**Robinson Secondary School PTSO General Meeting**

**Wednesday, January 13, 2021**

**Attendees:** Meeting was held virtually via Zoom. There were 25 participants.

**Meeting Called to order:** 7:01 pm

A motion was made and seconded to approve the December minutes.

**December minutes were approved.**

**PTSO President Report:** Susanne Oshry

Ms. Oshry welcomed everyone to the meeting.

There are two board positions for the 2021-2022 school year- VP Administration & Treasurer we have volunteers, but a nominating committee is needed to finalize the nominations.

Ms. Oshry attended the last meeting with Laura Jane Cohen, the school board representative. FCPS now has six electric buses. Ms. Oshry noticed that Robinson’s virtual PTSO meetings are well attended when compared to other schools and she is thankful for all of the participants tonight.

**Spanish Speaking meeting update:**

On December 14th, there was a Spanish speaking introductory meeting interpreted by Ruth Azimi. The feed-back from participants was good.

Some ideas that came from the meeting:

-Have an interpreter at the PTSO meetings

-Can the PTSO sponsor ESOL for parents? ( Literacy Council of NOVA)

-Start a “Getting to know Robinson” program like the Getting to know FCPS program run by the central office which is offered in Korean, Arabic, Spanish, and Urdu.

-Suggested a New Parents on the Block program

- Suggested a new parents video in various languages for families new to Robinson

**Patrick McGuire’s Passing:**

People would like to make donations in his name. How do we do this? The family decided that the donations go into the Dude Be Nice Scholarship in his name. There is a donation button on the PTSO page for donations. The link to donate is:

<https://robinsonptso.membershiptoolkit.com/form/m/14178>

For all donations please add a note that it is in Mr. McGuire’s memory.

**Administration Report:** Principal Tracey Phillips

Our goal at this point is to be flexible because of all the constant changes on guidelines there have been changes even as late as today. During the last high school principals’ meeting there were no updates about going back to in person school. Currently all in person groups of students are on pause. This includes groups 1-5 that were previously attending in person. A school board meeting is scheduled for February 2nd. The principals are advocating to bring back small groups of students that need extra help. Robinson is receiving 5-6 requests per day to change their request from in-person to all virtual. These requests will be honored, but at this time students who originally requested all virtual instruction cannot request to change to in-person. The logistics of classroom set ups are too difficult to accommodate the changes. Dr. Brabrand was asked if he knew if school would be in-person next year and he stated that he did not know. As of now there are no answers or updates for AP/IB testing.

**Vaccine Update:** Virginia is now vaccinating group 1B which included educators. Teachers can register to get the vaccine, but will not be mandated to do so. It will be the Pfizer vaccine.

**Building Update:** Classroom seating is 6 feet apart. Students will have assigned seats and will have to sign in and out of each class. Lockers will not be used this year. The cafeteria does not have tables but desks, all facing the same way, and students will have assigned seating. Desk assignments are necessary to facilitate contract tracing when/if needed. We are trying to match the number of students who want in-person instruction with the allowed number of students in each class at one time. Teachers came in this past Monday to view the classrooms and get a feel of how things will be set up. There are hand sanitizer stations throughout the school. Students will need to bring a refillable water bottle to school which they can fill at water fountains. The approved sanitizing solution is Virax and requires special precautions when using. Classroom desks with not be sanitized between students, but cafeteria desks will be. **We are asking the community for donations of sanitizing wipes which can be dropped off at entrance one during school hours.**

**Staffing Update:** There are 23 teachers with ADA requests and will not return to in-person teaching. Eighteen room monitors have been hired and will start at the end of January regardless if students return. Robinson is providing tech training to the teachers to help them navigate during this new norm of virtual teaching.

**School safety:** In regards to the protests on the Capitol on January 6th, there have not been any threats to Robinson. Our resource officers are currently working the field since there are no students in the building. There have been no talks as of now on how school safety will look like when students return. At this time we are not sure how extracurricular activities will work Ms. Phillips would like to give a shout out to Mary Aunon, the Middle School After School Specialist for working on clubs with middle school students.

**Dean of Students Report:** Francesca Knight

No report.

**Food Pantry Update:**

No report.

**Treasurer ‘s Report:** Michelle Glicklin

In the beginning, I was very worried about the budget because Marketplace ,which was our biggest money maker, did not happen this year. Not including the last 3 restaurant fundraisers, we are on track to end the year with $17,000. Fundraising has been good and the community support has been great.

**VP of Administration Report**: Jim Witkop

We have new volunteers for the following:

-Grocery related fundraising- Karen Williams

-Google Workspace- Rawa Jassem

-Directory- Shana Cooksey

-Website (helping with content, sales, and forms) Libby York

-Also thanks to Anna Nosek and Rick Lyman.

**Membership report:**

Current membership is at 220 including faculty members.

**Webmaster** : Jim Witkop

Newsletters are currently in English only and we are not able to change languages at this time due to a bug in the programming. Currently working correcting this.

**Note from Ann Wong:** Items can be submitted to Language Services with advance notice to be translated, but there have been timing issues getting things translated quickly.

**Second VP Report:** LeShawn Brown

**Equity Update:** Would like to have Ms. Knight talk at one of our PTSO meetings so all members are on the same page when asked about what our goals and initiatives are. Will set up meeting by March 2021.

**Secretary Report:** JoEllen Windsor

No report.

**Scholarship Program:** Nicole Ferguson and Shelley Smith

There is no more money for academic scholarships. Delta and Friends, scholarships are $1,000 each. The Higgenbothem scholarship is $2,000 ( Mr. Higgenbothem donated and extra $1,000 this year. The email has been changed so Ms. Ferguson and Ms. Smith can access the information for the scholarships.

**SAT Prep with Jen:** Jen Lu

Being able to do the practice SAT’s all on like has worked out much better approximately 40 students have sat for virtual tests. We are getting good feed-back and the program will continue. The Next SAT Prep is in March. Jen has offered help to anyone who wants to take the course but needs financial help.

**Restaurant Coordinators**: Denise Walker and Shaunda Trimmer

Coal Fire restaurant night earnings were $261.28. Chipotle restaurant earned $332.03, but the check was not properly addressed to PTSO and are currently working on getting this resolved. Velocity Wings fundraiser was last night and will be 10% of all sales done during fundraising times. The next restaurant night will be with Villa Bella specifics to some out soon.

**Communications Coordinator**:

**Fundraising Update:** Jim Witkop

Karen Williams will be taking over grocery related fundraising.

**Special Education Liaison Update:** Joanne Walton

No Report

**President’s Volunteer Service Award**: Barb Caley, Social Studies Chair

No Report

**New Business:**

**Student Business:**

Ms. Oshry received an e-mail from a student who has a student business “Stickers Speak” which promotes mental awareness. We need more information before we can promote the business. Ms. Brown will follow up with the student.

**The Peoples’ Choice Awards:**

These are done at the end of May, we need nominations by April early May timeframe.

**Custodian Appreciation**

Custodian Appreciation day is Oct 2nd, but we would like to thank them now for their hard work, ideas are welcome. There are currently 26 custodians at Robinson.

**Old Business:**

**Virtual activities for Students:**

No further discussion this meeting.

We need ideas please sent to the PTSO president at [president@robinsonptso.org](mailto:president@robinsonptso.org)

Please note that no in person events can be held on Robinson School grounds.

**ANGP update:** No update

What will it look like this year? Plans are proceeding cautiously on this more information to come.

**Future ideas for restaurant night:**

Jersey Mike’s at Burke Center Parkway and has offered 15% back on sales from 10am to 9pm.

Suggestions for restaurant nights at Chole’s Café.

**Social Media presentation:**

Can Robinson put on a presentation along the lines of the Netflix documentary “The Social Dilemma”. – Needs further discussion, ideas are welcomed.

*Not discussed at this meeting.*

**Next meeting scheduled for Wednesday, February 10, 2021 at 7:00 pm via Zoom.** A link will be sent out to members prior to the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:32 pm.

Submitted by,

JoEllen Windsor

PTSO Secretary