

**Roberts Elementary School PTO Meeting
Friday May 6, 2016
8:10 a.m. Roberts Cafe**

In attendance: Arghavan Banan, Istra Bauza, Jenny Beech, Virginia Camerlo, Yvonne Chu, Jaime Clossen, Liz Ehrhart, Trealla Epps, Lara Frazier, Martha Gau, Maureen Glancy, Renae Holman Murti, Camille Jenman, Aparna Jotwani, Catherine Lawrence, Goi Madden, Melissa Marschall, Amy McCallum, Julie McFarland, Wendy Miller, Mehrnaz Molaei, Michael Orchard, Angel Plaza, Catalina Pastore, Christine Robins, Juliana Ronderos, Alyson Rooney, Kristin Schuster, Donna Scudder, Lena Smith, Natalie Smith, Rocio Suayfeta, Jennifer Thornton, Jon Thornton, Valerie Thurmond, Valerie Tompson, Jana Wang, Kelly Wehrer, Pia Weyandt, Qiao Xue, Devyn Wolens

Meeting Called to Order	Camille Jenman
Appreciation for Thorntons	Margaret Henry
School Report	Trealla Epps
Math Club	Michael Orchard & Melissa Marschall
Treasurer's Report	Lara Frazier
Update on 2016-17 Committee Chairs	Valerie Tompson
Carnival	Jana Wang
SPARK Park Update	Jennifer Thornton
Staff Appreciation Week Activities	Martha Gau
Running Club Memorial Event	Istra Bauza
Any Other Business	Camille Jenman
Adjourn	Camille Jenman

Meeting Call to Order	Camille Jenman
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Meeting called to order at 08:12

Appreciation for Thorntons

Margaret Henry

PTO would like to say a special thank you to 2 volunteer Roberts parents who have gone above & beyond for Roberts: John & Jen Thornton with gift of appreciation John ran Budget & finance committee, Carnival, book fair, community night, auction & the Padres, John & Jennifer collectively started Camp-Out Jennifer managed the Auction, 75th year school Gala, Finance committee, Chaired Staff appreciation, school store, room parent, president elect & president, Spark Park raised \$400,000 in addition to annual PTO funds raised.

PTO is donating a bench in the new Spark Park in honor of the Thorntons

School report

Ms. Epps

Ms. Epps provided an additional tribute to Jennifer & Jon Thornton. STAAR testing 3, 4 & 5th grades next week which means Roberts will have a closed campus on Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday. An automated Call-Out reminder will go out to Roberts families tonight (Friday) & this Sunday evening to remind parents about the closed campus protocol for STAAR testing.

Kinder portfolio Monday May 23rd 5-6pm & end of year promotion program afterwards in cafe (Roberts cafe is a very tight space so parents please be considerate).

No tickets for 5th grade musical which will be held at Pershing Middle School this year - Pershing auditorium seats 350, so spacing is limited.

Flag ceremony Friday May 20th from 7:30-8:00am.

After school care will end on May 19th for this school year.

HISD Budget: Roberts' budget was finally released, completed and balanced. Overall deficit of \$200k after \$150k less in magnet funds and a decrease in per-pupil allocation from the district after Robin-hood act and other funding redistribution. In total there will be \$350k less in Roberts' budget for the next school year in comparison with the current 2015-16 school year budget.

We are anticipating that Roberts will not receive any magnet funds for 2017-2018, 5 staff positions Ms. Epps will need to reconcile for that year. Ms. Epps has a plan in mind which includes maintaining all of Roberts' current ancillary teachers.

Ms. Walton is leaving for a new opportunity/promotion to be a math coach at Pin Oak.

Ms. Epps and Ms. Walton are already working on a replacement

Math Club

Melissa Marschall & Michael Orchard

A math club was started for Roberts 4th & 5th graders at the beginning of this school year. The math club met here at school every Wednesday morning at 7am.

The math club was created in order to prepare these students to compete in the Math Olympiad for Elementary and middle schools. The goal of the math club is to exercise the mind among friends. Encouragement revolved around games & puzzles. Great experience for kids & teachers. Would like to see it expanded to other grades.

Organizers feel that the club could be more organized, and they plan to reorganize earlier in the school year and implement a 20-week curriculum. Ms. Marschall & Mr. Orchard have ideas for how to expand the club to include other grades. One such idea is to create math buddies matching older and younger students. Ms. McClintock was teacher sponsor. Math club could use more parent volunteers. Will continue next year - look for emails with more information.

Treasurer report

Lara Frazier

There is PTO money to spend prior to the end of fiscal year, specifically \$20-25k left for special allocations. This money must be spent by June 30th or put into Roberts Foundation for future use. Please let Lara or Camille know if you have any allocations. All expense reports and check requests are due to Lara by the last day of school or by June 10th at the latest.

Update Next school year's committee chairs

Valerie Tompson

PTO Standing committee chair positions that are still open include:

Information Services (maintain website)

Front page (editing newsletter)

Auction

Rice baseball & basketball bash

Organize public middle school night - will be taken on by 5th grade chairs

Current board - be on lookout for an email listing proposed committee chairs with electronic vote to be submitted via this email correspondence.

Spring Carnival

Jana Wang

Had to postpone the original April 30th carnival date due to inclement weather - it was a tough decision but the committee and Ms. Epps decided to reschedule for May 25th from 4-7pm. That day will be the last day of school with an early dismissal at 12:30pm.

Dismissing students early will enable 2-3 hours for volunteers to set-up before the carnival starts at 4pm.

440 carnival wristbands have already been sold - \$12,360 already raised.

Sponsorship has raised \$3539

Marketplace 15 vendors - raised \$1125 so far \$17k raised so far Expenses thus far \$6843
Jana acknowledged appreciation for all of the carnival volunteers thus far.

Thanks to Kelly W for carnival book fair (she is managing this booth) Catalina helped with 38 yard signs, watermelon cutting, & face painting, Goi delivered orders for wristbands & tickets Lena Smith helped with ticket box Devyn helped create sign-up genius Courtney helped with budget/financial matters Amber helped with water, drinks, and ice donations Chris & Vida helped pick up the drinks Eman, Camille & Ms. Epps provided advice, experience & guidance

Spark Park updates

Jennifer Thornton

Display board posted to show where our Roberts neighbors have donated by neighborhood block \$520k raised to date Jennifer met with Valerie & budget committee to discuss how to allocate the funds raised \$400k for playground Getting permits & surveys, equipment ordered. Will be here in 6-8 weeks & installed Fix drainage issues on current grass field. Replace sod, still accepting donations Some type of fundraising will be done - Still \$100k short for field repairs

Staff Appreciation

Martha Gau

Staff appreciation recap from this week. Something every day Edible arrangements, kolache factory, smoothie bar, gift card raffles & teacher gift (coffee mug with Roberts logo) Coffee bar today with mug

Running Club Memorial recap

Istra Bauza

Running club event this past Wednesday - small event, track team there, nice relationship developed for future with Rice. Could combine this event with baseball bash or something else. Thank you to the volunteers who showed up & helped. Erin Fox - takes attendance every morning. Will email times & photos 1st three finishers from each heat. Great event - announced winner afterwards at baseball

June 1st is deadline for school supplies - we will NOT be selling them at back to school! Can order online or send check with paperwork

Last meeting as President for Camille - wanted to express appreciation to all donors & volunteers. We should all feel proud of our efforts. We have raised over \$150k just for PTO not including Spark Park. Thank you to Ms. Epps - open, warm, friendly & so helpful.

Valerie gave a special thank you Camille for stepping up & serving as our president this year. Presented a small gift from PTO

Meeting adjourned at 09:02