



PTA SECRETARY

Got a Minute?
Write This Down Please!

PTA Secretary

The **Recording Secretary** is elected and is one of the three officers required for a PTA/PTSA.

As official record keeper of the PTA, **Secretary is one of the most important positions on the board.**

Secretarial responsibilities may be assigned to one person or can be divided between a:

- **Recording Secretary** and a
- **Corresponding Secretary** as specified in the bylaws.

If there is no Corresponding Secretary, the duties of the Corresponding Secretary may be combined with the duties of the Recording Secretary, in accordance with the bylaws.

SECRETARY DUTIES are listed in:

- The PTA/PTSA bylaws.
- Florida State PTA Kit of Materials.
- National PTA *Annual Resources for PTAs* (available from the PTA president).
- Robert's Rules of Order



Assist the President:

- Ask your President how you may assist.
- You may prepare a list of unfinished business items for the president before each meeting.
- Sit beside the President at all meetings. Have all records and reference materials available.
- Assist President with preparation of the agenda, if requested.



How to get started:

Attend PTA–sponsored workshops or trainings.

Obtain secretary's **procedure book** with all minutes, agendas and reports of previous meetings and other materials from your predecessor, as reference then start one that includes:

- Approved copy of the bylaws
- Standing Rules
- List of current members
- Charter and official documents of the PTA
- Maintain minutes, agenda, budget and officer reports in book.





Cardinal Elementary PTA
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Executive Board Agenda

November 2, 2023

Call To Order 6:30 PM

Meditation

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Welcome & Introductions

Presentation

Network for Public Education Report

Roll Call & Excused Absences

Rules of the Day

Minute Approval - October 5, 2023

Financial Report

Reports of Officers

Reports of Committees

New Business

Election of delegates to Florida LegCon

Announcements

November 9th - Virtual Adjourned General Meeting

November 16th - Reflection entries due

December 1st - Board holiday gathering

January 11th - MDCC PTA/PTSA Executive Board Meeting

January 28-30th - Florida PTA LegCon

Adjournment



"Together for all children we will be the strongest, brightest,
shiniest bloom in the field."

Sample Agenda

ABC Elementary School PTA
Executive Board Meeting
September 7, 2022 @ 7:00 p.m.
ABC Elementary School Media Center

- I. **Call to Order (on time, quorum met)** The President calls the meeting to order. “The meeting will please come to order.”
- II. **Roll Call (the President may call upon the Secretary for a roll call)**
- III. **Quorum (President announces there is a quorum)**
- IV. **Reading and Approval of Minutes – Action Items**
The Secretary addresses the Chairman and reads the minutes. (or with the approval of the group, the minutes may be posted, distributed in advance or assigned to a committee of three or more for approval or correction.
“The Secretary will read the minutes of the _____ meeting OR “The minutes of the _____ meeting have been emailed to you.” Are there any corrections?” (note corrections.) “The minutes stand approved as read/emailed/printed or “The minutes stand approved as corrected.”
- V. **Financial Report (Treasurer’s Report – Action Items.** No motion is needed for adoption of the report.
“_____ will present the Treasurer’s Report.”
The President “You have read the report. Are there any questions?” “The report will be filed for the audit.”
- VI. **Reading of Correspondence.** Communications are read by the (Corresponding) Secretary and may be acted upon as read, if action is required. The President: “The (Corresponding) Secretary will read the correspondence. “

Sample Agenda

(Cont'd.)

VII. Reports of the Committees (Officers and Chairmen, including the principal, faculty representatives, and student representatives if applies) President calls for the report of the committees.

“_____will present the report of the _____committee.” .”

“Are there any questions regarding the report?”

“If not the report will be filed,” or “You have heard the recommendation such as a motion to release funds up to the budgeted amount for programs through the next meeting.”

(Follow the steps of a motion, Parliamentary Procedure. The Motion will be written as “Jane Smith, Programs Chair, moved to release funds up to the budgeted amount for programs through the next meeting. Motion Carried.) As Secretary, file all written reports.

VIII. Unfinished Business. The President presents each item of unfinished business as indicated in the minutes. *If there is no Unfinished Business, this category is not listed on the Agenda.

IX. New Business.

“The first item of new business is _____.”

X. Adjournment. No motion is necessary to adjourn. President adjourns the meeting.

“The meeting is adjourned.”

Sample Agenda

ABC Elementary School PTA

Annual Meeting

September 7, 2017@ 9:00 a.m.

ABC Elementary School PTA Cafeteria

- I. Call to Order & Quorum**
- II. Opening Ceremonies.** Pledge of Allegiance (if held in public facility and there is a Flag).
“Will you please rise?”
“Thank you _____.”
“_____ will present the Meditation.”
- III. Reading and Approval of Minutes – Action Items**
- IV. Financial Report.**
- V. Audit Report (annual) – Action Items**
A motion is needed for adoption of this report.
“It has been moved and seconded that the audit report be adopted” (Follow steps of motion, parliamentary procedure.) Vote.
- VI. Reading of Correspondence.**
- VII. Report of the Executive Board. Action Items.** At association meetings a summary report (not the minutes) is read for the information of the members.
- VIII. Unfinished Business**
- IX. New Business**
- X. Program (Optional).** The President introduces the chairman to present the program.
“_____ will present the program.”
“_____ Madame/Mister President, this concludes the program.”
- XI. Announcements**
- XII. Adjournment**

What are Minutes?

A legal document recording
what was done at a meeting,
not what was said.



What **belongs** in a set of minutes:

Keep minutes brief and to the point. Minutes contain a record of what the group did, with action recorded in the order it took place. Do not record opinion and discussion. **Do record:**

- Type of meeting (regular, general, executive, special, annual).
- Name of the association.
- Date, time and place of meeting.
- List of persons in attendance and excused absences.
- Presence of President and Secretary, or in their absence, the name of their substitutes.
- Name and title of presiding officer. Reading and action on minutes of previous meeting – whether read and approved/corrected.



“What belongs in a set of minutes”

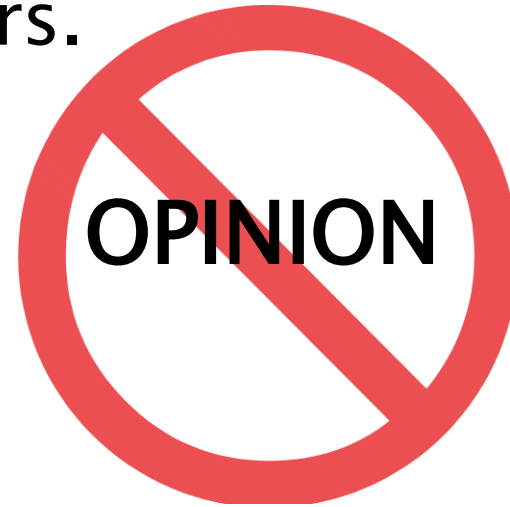
(Continued:)

- Summary of Treasurer’s Report: (1) Beginning balance, (2) receipts, (3) disbursements and (4) ending balance as of the date of the meeting. (This information is required in the Minutes, but a copy of the Treasurer’s Report in full is attached.)
- Attach important reports such as budget
- Record all motion voted upon, points of order and appeals, the name of member who made the motion, and whether carried or lost (the name of the seconder is not recorded)
- Record results of any election and votes cast
- Brief notation of program topic, names of participants, important points covered
- Time of adjournment
- Signature of secretary

What does not belong in the minutes:

According to Roberts Rules of Order, the minutes should **NOT** contain:

- The secretary's opinion on matters.
- The seconds of motions.
- Any withdrawn motion.
- A summary of the remarks of the guest speaker.



Sample Minutes:

Sign minutes and date
when they are approved.

When you sign the
minutes, indicate
whether they were either:

- Approved as written
- Approved as corrected

(Sample Minutes)
Kings Road PTA
Regular Board Meeting
October 3, 20__

Call to Order	The board meeting of the Kings Road PTA was held in the media center of the Kings Road Elementary School on Wednesday, October 3, 20__. The president, Sandy Jones, called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM. The secretary was present.
Meditation	The meditation was given by Dave Brown.
Attendance	List all members in attendance at regular board meetings, including president and secretary. (Those excused from the meeting should be listed too.)
Quorum	A quorum was established.
Minutes	The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as written (or as corrected).
Correspondence	A "thank you" note was read from Wesley Heart for flowers sent while he was in the hospital.
Executive Board	The executive board met on September 19, 20__, in the school library. Diane Smith, Bill Jones and Michelle White were appointed to a committee to recommend a project for the year. The president appointed Diane Smith as chair.
Treasurer's Report	The treasurer, Kay Majors, reported the balance as of September 5, 20__, was \$1,450. Receipts totaled \$150. Disbursements totaled \$200. Balance on hand as of October 3, 20__, totaled \$1,400. The report was filed. (Treasurer reports the balances as of the date of the meetings not for the calendar month.)
ACTION ITEMS:	
Motion:	Marlene North, chair of the special committee appointed to oversee Critical Viewing Skills at King Road Elementary School, moved by direction of the special committee, that the Kings Road PTA initiate and sponsor a workshop for parents. Motion carried.
COMMITTEE REPORTS:	
Membership	Annette Kelly, membership chair, reported membership as of September 30, 20__, totals 300 members.
Reflections	Tiffany York, Reflections chair, reported that the committee met and the Reflections Awards Event will be held on April 10, 20__.
New Business	Marvin Mark moved that the parent education chair attend the annual University workshop for parent leaders. Janice Ward moved to amend by inserting "president and the" before the words "parent education". Amendment carried. The motion carried as amended and will now read: Marvin Mark moved that the president and the parent education chair attend the annual University workshop for parent leaders.
Announcements	November 5, Field Day, Kings Road Elementary School. November 16, Fern County Council meeting.
Adjournment	The meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM.
<i>(Signature of Secretary)</i> (Type Name), Secretary	

Approved As:

Date: _____ Corrected: _____ Written: _____

Prompt action!



Prepare the minutes and email a draft copy to the President for approval as soon as possible after each meeting.

It is easier if you begin the next day or the same day.

Complete them within 7 or 8 days. This is a reasonable amount of time.

After the President has reviewed the minutes you can email the draft to the other board members for review.



Approval of Minutes:

Read the minutes of any previous meeting when called upon to do so.

Email: Copies of the association minutes may be Emailed to each member in advance to expedite approval at a board meeting.

Newsletter: Association minutes may be published in the newsletter. When the newsletter is distributed to the school community, **only a summary of action is printed.**

Prior Review: With approval of the association, the minutes can be approved without reading them before the assembly if everyone has had a chance to review them in advance.



Corrections to the Official Minutes



- Make all corrections directly on the printed official minutes.
- Corrections to the minutes are made immediately following the reading of the minutes, during the time specified on the agenda for minutes, or at any subsequent meeting when errors are discovered.
- The current minutes shall reflect that a correction was made.
- In the master copy of the minutes, the secretary circles the incorrect words with a pen and places the correction in the margin of the bound minute book.
- Corrections must be dated and initialed. Only the group that created the minutes (executive committee, executive board, association) may correct them.

Keeping Records:

Keep an accurate, concise, **permanent** record of the proceedings of all meetings of the association and of the executive board. These minutes are the legal record of the PTA/PTSA.

The Secretary keeps the original signed copy of all minutes in a 3-ring binder.



Sample Motion Form:

FLORIDA PTA

OFFICIAL MOTION BLANK

CARRIED _____
LOST _____
DATE _____

I Move

COUNCIL OR PTA NAME _____ MAKER OF THE MOTION _____
TOWN _____ SECONDED BY _____

BOARD OF DIRECTORS PRESIDING OFFICER _____

MOTIONS:

Bring blank motion forms with you to every meeting. Each motion must be written out and the motion and results of the vote are recorded in the minutes.

BALLOTS:

Also be prepared to help count a rising vote and bring blank paper with you for ballots. Results of the vote are recorded in the minutes.

“ I Move that...”

- ▶ James Olson says:
 - ▶ “Madam President, because our third floor meeting room is not accessible to disabled members, I move that all meetings be held in Room 141.”
 - ▶ You need to capture only the words “that all meetings be held in Room 141.”
 - ▶ It was moved “that all meetings be held in Room 141.” The motion was adopted (or defeated).
- Or
- ▶ A motion “that all meetings be held in Room 141” was adopted (or defeated).

What was said



How to record it in the minutes



Handling Amendments

- ▶ Show only the final wording of the motion as it may have been amended.
- ▶ Original motion: “that we publish a weekly calendar of PTA events.”
- ▶ Amendment: “to strike out ‘weekly’ and insert ‘monthly.’”
- ▶ The amendment was adopted and then the original motion as amended was adopted.
- ▶ A motion was adopted “that we publish a monthly calendar of PTA events.”
- ▶ No reference is made to the fact that “weekly” was considered

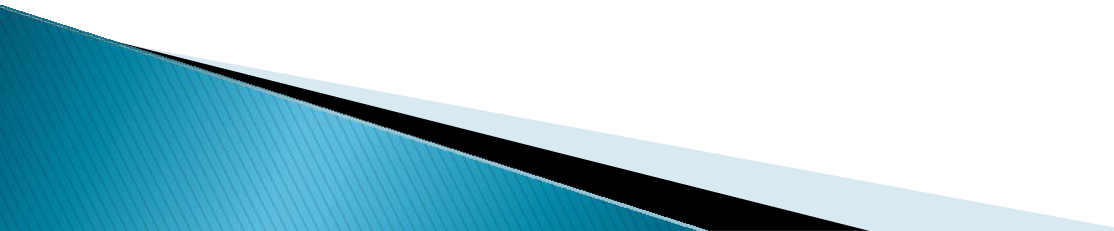
Amending original motion



Final Wording in the Minutes



Reports with recommendations

- ▶ For committee reports presented orally, the Secretary will **not** prepare a written summary of the committee reports. Written reports may be attached to the minutes
 - ▶ But when a report ends with a recommendation, the recommendation is made by the committee chair or reporting member in the form of a motion
 - ▶ The motion in the minutes might be preceded by a few lead-in words such as “By direction of the resource committee, it was moved and seconded that...”
- 

Duties of the Corresponding Secretary:

Send notices of meetings to executive board members and/or association members as directed.

Read correspondence at executive board and association meetings as requested by the President.

Check with the President about letters to be written immediately after the meeting.

Write authorized letters promptly.

Keep file of all letters received and copies of replies written.

Thank you!
Wishing you great success in
your child advocacy efforts!

