**Roberts PTO, General Meeting Minutes, January 13, 2023**

**Hybrid: Cafe & Zoom**

**Call to Order** by Jeff Frey @ 8:05am

Thank you to all our sponsors (listed on our website). And please support these businesses when you can.

**Approval of December 2023 Meeting Minutes**

1st by Sue Church, 2nd by Eleanor Verret = Approved

**Principal’s Report** Trealla Epps

Attendance is important. TEA has attendance guidelines for grade promotion. Absences must have a note to be excused. Travel is never excused. All absences count toward the total that triggers a review of the student, but excused absences are taken into account during that review.

HISD calendar is not set yet, so she has not scheduled registration yet. Hopefully by mid February. Sibling registration is easy. New family registration will be by appointment.

The spring semester will be busy with events. You must be VIPS approved to attend events on campus.

Thank you for all the support of Roberts. The PTO fills the gap on so much.

*? about the calendar* A: vote to approve should happen soon. There is very little wriggle room on how much it can change. 5 days are built in for extreme circumstances because schools have to meet not only the days per school year but the total instructional time in minutes per school year.

**President’s Message** Jeff Frey

We had pest control over the break. Reports are positive so far on success.

**Treasurer’s Report** Sue Church

Report through December 31st, we are inline on our income and expenses for the year.

Income: received a rebate from the school supply company, and receiving income from Auction sales

Expenses: Campout, school store

**Committee Reports**

Grounds (Trish Hilliard)

Drains & sidewalks were rescheduled because of the freeze. There will be a crew coming to clear out what the freeze killed.

*? Trees* A: (Epps) HISD facilities is still saying it is a priority, but there is also a huge backlog in their department. In the next POSSIP, mention the trees again.

Carnival (Trish) but also Eleanor Verret & Adrienne Moeller

Will be Saturday April 29th 10am – 2pm. There will be new “big” games this year. Middle School & High School student volunteers are welcome. There has been a revamp of pricing and ordering to streamline things. 2nd graders are making the logo.

carnival@robertspto.org

*? used book sale* A: yes will have the used book sale and the community marketplace (which is a perk for sponsors).

PADRES (Ryan Hammer)

376 campers signed up! Thank you to all the volunteers!

Our next workday is tomorrow (Saturday January 14th 9am – noon). Come for an hour or the whole time.

Softball tourney was a success – Sam’s Club was the winner.

Golf tourney is March 24th at Gus Wortham. Bob Avent is organizing. Registration coming soon.

padres@robertpto.org

Auction (Michelle Wan)

We’re 43 days away. DJ Craig will be in the house and Brian Wang as emcee. Please buy your tickets by Feb 1st so the chairs can give head count to catering. VIP tickets include an early access to bidding plus reserved seating.

Catalina Pastore is organizing decorations, the Irwins are donating the wine, and Karbach is donating the beer.

We need more parties.

Contact auction@robertspto.org for more information

Garden

Still need 3 class liaisons for spring semester.

Volunteer Recruitment (Anh Hopper and Eleanor Verret)

We’ve already started the process of forming the Nomination Committee for next year’s elected officers. It’s not too early to think about committee chair positions as well. In addition to still having committees without chairs this year, the red lettered positions are the ones held by parents graduating this year. (Eleanor)

Anh’s role in volunteer recruitment is to connect volunteers with committee chairs. You can email her at volunteer@robertspto.org.

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HISD (Jenny Beech)

HISD school choice deadline is approaching. Get your application done. There are a couple more tour dates left if you haven’t visited the schools you’re interested in.

The school calendar doesn’t have a lot of flexibility. HISD has to have enough instructional days in the year and balance the 2 semesters.

*? District of Innovation* A: It would allow more calendar flexibility, but HISD’s applications have historically been blocked by a group from the teacher’s union.

**Unfinished Business**

*? Science lab* A: Will not be able to offer this year. But, Ms. Zaza is going above and beyond by supporting the grade level science in addition to her 5th grade classroom work. Very few elementary schools are able to offer science lab. Our students will not fall behind. (Epps)

*? Can we still sign up for Running Club* A: yes, registration on website

? Lunar New Year A: Front Page and website has the info. We need set up and clean up help.

**New Business**

Nick Collins has agreed to be the parent lead of Math Club. We still need at least 1 more parent volunteer in order to begin. Math Club will be held Thursdays after school and open to 4th & 5th graders. They will work on Math Olympiad contest.

REMINDER – NO SCHOOL MONDAY JANUARY 16TH - MLK

**Meeting Adjourned** by Jeff @ 8:57am