

DECA Meeting Summary

November 13, 2001

Meeting Summary:

- The meeting was held at Dresden Elementary School and began with the principal, Debra White, giving us a tour and a brief summary of the school.
 - Dresden is 76% Latino, 12% Vietnamese, 11% African-American, and 5% white; they send everything home in English/Spanish; it is an English school w/DeKalb County curriculum.
 - Anyone can visit anytime and volunteer; volunteers teach English to the parents after school.
 - They serve breakfast and lunch and have a breakfast book club – they give the books to children w/perfect attendance.
 - This is the best school, in terms of community involvement, that Debra has worked at (out of 4); PTA meetings are standing room only.
 - Dresden hosts a fall carnival and May Olympic field day; they always need volunteers.
 - Dresden ranks in the 40% for reading and 70-90% for Math; most of their emphasis/activities revolve around reading; majority of children are bilingual; 35% are in ESOL and they have 7 ESOL teachers that work inside the classrooms.
 - The economic levels of the parents have been increasing over the years.
 - They have terrible traffic problems on Dresden; buses only transport to areas greater than 1.5 miles from school.
 - Dresden was voted an America's Choice School; the status has allowed them to teach writing in new/innovative ways; they have 1 hour of free writing a day (children can write in Spanish).
- *Treasurer's Report:*
 - Current balance: \$1813.06.
 - \$1125 collected this year from member dues.
 - For the year, we have spent \$443.46 LESS than we have taken in.
- *Vice-President's Report:*
 - Gave thanks to Debra for the tour and meeting place.
 - Brief discussion of future meeting spaces; Wayne will check w/Debra about meeting in the school.
 - Everyone should email the commissioners w/their support of the Commissioner's map that places Gail in our district.
 - Discussion of A.B.L.E. and distribution of their survey.
 - Wayne reported that Vince Riggio has not returned calls/emails; Wayne will keep trying to reach him and schedule a meeting.
 - Discussion of the newsletter distribution; Jeff requested a count of all the homes; Wayne will email Melissa and ask for the boundaries and # of homes in Beverly

Hills; Shallowford to Dresden Sq needs newsletter distribution; we will mail the Dresden Square President the newsletter.

- Future speakers should speak for 20-30 min, w/15 min for Q&A; the business meeting should be 1st.
- The cleanup day was successful – about a dozen people showed up and collected many bags of trash; perhaps we should schedule future cleanups a little later in the day, to increase attendance.
- No new news regarding Dresden Park.
- *Membership Report:*
 - Set a 50% goal; need the correct maps and information from subdivision reps.
 - We should create an information brochure; Jeff Weeks will help create a list/database and brochure.
 - Discussion of mailbox decals – not cheap.
 - Jeff suggested no X-Christmas party for such a low membership, we should spend the money on a membership drive instead.
 - Mary asked for \$100 to spend on membership drive; it was approved.
- Meeting adjourned.

Email lfreymann@mindspring.com if you think any changes or additions need to be made to these notes.