

Robinson Elementary School General Session Meeting Minutes January 29, 2015 (8:30 am)

Present: Andrea Hynes, Dora Seiffer, Jennifer Fenton, Ruth Weissenborn, Sue Freund, Sarah Khorey, Laurie Eddleston, Karyn Horasz, Tina Testa, Geraldine Pepemehmetoglu, Courtney Black, Michelle Rappoport, Tenley Prince, Neeraj Rotondo, Stacy Myrose, Linda Geoghegan, Katie David, Clare Flynn, Darcy Bondurant, Antonia Carpenter, Kim Sussman, Hilary Mahan, Jenne Fratello, Andrea Barker, Tania Heise, Kristen Borland, Kate Meeker, Loren Kosmont, Peter Barbara, John Dargan, Mandy Gregory and Lynn Stone.

Also Present: Dr. Brett Geithman (MBUSD), Dr. Karen Kennedy (UCLA Center X), and Nancy Doyle

Income:

	<u>Budgeted</u>	<u>Actual</u>
Parent Party & Auction	\$88,000	\$134,736
Membership & Donation	\$68,500	\$74,021
Scrip	\$20,000	\$3,000
Family Fun Run	\$14,50	\$TBD
Book Fair	\$3,200	\$3,692
Community & Bus. Partners (Target/Village/Box Top)	\$1,750	\$4,126
Fifth Grade Fundraisers (gear, ice treats, student store)	\$1,400	\$2,481
Hometown Fair	\$2,200	\$3,699
TOTAL INCOME	<u>\$199,700</u>	<u>\$225,755</u>

Expenses:

The PTSA budget is based on what we earn ever year. Towards the end of the school year, we will incur additional expenses; however, those are all already built into the budget. Typical expenses include costs for Robinson enrichment programs (i.e., cultural arts), student supplies, professional development, and technology.

	<u>Budgeted</u>	<u>Actual YTD</u>
<i>Programs</i>	<i>\$185,825</i>	<i>\$84,026</i>
Curriculum	\$9,250	\$8,225
Enrichment	\$34,055	\$9,262
Facilities	\$4,200	\$250
Grants	\$1,500	\$200
Parents	\$4,500	\$1,826
Professional Development	\$9,500	\$1,364
Students	\$35,270	\$22,989
Supplies	\$60,250	\$28,515
Teachers	\$4,800	\$832
Technology	\$22,500	\$9,518

Prior Year Expense	\$ 0	\$1,045
PTSA Administration	\$10,475	\$6,256
Community Outreach	\$3,300	\$2,200
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 199,600	\$92,482

(before Cap. Improvements)

Every year the PTSA is very conservative with our expenses. This year, we have outlined the following expenses that fall within Capital Improvements:

	<u>Budgeted</u>	<u>Actual YTD</u>
Digital Citizenship	\$3,000	\$0
Technology	\$40,000	\$0
Media Center		
Teacher Technology		
Supplemental Grades		
4 th Grade MacBooks (1:1 ratio)	\$19,000	\$19,434
Misc. (fence, health office)	\$5,000	\$633
	\$67,000	\$20,067

TOTAL BUDGETED CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS \$67,000

2014/2015 Budget Recap

Cash on Hand Beg of Year	\$194,237
Budgeted Income	\$199,700
Budgeted Expenses	<u>(\$199,600)</u>
Net Cash Flow	\$100
Budgeted Capital Improvements	<u>(\$ 67,000)</u>
Budgeted Use of Cash	(\$266,600)

Secretary: Jennifer Fenton

Requested a motion to approve the minutes from the PTSA General Session Meeting on September 17, 2014. Sue Freund motioned to approve the minutes. Tenley Prince seconded the motion. No oppositions. Motion approved.

PTSA Nominating Committee: Sue Freund (Parliamentarian)

There are 4 positions to fill for the 2015-2017 PTSA term, including Co-Presidents (2 individuals needed); VP of Volunteers (1 individual needed); VP of Fundraising (1-2 individuals needed); and Parliamentarian (1 individual needed). Over the next month, the nominating committee will meet and vote on potential candidates who best fit the aforementioned positions. Nancy Lemm (children in Kindergarten and 3rd grade) will act as chairperson of the committee. Other committee members include: Stacie Joseph (child in 4th grade); Kristy Kallis (children in 1st and 3rd grade); Lauren Kosmont (child in 1st grade); Michelle Rappaport (children in Kindergarten and 2nd grade); and Laurie Eddleston (children in 1st and 3rd grade) who will act as alternate.

Requested a motion to approve committee as proposed. Stacy Myrose motioned to approve the committee as proposed. Neeraj Rotondo seconded the motion. No oppositions. Motion approved.

Membership Vote:

PTSA would like to purchase 13 iPads Air2s to replace our current teacher iPads2s. Additionally, the District has approved portable technology. Accordingly we are looking to purchase 30 iPad Air2s for the Media Center, as well as cases, storage centers, keyboards and headphones. The total cost for this technology upgrade is \$31,000. Note, at this time we are not replacing the iPad 2's in our student hands; however the teacher iPads 2's that are being replaced will be given to Kindergarten and 1st grade classes who currently do not have devices in their classrooms.

Requested a motion to approve the purchase of 43 iPad Air2s for our technology upgrade for teachers and media center. Peter Barbara motioned to approve the technology purchase as proposed. Hilary Mahan seconded the motion. No opposition. Motion approved.

Support MBEF: Hilary Mahan (MBEF Liaison)

The MBEF Annual Appeal ends on February 13th. MBEF has directly helped Robinson with our library, our P.E. Teacher, Reading Specialist, and technology. MBEF is looking to grow the district beyond status quo and create cutting edge schools. As of today, 80% of Robinson families have pledged or contributed to the annual appeal.

15th Annual Family Fun Run: Andrea Barker and Geraldine Pepemehmetoglu (Fun Run Chairs) Robinson's Annual 5k Family Fun Run, for all Riptides, alumni, and neighbors, will take place on Saturday, March 28th. Our t-shirt design contest ends on January 30th and the winner will be announced at the Spirit Assembly on Friday, February 6th. Registration will open soon and will be done through RaceWire.com again. Currently we are looking for sponsors and volunteers for the event.

Got Math? An Update on Common Core Mathematics: Dr. Geithman and Dr. Kennedy

In a partnership with UCLA, we are looking at what is best for our children based on research from the last three decades. There are three shifts in mathematics: (1) Large focus on the standards – teachers have to cover a vast amount of material but cannot give the time or depth to cover the required information. In this situation, Common Core has condensed what is taught during a given academic year; (2) Coherence – linking major topics within appropriate grade and material presented. This refers to teaching concepts to our children that are interrelated; and (3) Rigor - requires conceptual understanding, fluency and application. With this focus, there is a greater emphasis on fluency, concept and a student's deeper understanding of mathematics, not just the memorization of math. With respect to fluency, there are three elements: (a) Efficiency – students are solving a problem in a reasonable number of steps; (b) Accuracy – the process by which to get a student to the correct answer with the relevant steps; and (c) Flexibility – how students solve a problem and know multiple ways to answer mathematical questions as well as ways to explain problem solving techniques.

With respect to MBUSD, there has been a lot of focus on the math program in both middle and high school with data collected from one-on-one conversations and classrooms observations. To ensure that MBUSD is properly integrating Common Core in the curriculum, UCLA will continue to visit individual classrooms in order to see these changes in practice. During the 2014-15 School Year, MBUSD has 120 days of support from UCLA's Center X. Additionally, there will be 2 workshops dedicated for our teachers at the elementary school level.

In the lower grades, the philosophy of providing a balanced mathematics approached its referred to as cognitively guided instruction, whereby a 3-year math plan will be put into place with workshops,

coaches, teacher leaders, teacher collaboration, and curriculum mapping. At the middle and high school level, common core is being integrated more rapidly with teaching practices aligning directly with what research shows is best for students and Saxon being used as a resource to teach these new principles. But, with any change leadership is key. Accordingly, administrators and teachers are going through proper training so they too can become leaders on the subject. At Robinson alone, we currently have 4 teachers (in grades 2nd – 5th) who sit on a math committee and will all become leaders on the subject.

What can parents do? Parents can ask your kids questions instead of giving them the answer or doing the problem for them. Find out the student's thought process behind their answer. Additionally attend upcoming parent workshops, which will start in the spring, that focus on Common Core. And if your child is stuck on a math problem, help them make sense of the issue by asking questions. Ask "why?"

Meeting adjourned at 10:48 am.