

PLC of MDCPS PTA

MINUTES OF April 7, 2011
MEETING

Call to Order: The meeting of the PLC of MDCPS PTA was held in the Primary Learning Center Cafeteria, Miami, FL 33132 on April 7, 2011.
The meeting was called to order at 4:39 pm.

Quorum: A quorum of ten was established.

Minutes:

The minutes of the February 15, 2010 were presented and moved by Corina Esquijarosa, President, and seconded by Jordan Levin, Vice-President. The minutes were approved with one change on the second page: Laura Seminario should be listed instead of her daughter.

Corina welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked everyone to introduce themselves. Corina expressed that it was a pleasure to work as president for last two years. Her seat on the board is open and she expressed that it is a great way to contribute to school. Corina will remain active, and is happy to answer any questions about the position.

Officer nominations are currently open. If anyone is interested in one of the positions they can place their name in the black box in the front office. Current nominations are:

President: Jordan Levin

Vice President: Natacha Janssens

Vice President Web and Communications: Alice Raval

Secretary: Sandra Seals

Treasurer: Michelle Hoyos

It was suggested that a flyer be made with the duties and responsibilities of each officer. Duties are not described per se. A parent requested that officers and a general description of their duties be listed on the PTA website, including the date of the election. Alice Raval will post details on the website.

It was noted that the PTA needs an updated list of emails. Dr. Riestra volunteered to forward all relevant PTA emails on to the entire school email list.

2011-2012 Proposed Budget

There is a rough budget for this year and a projected budget for next year. The budget was very limited because we lost the pizza sales in the building and there has been very little fundraising beyond the pizza sales. Recently the PTA raised ~\$400 from picnic and ~\$250 from shirt sales. The shirts have been prepaid, and we will continue to sell them.

For next year the PTA would like to continue the supply sales. This is a popular fundraiser, but a lot of work because of the logistics of gathering the materials, etc. Dr. Riestra suggested

purchasing supply packages online, but it was countered that this is an expensive alternative. A suggestion was made that the packages be more general. Dr. Riestra added that we can use the same lists from last year, excluding second grade. The teachers will have a list ready by next month. A committee will be formed to assemble the supply packages for the new school year.

Current Fiscal Year budget was approved.

Audit Committee

Jordan Levin proposed that an audit committee be formed. Until the audit is done the PTA cannot show an accurate budget.

The PTA is required to audit the budget every year. Jordan Levin commented that the budget is basically in the black, but we need more organization. We are required to have three people volunteer to audit the budget. To audit the budget three volunteers will need to: review the budget; make sure that money that came in was there and that there is a solid paper trail; see that the books balance. Corina will provide the information needed to perform the audit. Board members cannot be a part of this audit committee. The committee will convene, perform the audit and then provide recommendations.

Laura Seminario, Cassandra Holmes and Maria Castillo were voted in as members of the audit committee. The audit must be completed before June 30, 2011. The audit committee will pick a cutoff date (for the books) to conduct the audit.

Aftercare Programming (cooking; karate; French; Arts for Learning, etc)

Dance classes and arts for learning were started this year and will be an option for students once again next year. There will be more activities and an increased student population next school year. There will be a cooking class taught by Chandra Carrol. Alice Raval is currently investigating martial arts classes and requested help from other parents that may know teachers interested in providing these classes. Music classes have been requested by several parents. The PLC is investigating providing music classes as an additional cost or integrating music into the school curriculum. Traditionally music classes are a part of a grade school curriculum, but not until the second grade. French classes will be resuming next week.

The PTA can offer programs directly in the aftercare as a prepaid option. Parents will pay the PTA and the PTA will pay the teacher.

Cassandra Holmes commented that her son is very involved in martial arts and offered to help bring martial arts programming to the aftercare program. Please email Alice Raval with any suggestion for a martial arts program: alicemraval@gmail.com

For music or other aftercare programming suggestions please email Jordan Levin: jordanglevin@comcast.net. Students must be registered in aftercare to participate in the classes because of insurance issues.

School Supplies Fundraiser – the PTA would like to continue this fundraiser but we need more volunteers. The best prices are the first week of class; however, Dr. Riestra would like all of the kids to have all of their supplies the first day of class. A suggestion was made to buy for the

following year as well. Another suggestion was made to buy wholesale online. Another suggestion was to form a back to school committee. The committee could try and get deals now.

A Back to School committee was formed: Maria Castillo, Graciela Tablada, Lucy Allegro, Corrina Esquijarosa, Karen England. Committee will continue supplies, shirts, membership, etc.

Parent Representatives for Classrooms

A suggestion was made that the parent representatives that were elected to help spread the word about the picnic in their respective child's classroom should continue through the rest of the school year helping to disseminate PTA information. It was agreed that a parent representative should continue and a formal appointment for each classroom will be made at the start of next year.

Dr. Riestra presented several items:

Kid Care health insurance is now being offered, information is posted on the bulletin board at the school's entrance.

Dr. Riestra thanked the PTA for a wonderful picnic. Everyone had a wonderful time and the facilities were great. She expressed that it was a great mixer for everyone to interact in a different way.

For the afterschool French program: Starting Monday, April 11, all students will receive a ½ hour of French two times a week. For next year Dr. Riestra is investigating if the Magnet Program will contribute more hours of French during the week to the aftercare curriculum.

School construction is on schedule. First phase: Dr. Elias will be moving her office to where fingerprinting was. Her current office will become the cafeteria. A clinic and two PK classes will be added. The current cafeteria will become a multipurpose room including storage and offices for a speech pathologist and a school psychologist.

Registration has begun with new parents. The lists are not final and current students will be re-registered in the next several weeks.

Beginning this upcoming school year parents will be required to re-register children entering Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd grade. A contract between the school and parents will be provided and parents are required to sign. The contract includes all of the expectations of parents for their children to remain in the magnet program. This is a standard contract used in all Dade County Magnet Schools.

April 15th marks the Celebration Week of the Young Child. There will be a parade at 9:00am on April 15, 2011. Children are asked to wear clothing that represents their culture. From 10:00am – 1:00pm there will be cultural activities in the parking lot of the PLC. Food, exhibits and activities for parents and students will be featured.

First graders will be taking the Stanford Achievement Test in reading and math starting Tuesday. A letter was sent home to parents asking that they bring kids to school on time. On time arrival to school on testing days is critical to each child.

NEXT PTA MEETING: MAY 26, 2011 AT 4:30 PM IN PLC CAFETERIA

5:55pm Adjourn.

Adopted by the PLC of MDCPS PTA membership on this ____ day of _____ 2011.

Corina Esquijarosa, President

Karon M. Coleman, Secretary

Approved as:

Presented: _____ Date: _____

or

Corrected: _____ Date: _____