

Robinson Elementary School General Session Meeting Minutes September 24, 2015 (8:30 am)

Present: Stacy Myrose, Jen Fenton, Monique Bottene, Katie Brodtkin, Chickie Leonard, Jim Leonard, Natasha Rakota, Nicole Dodson, Kristen Borland, Erin Barbara, Jen Berlinger, Julie Sinai, Valerie Lemmon, Sarah Khorey, Tina Testa, Clare Flynn, Andrea Hynes, Nicole Tang, Hilary Mahan, Lauren Schwake, Amy Phan, Jeanne Fratello, Katie Geller, Christy Phillips, Stephanie Kou, Karyn Horaz, Katie David, Dora Seiffer, Neeraj Rotondo, Sumei Yee, Eric Kjellberg, Susan Purdy.

Also Present: Nancy Doyle, Dr. Mike Matthews, Dr. Brett Geithman, Ellen Rosenberg, Jennifer Cochran, Farnaz Flechner, Hava Manasse.

Secretary: Katie Brodtkin

Requested a motion to approve minutes from the General Session Meeting on April 15, 2015. Clare Flynn motioned to approve the minutes. Neeraj Rotondo seconded the motion. No opposition. Motion passed.

MBEF: Farnaz Flechner

MBEF believes in funding programs throughout the district to make all schools equitable. MBEF provides approximately \$6 million to our district, making up 9% of our school budget. 73% of those donations come from parents. With these donations, MBEF supports many programs that would otherwise not be possible: smaller class sizes, library services, PE teachers, reading specialists, full time science teachers and much more. Our teachers benefit from professional development, and MindUp is being implemented in our elementary schools. Every student benefits from MBEF so all families should donate to MBEF.

Principal Update: Nancy Doyle

Curriculum Changes: All of our teachers have a positive outlook regarding the new curriculum changes and are working to meet the needs of all students with the full implementation of reading, writing and math in Common Core. We currently do not have textbooks in math, but our teachers have been working on scope and sequence for each grade level. We are also implementing CGI this year, which delves into a deeper understanding of what math means. Additionally, this year we have moved from trimesters to semesters.

State Testing and Student Assessment Scores: This is the first time our students took the exam with chrome books. Robinson students tested strong in math in 4th and 5th grade.

HUB: Our goal in the HUB is to combine literacy, technology, makers space and science. We currently have a cart of 30 iPads for students to use in the HUB, as well as 3D printer.

Campus Safety: It is important for everyone to obey all traffic laws when dropping off/picking up your child at school. Dogs, skateboards and scooters are NOT allowed on campus at anytime. Additionally, volunteers must check in at the office when visiting/working at our school.

New Staff: We have two new teachers at Robinson this year - Christine Jewett is our new 5th grade teacher. She comes from Connecticut with 5 years of experience. Emily Brown is our new 3rd grade teacher. She comes to us from Malibu with 5 years of experience.

Assemblies: Thank you Wendy Finster and our incredible Spirit Committee for a wonderful America’s Assembly on September 11th! We are looking to simplify our assemblies this year and will be focus on specific character traits such as gratitude, kindness, and courage. The first assembly, on October 16th will focus on gratitude.

Presidents: Jen Fenton and Stacy Myrose

2015-2016 Goals

1. Cultivate a warm, inviting and productive community for families and faculty to support one another in fostering scholarship, citizenship and character in young people.
2. Develop grateful, compassionate, visionary and courageous students.
3. Encouraging innovation, exploration, curious and collaborative discovery in learning.
4. Maintain a sound budget that ensures our classrooms have the tools and programs to be safe, inspiring, and vibrant places for learning.

Budget:

2015-16 Budgeted Income:

	Budgeted
Parent Party & Auction	\$95,250
Membership & Donation	\$61,300
Scrip	\$15,000
Family Fun Run	\$19,000
Book Fair	\$2,700
Community & Business Partners (Target/Village/Box Top)	\$3,000
Fifth Grade Fundraisers (gear, ice treats, student store)	\$2,500
Hometown Fair	\$2,200
Tile Wall	\$10,000

TOTAL INCOME:	\$210,950
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2015-16 Budgeted Expenses:

	Budgeted
Programs	\$196,700
Curriculum	\$11,500
Enrichment	\$32,700
Facilities	\$2,950
Grants	\$1,500
Parents	\$6,000
Professional Development	\$6,000
Students	\$44,850
Supplies	\$59,100
Teachers	\$5,300
Technology	\$26,800
PTSA Administration	\$10,850
Community Outreach	\$3,300
TOTAL EXPENSES: (before Cap Imp)	\$210,850

2015-2016 Proposed Capital Improvements:

Technology	\$60,000
Digital Citizenship	
HUB / STEAM Room	
Student technology	
Teacher technology	
Supplemental grades	
Campus Improvements	\$20,000
Miscellaneous	\$8,000
TOTAL PROPOSED CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS:	\$88,000

2015/16 Budget Recap:

Income	\$210,950
Expenses	(\$210,850)
Net Cash Flow	\$100
Budgeted Capital Improvements	(88,000)
Budgeted Use of Cash	(298,850)
Cash on Hand (Beg of Year)	\$236,508
Cash on Hand (End of Year)	\$148,608

Jen Berlinger moved to approve the 2015/2016 Budget. Andrea Hynes seconded the motion. No oppositions. Motion passed.

Treasurer: Kristen Borland

Robinson's PTSA books were reviewed by Kimberly M. Berry, a Certified Public Accountant, for the period of March 1, 2015 – June 30, 2015. After careful scrutiny of cash disbursements, Ms. Berry found that our ledgers are well organized and maintained. There is also sufficient documentation to support the various financial transactions reported by our PTSA. Kristen requested a motion to approve the audit. Tenley Prince moved to approve the Audit as read. Andrea Hynes seconded the motion. No oppositions. Motion passed.

Parliamentarian: Monique Bottene

We have modified our bylaws as follows: Board Positions were reduced from 9 VP's to 6, and PTSA dues will increase from \$10 to \$20. These changes were already approved by the CA PTA Board. Requested a motion to adopt the new bylaws. Kristen Borland motioned to adopt the newly approved bylaws. Andrea Barker seconded the motion. No opposition. Motion passed.

Membership: Julie Sinai and Kelly Ho

We are currently in the middle of our Blue Ribbon Riptide Campaign. Our goal is 100% participation and every family who participates will receive a Robinson license plate frame. Please support our school by committing to volunteer in the classroom, join the PTSA and donate to MBEF. Families who complete the form by September 25th will be entered into a raffle for an Apple watch. The deadline to become a Blue Ribbon Riptide and receive a license plate frame is October 23rd.

Fundraising: Tenley Prince

Our Parent Party will be held on October 10th at 6:30 pm at the McGovern Home. Ticket sales began on September 10th. This is our school's largest fundraiser and we are looking forward to another fabulous event! Our theme for this year is Glitz, Glamour, Gatsby.

Scrip: Valerie Lemmon

A percentage of what you buy at our school and spend in stores goes directly back to Robinson. We brought in over \$20,000 last year from Scrip. There are several ways to participate: place a Monthly Standing Order (MSO), purchase E-Scrip, and select Robinson as your charity at Amazon Smile.

MBUSD: Dr. Mike Matthews and Dr. Brett Geithman

The district is fully immersed in Common Core and we are in the 2nd year of Reading Workshop, where teachers determine individual student needs and reading levels. This is the first year we are implementing CGI (Cognitively Guided Instruction), which allows teachers to delve deeper into the student's understanding of all mathematic concepts. CGI supports all students at the level they are at with the

ultimate goal of creating a solid understanding of math and increasing state testing scores.

Report Cards:

The report cards will be based on new Common Core standards, focusing on learning not earning. We want to evaluate whether the students truly know the subject matter. Grades K-3 will keep the traditional rubric of 1-4, while grades 4-5 will no longer receive alphabetical grades, but instead numerical grades 1-4. There have been some issues raised by parents on the new report cards, and the district has realized that it needs more parent input.

Meeting Adjourned: 10:25