

PLC AT MDCPS PTA

MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 12, 2012 MEETING

Handouts: Agenda, Minutes, EESAC Overview

Call to Order: The meeting of the PLC at MDCPS PTA was held in the cafeteria of the Miami-Dade County Public Schools Primary Learning Center. Following a meet-and-greet session, President Sandra Seals called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm.

Quorum: A quorum of ten (10) was established. See attached sign in sheet.

Welcome and Introduction: Ms. Seals welcomed all new and returning parents and allowed the PTA Officers to introduce themselves: Natacha Janssens, Vice-President; Stacey Zuazo, Vice President; Michelle Hoyos, Treasurer; Karon Coleman, Recording Secretary; and Alice Mensch Raval, Communications Secretary.

Minutes: The minutes of the April 24, 2012 meeting were presented for ratification by Karon Coleman, Recording Secretary. Ms. Coleman explained the minutes had been approved by the Executive Board over the summer for transition purposes -- for changing signatories at the bank and for recognition of new officers by the State PTA.

MOTION: The ratification of the minutes were moved, seconded and passed.

Treasurer's Report: Michelle Hoyos, Treasurer, presented the Treasurer's Report. She advised that the PTA had \$5,224.37 cash on hand with a pending deposit of \$512 for a total of \$5,736.37. The breakdown of activities since the last meeting (April 24, 2012):

Uniform Shirt Sales: gross of \$5,018 with a cost of \$3,628.80

Lion King Fundraiser: gross of \$1,786 with a cost of \$1,634

Memberships: gross of \$960 (86 individual and 2 business) with cost of \$294

New Parent Orientation Bake Sale: \$42

Ms. Hoyos stated that the financial information will be posted on the PTA's website, that the annual budget will be presented at the October 24, 2012 meeting and that there will be a Treasurer's Report at every PTA meeting. She encouraged interested members to join the Finance Committee.

MOTION: To authorize the expenditure of \$12.95/month for Quickbooks was moved, seconded and passed unanimously.

MOTION: To authorize the expenditure of \$150 for payment of mandatory dues to Miami-Dade County Council of PTAs/PTSA's by September 30, 2012 was moved, second and passed unanimously.

PLC Update: Ms. Aillette Diaz, the Primary Learning Center's new assistant principal, asked to be taken out of turn due to an unexpected emergency. She informed the attendees of the iPLC Times, a monthly newsletter that will be published on the first Tuesday of each month and sent to parents/guardians as an attachment to an email. She reminded everyone that tomorrow the students would be going on their first field trip of the year and that Progress Reports would go out on September 21, 2012. As point of interest, she notified everyone that September 22 was Superintendent Carvalho's birthday.

Ms. Diaz went over some of the new rules for the PLC:

1. *Observation Windows.* As a laboratory demonstration school, the observation windows and audio equipment are for the benefit of future and current educators. Parents/guardians would have two opportunities each school year to utilize the observation windows and audio system for the classrooms: the week of November 26, 2012; and the week of May 20, 2013. Parents can observe as many times as they would like during these two specified weeks. This rule is being implemented for the privacy of the students.
2. *Drop Off in Morning.* Parents/guardians are to remain in their cars. Parents should not get out of car to kiss children good-bye, get something out of the trunk, etc.
3. *Pick Up in Afternoon.* Students will be walked to the pick up area by their teachers. She asked that the parent/guardian make eye contact with the teacher when picking up.
4. *Tardy.* Students in Pre-K, Kindergarten and First Grade students are tardy after **8:20 am¹** and Second and Third Grade students are tardy after 8:35 am and must stop at the main office for a tardy pass. If the student is accompanied by an adult who can explain why the student is tardy, the tardy will be considered an excused tardy. If the student is unaccompanied by an adult, the tardy will be considered an unexcused tardy.
5. *Volunteer Hours.* All parents/guardians must volunteer ten (10) hours with the Primary Learning Center. Parent conferences, chaperoning field trips, making copies for teachers are examples of ways to volunteer. The volunteer work can be performed from home.

Ms. Diaz reminded the attendees that school will be closed on September 17 and September 26, 2012 for Teacher Planning days and that breakfast stops being served at 8:05 am for Pre-K, Kindergarten and First Grade and 8:35 am for Second and Third Graders.

¹ **This is a correction of 8:20 am rather than 8:10 am as announced at the meeting.**

Ms. Diaz concluded by providing her email address -- aadiaz@dadeschools.net, and her direct telephone number -- 305-523-8392, and then left the meeting.

EESAC Update: Mrs. Rosario, PLC's third grade teacher, gave the EESAC update. She explained that EESAC stands for "Educational Excellence School Advisory Councils" and they were created to assist schools in the development of school improvement plans. The EESAC Councils consist of all stakeholders in education and she encouraged parents to join through the nomination and election process. Parents nominate parents and teachers nominate teachers. The nominations and elections will take place at the September 19, 2012 meeting. Even though there are a limited number of elected parent positions, Mrs. Rosario encouraged all parents to attend and participate in the EESAC meetings. She indicated that once the EESAC Council has a full membership that the Council would develop bylaws. She concluded by sharing her email address -- CRosario1@dadeschools.net.

PTA Overview and Goals: Ms. Seals presented the PTA overview and goals. She was pleased to see so many parents at the meeting. She encouraged everyone to become a member of the PTA, stating that a \$10 membership provides the opportunity to meet other parents, make friends, and be part of a nationwide network of people interested in supporting students, schools and education. The membership is a membership in the PLC PTA, the Miami-Dade County Council of PTAs/PTSA's, the state PTA and national PTA.

The purpose of the PLC PTA is to support the educational environment of the PLC and to make every child's potential a reality. The theme this year is "PLC reads." And the goals are to:

1. Increase the size of each classroom's library
2. Provide "Think Out of the Box" Grants to each teacher of several hundred dollars to do something creative in their classrooms.

Ms. Seals outlined the planned events and fundraising activities and encouraged everyone to get involved:

1. Parents Night Out;
2. After Care Enhancement;
3. Book Fair;
4. Virginia Key Beach Picnic;
5. Box Tops and Target Red Card;
6. Uniform Shirt Sales;
7. Back to School Supplies;
8. Harvest Fest/Pumpkin Sale; and
9. Adopt-A-Classroom.

Ms. Seals announced the schedule of upcoming meetings and advised of the start time of 4 pm/4:30 pm: October 24, 2012; January 23, 2013; March 13, 2013; and April 24, 2013. There was some discussion of the time of the meeting and Ms. Seals welcomed feedback on the matter.

After Care Enhancement Program: Vice President Natacha Janssens gave the presentation on the After Care Enhancement Program. She indicated that registration was this week and would end on Friday, September 14, 2012. She stated that she would be on the porch of the PLC to accept registration and cash payments on Friday between 8 am and 9 am; or registration and checks could be deposited in the PTA black box in the main office. Ms. Janssens went over the classes being offered and the teachers – karate (Mr. Jorge Gonzalez), French (Ms. Delphine Lefebvre), chorus (Mr. Rickey Cox) and multi-sport/PE (Coach Perry) – and that there was a fund available for students who receive free or reduced lunch to participate in the classes.

Ms. Janssens invited some of the parents whose children took the classes last year to speak about their children's experience and several parents took the opportunity to do so, confirming that the classes were a very positive experience for their children.

Ms. Janssens also advised that the PLC After School Care Program is planning to offer free programming: chess club; legos; and Arts for Learning.

Ms. Janssens answered questions about musical instruments class, the cost of the classes, the possibility of trying to make the classes available to all students enrolled in after care. There was a very good discussion and parents were invited to join the After Care Enhancement Committee.

MOTION: To make available \$250 for miscellaneous expenses related to the after care enhancement program was moved, seconded and approved unanimously.

Committees: Ms. Seals went over the committees listed on the back of the agenda, introduced the chairs of the various committees, explained that there were sign-up sheets in the back of the room and encouraged people to join a committee.

There was a brief discussion of the upcoming Parent's Night Out on Friday, October 12, 2012. It will be held at Tequila Chicas on Ocean Drive on South Beach. Proceeds for the night will go to the PTA, including a silent auction. More details to follow in the upcoming weeks.

Ms. Seals encouraged everyone to get involved, join a committee, and to provide ideas and feedback through email or at meetings. She encouraged anyone who did not have email to let one of the PTA Officers know so that alternate arrangements for communication could be made.

A lively discussion ensued and members had lots of wonderful fundraising ideas for the PTA, including a monthly family dinner at a local restaurant and regularly scheduled bake sale.

Ms. Blanco, a parent, indicated that she and her husband owned a restaurant in downtown Miami -- Fratelli Milano -- would "be happy to open up the restaurant" to the PTA as well as to the vendors that they utilize at the restaurant.

Tracking Volunteer Hours: Communications Secretary, Alice Mensch Raval gave the presentation of the PTA website -- www.plcpta.org -- through use of the smart board.

She showed everyone how to register as volunteer with the Miami-Dade County School Board, log volunteer hours with the Parent Volunteer Log, fill out the Get Involved Form, register with the classroom liaisons, find the agendas, minutes and bylaws, and how to subscribe to get PTA updates and emails. It was a very informative presentation.

Ms. Seals gave special thanks to various volunteers listed on the agenda.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 5:42 pm.

Adopted by the PLC at MDCPS PTA membership on the 23rd day of October 2012.



Karon M. Coleman, Recording Secretary

Approved as Presented: _____ Date: _____

Approved as Corrected: Kmc Date: 10/23/12