

**Roberts Elementary School PTO Meeting
Friday December 4, 2015
8:10 a.m. Roberts Cafe**

In attendance: Naureen Alam, Arghavan Banan, Lauren Bloomquist, Virginia Camerlo, Yvonne Chu, Trealla Epps, Laura Frazier, Martha Gau, Camille Jenman, Aparna Jotwani, Julie McFarland, Mehrnaz Molaei, Catalina Pastore, Christine Robins, Alyson Rooney, Kristin Schuster, Rocio Suayfeta, Ryan Taatle, Jennifer Thornton, Valerie Thurmond, Valerie Thompson, Wendy McKay, Kelly Wehrer, Lena Smith, Catherine Lawrence, Juliana Ronderos, Pia Weyandt, Liting Ren, Qiao Xue, Devyn Wolens

Meeting Called to Order	Camille Jenman
School Report	Trealla Epps
Treasurer's Report	Lara Frazier
Auction	Valerie Thompson/Julie McFarland
SPARK Update	Jennifer Thornton
Book Fair	Julie McFarland
Holiday Coat Drive	Kristin Schuster
Any Other Business	Camille Jenman
Adjourn	Camille Jenman

* Next meeting will be held Friday January 7, 2016

Meeting Called to Order	Camille Jenman
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8:10am

School Report	Trealla Epps
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Ms. Epps wishes to ensure accurate communications this month with so many activities scheduled.

Faculty caroling is scheduled for next Friday December 11th starting around 6:15 with four stops (see Front Page for details) 1) Henry's home 2) Elan Med Center 3) Old Braeswood Park 4) Thornton's home

Iowa testing continues for Kinder & 5th grade

Exhibition has begun (5th grade) end of PYP experience central idea this year: "People have the ability to change the world through their experiences".

UH & young audiences are helping the students with animation/automation

Exhibition presentations to the parents will occur on Wed. Dec. 16th from 6:30-7:30pm

During that same week the 5th graders will also go into the classrooms to share their exhibition projects with the students.

The temporary skirting at the bottom of the new portable buildings is currently removed - it will be replaced with metal skirting before winter holiday or temporary plastic skirting
New boiler has been installed in the building so heating is now more effective

4th grade explorer walk next week 8:30-09:30am

Holiday class celebrations on Thursday Dec. 17th from 1-2:30pm. There will be no more than 3 parents permitted to attend per class. Classes with ancillary during that time will have adjusted times (kinder field trips that day)

5th grade fundraiser scheduled to occur on December 18th.

Parent inquiry about if the school may have police to manage busy street intersections during peak drop-off & pick-up times. Mrs. Epps has put in a request with the district for one police officer to be designated to Greenbriar at Swift. Slots for officers are full once the school year starts. Roberts' budget can afford one officer for Greenbriar - Roberts is on the waiting list to have the officer request fulfilled.

Optional survey for the new after school pick up process will go out next week for feedback from parents. Ms. Epps is happy to see kids playing on playground after school & parents chatting

Treasurer's Report

Lara Frazier

Handouts available to see where PTO is with annual budget. Budget is currently \$50k in the black. Spark Park funding & book fair were biggest revenue-generating activities this month.

Auction

Valerie Thompson/Julie McFarland

Feb 27th at Rice University: "Roberts Prom" annual fundraising auction theme can be interpreted as an 80's prom or today's prom. Adults only. Biggest fundraiser (besides Spark Park this year). Committee chairs are in need of "big board" items such as weekend homes, camp, vacation spots, etc...Please get in touch with Julie should you have leads. Chairwomen need class reps for auction baskets. Each class gets an idea for their basket. The class rep will select a basket theme via sign-up genius then gather the items from the class to fill the basket. Committee Chair will help make the basket look "finished".

Committee chairs are seeking corporate sponsors as well as volunteers for before/during/ the auction - data entry, decorations, acquisitions, on-call for item pick-ups. Great for short term volunteer opportunities

Auction parties are the biggest seller at the fundraiser. Host your home - if parents need an idea the auction chairs can help, or if you have idea but not the room we can facilitate
The dress code for this event is NOT black tie!

SPARK Update

Jennifer Thornton

Chairs are still collecting money

An art project started with kids. In playground new toddler area will have 2 curved sitting art walls & visual barriers with tiles they will paint. One wall in big kid area

Every grade will do tiles in class ex. kinder self-portraits, Pointillism, 6x6 mandala tile

Morning side place & Briar club are sponsoring

Still looking for neighborhood business & corporate sponsors

Book Fair

Julie McFarland

Natalie did a great job as first timer this year. \$17k in book sales and school gets 25% plus 3k in library donations which we get 50% from so Book fair raised \$7k in total which was on target with past years

Considering other ideas for next year's book fair due to time crunch of that week and amount of effort involved for volunteers in relation to fiscal returns

\$3285 library donations & scholastic books

\$3967

Total \$7252 raised for Roberts

Holiday Coat Drive

Kristin Schuster

So far going well. One more week. Walk through carpool line at pick up with donation boxes. Mrs. Epps will set time for some parents to go over to Shearn for delivery of the coats. Small adult coats and pre kinder coats are accepted. Principal is extremely grateful for our donations. Shearn (coat drive recipients) usually take money out of their budget to fund this effort

Any Other Business

Camille Jenman

New Corp rewards program. 4ourschool.com - way to earn money via online purchases multiple retailers portion of purchases donated to Roberts from 1-4% of total donated info will go out about that with link on PTO website

Young audiences is one of the marathon charities - you can sign up through them \$350 or fundraising for 5k, 1/2 or full marathon. All \$ will go into arts programming for Roberts - no deadline for fundraising.

First budget committee meeting next Friday
Look at current budget assess where we are & decide what we may need to budget for
next year allocate special designations with leftovers
Next meeting scheduled for Friday January 8th.

Adjourned

Camille Jenman

Meeting adjourned at 08:40am