



## Dora Kennedy French Immersion

Dora Kennedy French Immersion PTA  
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# DKFI PTA General Meeting Minutes 11-08-2017

Anton Veigas (Treasurer) called the meeting to order at 7:06 pm

Geraldine Hall (Secretary) reviewed the October minutes review. Body approved minutes.

### Key Notes from the Principal *(Expanded content included in Detailed Meeting Notes, below)*

Since last month's meeting:

- We are now fully staffed in the English Department.
- We now need a new in-school suspension teacher, security officer, and faculty in the Special Education department (ads are posted).
- Under leadership of Mr. Steve Lockwood, this past month we had Dads in the classroom, which was great.
- Please have your child check the lost and found bin in the hallway next to the gym. Please write your child's name on his or her belonging, like coats, to encourage their return to the child. Unclaimed items are donated twice monthly.
- Please ensure that an adult is available to pick up the child or meet him or her at the bus stop when we have early dismissal.
- November 10, students stay home, but the teachers are here for parent-teacher conferences.

### DKFI PTA Meeting Outline *(Expanded content included in Detailed Meeting Notes, below)*

Treasurer's Report  
PTA Financial Audit  
Grant Applications  
Principal's Address  
Legislative Committee Update and Needs  
PTA Activities and Programming Updates  
Eurostore  
Recess  
Committees  
Membership  
Events and Fundraisers

*The NEXT DKFI PTA meeting will be **December 13th, 7:00 pm**, in the multipurpose room (cafeteria). Mark your calendars: DKFI PTA meetings occur on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month unless otherwise noted.*

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It's not too late to become a member. Visit DKFIPTA.org to join. Get updates, resources, volunteer, and join the school and class listservs at DKFIPTA.org. Link to us on social media and watch meetings via the links on DKFIPTA.org.

From the DKFI PTA--Some important events (*this list is not all-inclusive; dates, events, and times are subject to change; events in blue are PTA sponsored, those in grey are past*)

Date	Time	Event	Location	For more information
Immediate	ongoing	Teacher and staff wishlist	<a href="https://signup.com/client/invitation2/secure/2047994/false#/invitation">https://signup.com/client/invitation2/secure/2047994/false#/invitation</a>	DKFIPTA.org
Immediate	ongoing	DKFI PTA Committee signup	<a href="https://signup.com/client/invitation2/secure/2047994/false#/invitation">https://signup.com/client/invitation2/secure/2047994/false#/invitation</a>	<a href="http://www.dkfipta.org/committees.html">http://www.dkfipta.org/committees.html</a>
Immediate	ongoing	Eurostore staffing	DKFI	DKFIPTA.org  <b>To volunteer</b> , go to <a href="http://signup.com/go/SQNUcQJ">http://signup.com/go/SQNUcQJ</a>
Nov 13		Franklins	Franklins 5123 Baltimore Ave. Hyattsville, MD	PAST EVENT
Nov. 30 and Dec. 3, 7, 8, 10, 13, 14, 17, 18, 19, 21, 22, and 24	various day- and nighttime hours	Free gift wrapping at Barnes and Noble. We earn school funds via a tip jar	Barnes and Noble Bowie Town Center 15455 Emerald Way Bowie, MD	DKFIPTA.org  <b>To volunteer</b> , go to <a href="http://signup.com/go/kCpoSuU">http://signup.com/go/kCpoSuU</a>
Dec 1- 15	school hours	Toys for Tots gift drive (donate new gifts for children aged 6 months to 14 years)	Guidance office at DKFI	Mrs. Donohue, guidance office
Dec 13	7:00 pm	<b>DKFI PTA meeting</b>	DKFI cafeteria	DKFIPTA.org
Dec 17	4:00 pm – 8:00 pm	Chipotle Fundraiser	15500 Excelsior Drive, Bowie, MD 20716	DKFIPTA.org
Dec 17 (in store)  Dec 17-22 (online)	9:00 am – 9:00 pm	Book Fair, fundraiser via purchases in store, and online (school code = 12239000)	Barnes and Noble Bowie Town Center 15455 Emerald Way Bowie, MD	DKFIPTA.org
TBD	TBD	Middle School Winter Dance	DKFI	DKFIPTA.org <i>This event is in the works—stay tuned!</i>
Jan 28, 2018	TBD	Ice Skating	Herbert Wells Ice Rink, 5211 Campus Drive, College Park, MD 20740	DKFIPTA.org <i>stay tuned for volunteer sign up</i>
March, TBD	TBD	March Madness Flapjack Fundraiser	Applebees	<i>This event is in the works—stay tuned!</i>

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Video of this meeting is available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iq2XwqRhzw0>

# Detailed Meeting Notes

Board members in attendance:

Anton Veigas, Sophia Mensah, Eleanor Cupp, Geraldine Hall (Halima Jenkins out sick)

Anton Veigas (Treasurer) called the meeting to order at 7:06 pm

Geraldine Hall (Secretary) reviewed the October minutes review. Body approved minutes.

## Treasurer Report

Mr. Veigas (Treasurer) presented Treasurer's report. Expenditures included:

- teacher wish list purchases
- bingo-night income
- Box tops: we collected, trimmed, and sorted 6,483 Box Tops = \$648.30 for DKFI (check to arrive in about a month)  
Winning classes will receive prizes from PTA later this month:

1. Mme Nkouaze 563
2. M. Djoutcha 552
3. M. Adjallah 446
4. M. Kwakou 435
5. Mme Segbor 384

Thank you to the volunteers who assisted in making the Bingo night possible, and to those who donated, gathered, trimmed, and counted the thousands of BoxTops.

The next Box Tops for Education collection will occur in the spring, likely in March. Stay tuned and keep collecting, please.

The Treasurer's Report was approved after motion.

## PTA Financial Audit

Sophia Mensah (VP for Elementary grades) reported having completed and submitted the MD State PTA–required financial audit for the 2016-2017 DKFI PTA financial records. All records were in order and in compliance with regulations.

## Grant Applications

ACE grant applications, for a total request of \$3,000, were completed: 1 each for

- French reading books for classroom use,
- Upright bass for orchestra,
- Brainpop.fr (online resource in French for multiple subjects),
- Outdoor recess toys (k-5<sup>th</sup>),
- yoga in the classroom (3<sup>rd</sup> graders; instructor teaches the teachers),
- “Les Etoiles Filantes” student literary magazine printing

Many thanks to the Grants Committee members for their assistance in generating and completing these applications.

More grant applications are available for school needs.

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## Principal's Address

Mr. Veigas introduced Principal Awono.

Since last month's meeting:

- We now have an English teacher, who is also a DKFI parent. We are now fully staffed in the English Department.
- We now need a new in-school suspension teacher, security officer, and faculty in the Special Education department (ads are posted and closes end November).
- Under leadership of Mr. Steve Lockwood, who initiated All-Pro Dads, this past month we had Dads in the classroom, which was great. Perhaps one day the mothers will also come.
- Once the weather is bad, coats and hats pile up. Parents please encourage your children to keep track of these things. If your child is missing an item, please have them (or you) check the lost and found. Please write your child's name on his or her belongings, like coats, to encourage their return to the child. Unclaimed items are donated twice monthly.
- Please ensure that an adult is available to pick up the child or meet him or her at the bus stop when we have early dismissal.
- November 10, students stay home, but the teachers are here for parent-teacher conferences.

Q: did men who came in for Men Make a Difference Day have to be fingerprinted?

A: M Awono will confirm that information

Q: parents are having trouble finding the items on the MySchoolBucks Web site, including the T-shirts

A: (Mr. Veigas demonstrated site functionality); M. Awono will discuss with front-office staff

Q: for Friday, November 10, when schools are open, will fingerprinting be available in Upper Marlboro?

A: Principal Awono believes so; however, he will check and inform the PTA of the answer

Q: how are field trips organized? Where do I direct field trip questions?

A: Field trips are organized primarily by the teachers. If you have a field trip question, ask your child's teacher

Comment: Field trip T-shirts colors remain the same throughout their elementary school.

## Legislative Committee Update and Needs

Martazsh Henderson, parent and Legislative Committee volunteer, explained the committee's goals, needs, and recent achievements:

- Legislative committee members attend and report on meetings of the school board, and at the county and state level, keep us apprised of critical events and initiatives, and to ring the alarm bell about what impacts us.
- Reports about the meetings are posted to the Prince George's County Advocates for Better Schools (PGCABS) <https://pgcabs.org/> Web site, and to the Legislative section of the dkfipta web site (<http://www.dkfipta.org/legislative-committee>).
- Please volunteer for the Committee if you are interested; there is work to go around. The Committee needs people to attend meetings and take notes. Even those who cannot attend meetings in person can watch meetings on line and report back on what occurs.
- The Committee will have a half-hour conference call to discuss framework and strategy on November 11. To participate, contact Laura. [Rammelsberg@gmail.com](mailto:Rammelsberg@gmail.com)
- The Prince George's County's Language Immersion Task Force, initiated by PGCPs, includes representatives from each of the 9 immersion schools, including 2 parent reps from each school, 2 external immersion experts, and 2 reps from school admin, and an immersion principal. Administrative members are Carmen Henninger and Jane Ness, Immersion Instruction Specialists in the PGCPs Office of Immersion Programs. DKFI parent liaisons are

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Halima Jenkins and Martazsh Henderson. The representatives were randomly selected by the Office of World Languages.

- Currently, French immersion is the only immersion program in the county that allows K-12. The group wants to explore options for extending immersion programs through middle and HS. What would be the structure of an expanded immersion program be? The Task Force is working to make a recommendation, by May 2018, to PGPCS CEO Dr. Maxwell on how best to proceed. At the Task Force meeting on October 25, the group reviewed immersion models. Once all information is consolidated, the Task Force will share those results with us.

The PG County Language Immersion Coalition (soon to be called the Coalition for Language Immersion in Prince George's County) was started by a group of parents and is hoping to expand. The group has the vision of creating global leaders who are multilingual, culturally competent change agents in their chosen fields and positively impact their communities and beyond. Thus far, the group's mission is to:

- Advocate for and educate about immersion programs, including for prospective parents
- Align advocacy efforts of all 9 immersion programs (strength in numbers)
- Support enhancing and expanding immersion programs in the county
- Steering committee met November 4, 2017.

## PTA Activities and Programming Updates

- Eurostore is up and running. Thank you to all the volunteers. The store still needs volunteers, particularly between about 12:30 and 1:45ish on Fridays for the middle schoolers. The children receive Euros from their teachers and staff for various reasons. About once a month, the children (elementary) are allowed to go the Euro Store and a volunteer staffs the store so children can buy things there. Middle schoolers go every Friday. Students recently report, however, that their teachers seldom hand out Euros. To volunteer, go to <http://signup.com/go/SQNUcQJ>
- Recess: The PTA has donated hula hoops and jump ropes to every K, 1st, 2nd class (12 classes in total)
- Committees: thank you to all who have signed up. We have more openings. Please bear with us (the Board members) as we formulate the best way to utilize the committee members' skills and efforts. **More members are needed**. To view committee descriptions, go to <http://www.dkfipta.org/committees.html> to sign up, go to <https://signup.com/client/invitation2/secure/2047994/false#/invitation>
- Membership: We currently have 160 members. We would love to grow this number so that all funds collected from membership can cover our administrative costs and that all other fundraising can go uniquely for school giving and student programming. Any members who do not receive membership e-mails, please see our secretary Geraldine Hall.
- Only members will receive treasurer's report; we will post minutes to Web site, however.
- DKFI online presence (DKFIPTA.org, Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, etc.) Links are available at DKFIPTA.org. Check the site often for updates, scheduled events, important notices, and initiatives.

Parent question: What is the difference between a dojo and a Euro?

A: Parents need to ask their teachers about how these are distributed. Not all teachers use ClassDojo, but all use the Euros. Each teacher differs in how he or she hands out Euros

### **Events and Fundraisers:**

Franklins fundraiser is all day, Monday, November 13. Owners are parents of alum and they provide generous support of the school. Funds come from both store and restaurant purchases. Franklins is located at 5123 Baltimore Ave. Hyattsville, MD.

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Middle School Dance, in December. Date TBD. PTA puts on the dances at this school. This dance is only for DKFI students. We need volunteers for planning and execution. Volunteers need not be parents of middle schoolers.

Barnes and Noble fundraiser takes place in 3 parts:

1) on Sunday, December 17, in-store purchases at Bowie Town Center (15455 Emerald Way, Bowie, MD). Mention DKFI and the school code 12239000 at the checkout prior to purchase.

2) Online purchases support DKFI, December 17-22, with use of school code 12239000 at checkout.

3) Barnes and Noble gift wrapping for tips: Every year, DKFI volunteers to wrap customer gifts at the Barnes & Noble in Bowie Town Center. We receive tips from customers in a donation jar. Last year, we raised more than \$1,400 from gift wrapping to benefit our school. Please help us again this year. Dates include Nov. 30 and Dec. 3, 7, 8, 10, 13, 14, 17, 18, 19, 21, 22, and 24.

**Sign up to help wrap** at <http://signup.com/go/kCpoSuU>

Ice skating, January 28, 2018, at Herbert Wells Ice Rink, 5211 Campus Drive, College Park, MD 20740

**Other support** avenues can also benefit the school, such as on-line shopping at [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com), purchase of Papa John's fundraiser cards (available at PTA meetings), enrolling in Silver Diner's Eat Well, Do Well program, and designating DKFI as your school on the Target Red card, among others

**Parent questions:**

Q: How do you volunteer to help with the dance?

A: Sign up at front or contact the PTA board at [dkfipta@gmail.com](mailto:dkfipta@gmail.com).

Q: How far along are we with the details?

A: We must start from scratch

Q: What is the process for making a suggestion for the school to do things differently? (Eg, maybe dress as a book character for Halloween). The PG CPS county bulletins had a recommendation for 30-minute recess.

A: In this case, join Recess Committee or approach the principal, as the question or suggestion warrants.

Approach principal

Meeting adjourned at 8:08.

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