay or continue on to middle school. Initial assessments of the students who stayed at the elementary level for 6<sup>th</sup> grade show great gains and test scores outperforming magnet middle schools. The Achieve 3000 is taken by 4<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> graders to find a Lexile level which the computer will then automatically use to set text to your individual Lexile level. CGA's may be eliminated in reading and math next year.

1<sup>st</sup> VP

Karen Nuland introduced today's speakers, Tia Leathers from the DCPS Parent Academy, and Cynthia Dennis, RN, from Safe Kids Northeast Florida. Tia Leathers reported on the Parent Academy's new keyword search option and registration on their website. She is planning a spring catalog now. Cynthia Dennis reminded us that effective January 1, 2015 a new law will require safety seats to be used by children until age 6. Their contact information is located on today's agenda and on our website.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 AM.

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Mandi Welch, Secretary

Approved As:

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