**PTSO Meeting Minutes, February 12, 2020**

President’s Report

* Thank you letters from scholarship/fund recipients
* Kids nomination on WTOP for The Best School
  + Designated individual will nominate Robinson

Principal’s Report

* School board getting on-board; learning their roles and getting to know the processes
* Computer setup for SOL testing in progress
* Bell schedule remains the same during SOL testing schedule
* Some final exams’ schedule will change
  + Seniors take exam 5/29-6/3
* Transition activities for rising 7th and 9th graders to reduce anxiety about coming to a secondary school (big school) for middle school years
* Planning end-of-the-year event for all students
* Adding more options to service hours for students
* School security
  + Will put more cameras where there is no coverage including the girls’ locker room
* Staffing-planning to hire more staff to replace people retiring
* Students course selections will begin soon
* Changes in rising 9th graders’ course selection
  + Will have option to take World History I (can go in IB diploma track) courses first year and can take World History II second year (can follow regular diploma track)

Upcoming Events

* Julie Miner-cancelled
* Possible new or different events suggested
  + William Stixrud, author of *The Self-Driven Child: The Science and Sense of Giving Your Kids More Control Over Their Lives*
  + College and career guest speaker
  + Teach college application essay writing
* Rising 7th grade parents’ meeting tea (students from three feeder schools)
* Information sessions about Robinson activities, clubs, and organizations for incoming parents
  + Possibly before school starts
  + Explain the difference between the PTSO groups (Academic Booster, Athletic Booster, Band, Drama, and others)
* Teacher Appreciation-5/7/20
  + Give teachers drinks and dessert
* Need snacks for SOL days (March and May)
* Mock SAT (3/28) with Jen of Prep with Jen
  + Can do info session for students to explain purpose of PSAT (practice for freshman and sophomore year; Junior year in October is the real SAT)

Fundraising

* Shapes Salon and Day Spa (703-250-0000)
  + 5622-KOx Road, Fairfax Station (near Gold’s Gym)
  + January to March 1st, 2020
  + 20% of all services and purchases will be given back to Robinson
* Spirit Week at Chick-fil-A
  + Burke Centre location only
  + 5815 Burke Centre Parkway, Burke, VA 22015 (703-250-7000) OR at [www.cfaburke.com](http://www.cfaburke.com) OR [www.facebook.com/cfaburke](http://www.facebook.com/cfaburke)
  + March 2nd to March 6th, 6 a.m. to 10 p.m.
  + Mention Robinson Secondary PTSO’s Spirit Week and a percentage of the sales will be donated to Robinson
* Box Tops for Education 
  + Use the new Box Tops app to scan your receipt and add cash to Robinson’s online account
  + You can also clip the label on the box tops and drop them off in the main office at Robinson
* Amazon Smile <https://smile.amazon.com/gp/aw/ch/select?ie=UTF8&orig=Lw%3D%3D>
* Register and choose “Robinson Secondary School Parent Teacher Student Organization” as the charitable organization to receive your donation.
* Shop and Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to Robinson

Budget Items

* Make VAStar a budget line item instead of them requesting funding every year
  + Currently applies for and receives $500 from PTSO every year
  + Company collects used computers and refurbish
  + Robinson students repair the computers
  + Computers are donated to members of Robinson community who cannot afford to purchase personal computers for home use

PTSO Board positions open-need nominations by March; voting is in April

* President
* Second Vice President-Programs
* Secretary

Committee members needed

* Marketplace
* Nominating (short term, 2/2020 to 3/2020)-evaluate volunteers in February 2020 and nominate individuals to the Board in March 2020

RAMping UP (orientation)

* Orientation camp for rising 7th grade students
* Middle school counselors and teachers talk about Robinson curriculum, goal setting, block schedule, and technology resources.
* Rising 7th grade students get learn and practice on self-advocacy skills, using agenda planner, navigating the building and lockers, collaborative and team-building skills.
* Registration opens in late March or early April.
* Inform friends and neighbors to check school website regularly

Scholarships

* Five scholarships available for graduating seniors pursuing post-secondary education at vocational, two-year colleges, four-year colleges, and other educational institutions.
  + Academic scholarship for Academic Excellence ($1,000)
  + Academic scholarship for Academic Improvement ($1,000)
  + Delta ($2,000)
  + Friends of Robinson (3,000
  + The Pamela Hickenbotham Memorial Scholarships ($1,500)
* May award more than one scholarship per category
* Applications due on March 31st
* Posted on the website <https://robinsonptso.membershiptoolkit.com/Scholarships>
* Information provided to Eileen Doyle for posting on Naviance Student and emailing to students