

Minutes
MEMBERSHIP
MEETING
Florida DKG Educational Foundation, Inc.



Orlando Marriott Lake Mary
Lake Mary, Florida

September 22, 2023

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<p>Chair, Carol Ann Casey, called to order the meeting of the Membership of the Florida DKG Educational Foundation, Inc. on Friday, September 22, 2023 at 7:33 p.m. The agenda was presented. (Attachment 1)</p> <p>In addition to Carol Ann Casey, Directors present included Dr. Beverly Helms, Connie Kostyra, Deanie DeFelix, Kathy Raiford, Diane Revels, Ann Tikka, Dr. Connie Besco, Roxanne Berger, Terry Stanilonis, Dr. Elsie Gross, and Webmaster, Debra Graff.</p>	<p>Call to Order Carol Ann Casey</p>
<p>Membership Meeting minutes dated September 23, 2022, as reviewed by Geraldine DeFelix were presented as approved.</p> <p>Carol Ann Casey appointed Roxanne Berger, Chair, and Dr. Connie Besco to review today's minutes.</p>	<p>Appointment of Approval of the Minutes Carol Ann Casey</p>
<p>Vickie Simms, secretary, was unable to attend. Kathy Raiford noted that the corporate income tax filing will be made by the November deadline. The minutes for the annual meeting, dated September 22, 2023, will be available on the website, www.fldkgef.org, once reviewed and approved.</p>	<p>Report of the Secretary, Kathy Raiford</p>
<p>Connie Kostyra reviewed the Trace of Cash (TOC) report from July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023. Kostyra shared the <i>Foundation</i> had \$10,300.00 in receipts. The <i>Foundation</i> will no longer have <i>Amazon Smile</i> as they had a change in their policy. Kostyra shared total expenditures at \$9,600,000. The <i>Foundation</i> used \$6,330 towards grants and awards, \$1,737 was spent for technology, IRS tax exempt, Fidelity Bond, (Hartford) and annual report. The <i>Foundation's</i> ending cash and investments totaled \$152,489.57. (Attachment 2)</p>	<p>Report of the Treasurer, Connie Kostyra</p>

Committee Reports

Dr. Beverly Helms shared that every member is part of the *Florida DKG Educational Foundation* by giving and supporting the *Foundation*. All support helps the organization thrive to provide opportunities for educators in Florida, to pursue professional and personal growth. Helms shared since the Foundation started in 2015, awards included 13 Professional Development Awards and 23 Educational Grants, for a total of 36 awards to Florida teachers. Helms shared that the applications for the *Educational Grants* and *Professional Development Awards* are on the website and must be completed by February 1, 2024. She suggested chapters encourage their members to take advantage of this opportunity.

Helms spoke about the two awards, first the *Professional Development Award* which the recipient can obtain up to \$1,500. The award may pay for conferences, travel, lodging and substitute teacher. Helms also spoke of the *Educational Grants* awarded up to \$1,000 that includes items such as classroom activities, field trips, materials, and school projects.

Helms shared that last year we had seven recipients for the *Educational Grants*. She encouraged all DKG members to take advantage of making their dreams come true!

Ann Tikka shared how we have multiple ways to communicate and support the professional development of educators in the state of Florida and promote educational excellence for Florida students. These include the *Educator Express*, quarterly articles in the *Rays*, the *Foundation* brochure with application and contribution information, a website at www.fldkgef.org, and Facebook. Tikka encouraged everyone to drop by the Foundation's exhibit table in the hotel lobby to view the literature about the *DKG Florida Educational Foundation* and our latest grant award recipients and their innovative projects. Contribution forms are available.

Grants and Awards Committee, Dr. Beverly Helms Chair

Public Relations Committee, Ann Tikka

<p>Presentation by Grant Recipient</p> <p>Racquel House received funding from FLDKGEF for her project: <i>SEL and Mindfulness Game Room</i>. Racquel is a member of the SEL (Social Emotional Learning) team at Hollywood Park Elementary. Racquel thanked everyone in DKG and the <i>Foundation</i> for making her dreams come true! Her vision started when she noticed that children lost the connection during COVID, and they didn't know how to communicate.</p> <p>Racquel used the funds to purchase a variety of boards games for her <i>Game Room</i>. She spoke with the teachers at her school and sent home flyers explaining how the <i>Game Room</i> would be utilized by the students. Student access to the game room was implemented on a schedule on Wednesdays (Early Release) as well as before and/or after school hours. Access will be expanded to student participation during PE and as an award. The <i>Game Room</i> supports positive behavior plan. Students work with a partner to select the games they will play together. The <i>Game Room</i> is designed to build better interpersonal skills to help students be able to problem solve more effectively. Since the <i>Game Room</i> has been implemented, they have seen fewer referrals school wide.</p>	<p>Grant Recipient Presentation, Racquel House</p>
<p>Casey encouraged attendees to tell members in their chapters about these funding opportunities.</p>	<p>Thoughts and Comments</p>
<p>Meeting was adjourned at 8:24 p.m.</p>	<p>Adjournment</p>

Florida DKG Educational Foundation, Inc.



Carol Ann Casey, Chair

Kathy Raiford
Kathy Raiford, Secretary pro-tem

APPROVED:

COMMITTEE TO APPROVE MINUTES OF THE
FLORIDA DKG EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION, INC. MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Roxanne Berger

Roxanne Berger, Chair

Constance Besco

Dr. Connie Besco