

What's the Latest... ...With the PTSA?

April 2012



Every month, the PTSA Executive Board meets to discuss Robinson business, programs and events. The following is a brief recap of the highlights from our Executive PTSA meeting on 4/11 with current updates.

Capital Improvements

- **Communications – TUESDAY TIDE:** A new bulletin format was released after spring break which allows parents to easily view content from web browsers or phones, without attachments. To receive the *TUESDAY TIDE* weekly, please visit www.robinsonelementary.org and use the "Join Our Mailing List" link on the homepage.
- **School Storage/Sheds:** The new PTSA shed was installed on the 1st grade playground over spring break. Contents are being transferred and reorganized from the old shed. The next project phase will look at creating better storage for the cafeteria materials. Storage for kinder playground equipment is currently being evaluated.
- **Tables:** New tables for the kinder playground have been ordered and will arrive soon.
- **Campus Fencing:** Currently reviewing plans to install more fencing around the campus perimeter. Proposed design of the fencing has a more friendlier, decorative feel rather than a traditional wire fence.
- **Sound Systems in Classrooms:** Classroom sound systems that include teacher microphones are being tested and upgraded.
- **Termite and Drain Projects:** Termite/Drainage concerns will be dealt with during the summer months by the district staff.

Fundraising

- **Family Fun Run:** Final figures indicate that we raised \$13,900 at the event, that brought over 250 participants despite the rain.
- **Tile Wall:** New tiles will soon be installed in the main walkway as well as a new border around our existing tile wall.
- **SCRIP:** March report - EScript - \$824.17. Gross profit - \$1528. Two Guns Espresso was added as a vendor, \$10 / 15% discount.
- **Parent Party -** This fundraising event will move up to late September this year. Still in need of chairs for the event and auction.

Staff Appreciation Week

- **SA Schedule:** April 30th – May 4th is Staff Appreciation Week. Staff will enjoy a week full of surprises from parents and students. Room Parents will distribute the week's plans and will solicit for volunteers for specific jobs.

Parent Education

- **Internet Safety/Social Media Speaker:** On May 2nd at 8:30am in our cafeteria, Tom Hughes will speak at the PTSA General Session regarding Internet Safety for our students and share other helpful information about dealing with social media issues.
- **Principal Coffees:** The grade level coffees are underway. All have gone well and have been well attended. Teachers were present and spoke with a questions/answer period. Remaining coffee dates are listed in the *Tuesday Tide*.

Legislation

- **Sacramento Safari:** In March, 10 people from MBUSD attended the Safari with 3 from Robinson. Main focus of agenda was the Molly Munger ballot initiative relating to school finance. Next advocacy trip, 4/18, a team of 10 (5 experienced; 5 new) will go up early morning and return in the evening. New people will be trained on how to advocate in 1:1 meetings with legislators.
- **Munger and Governor's ballot initiatives:** PTSA needs to gather signatures in support of the Munger initiative if for no other reason than to demonstrate enough support to force a serious conversation related to education finance in Sacramento. If neither the Governor's nor Munger's initiatives pass, there will be significant impact to MBUSD come 2013-14 school year. MBUSD is only stable next school year because of our School Board's foresight and the support of MBEF, MBUTA, and parents. We are also spending some savings. A one-page, quick compare sheet about the difference between the two initiatives as summarized by the Advocacy Team can be found at www.RobinsonElementary.org.

Special Programs

- **I am a Scientist Day:** On May 25th, Robinson will hold the annual "I am a Scientist Day". Special guests and grade specific breakout sessions have been planned. See the *Tuesday Tide* for more information on volunteer opportunities.
- **Physical Education:** Thanks to the Turkey Trot funds, all classes participated in a volleyball clinic conducted by Prime Athletes, which reviewed the basics and allowed time for students to practice their volleyball skills. New volleyballs are now available to all students during recess and a new volleyball court will be installed shortly on the field. Next up? Yoga! If you are interested in coordinating our supplemental P.E. programs, please contact Jen McMillian, VP Volunteers, at jenmcmillan@yahoo.com.

Volunteers

- **2012-2013 Executive Board Slate:** The nominating committee has finalized the proposed slate of Executive Board members for the next school year. All incoming Board members will be voted in at the 5/2 General PTSA Meeting at 8:30am in the cafeteria.

Reach Out

If you have an idea, question or need additional information, please contact our CO-PTSA Presidents:

Ann Marie Johnson
annmarie100@mac.com / 310-283-9927

Hilary Mahan
hilarymahan@me.com / 310-200-7610