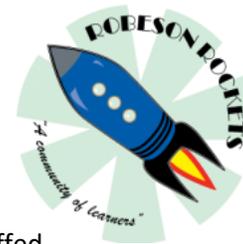


# ROBESON ROCKET

April 2017



## PTA NEWS

### **PTA Volunteer of the Year**

Congratulations to Jonathan Thomas-Stagg (Dr. J) who was named the Illinois PTA's Outstanding Volunteer of the Year! Dr. J started the Really Big Numbers Club at Robeson last year. Thanks to Dr. J's dedication and willingness to share his experience and knowledge, Robeson students have been able to experience the amazing world of math and science through this club. Awesome job, Dr. J – thank you!

### **Donations for Fall Fest**

Families doing their "Spring Cleaning," please keep in mind that it is not too early to set aside items for Robeson's Fall Fest. We will need books (all ages) for the book walk, and

prizes for the games, such as stuffed animals, toys from fast food kids' meals, and other small toys. If you come across some items you would like to donate, Traci Schurvinske would be happy to store them until Fall Fest. Thank you!

### **PTA Meeting**

The next PTA meeting will be on **Tuesday, April 18 at 6pm**. This month's focus will be: "Literacy: the latest books & ways to make reading fun." The PTA will also vote on whether to change the bylaws to lengthen the terms of the board positions. As always, pizza and babysitting is provided, so please plan to join us!

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## SCHOOL NEWS

### **Teacher of the Month**

Mr. McGinty won the Teacher of the Month Award for March in the Mix 94.5 contest! Mr. McGinty got a surprise visit from Tim and Sarah, from the station, who presented him with the award! Mr. McGinty was nominated by a Robeson family for his advocacy and commitment on their student's behalf and was selected from what Tim described as hundreds of nominations from across the Mix's listening area. Please join us in congratulating Mr. McGinty!

### **Staff Update**

Please join us in welcoming our newest staff member, Tanaka Knox, who will serve as Office Manager. Getting to know Mrs. Knox:

*Hi! My name is Tanaka Knox and I am happy to be the new office manager here at Robeson. I have worked for CU4SD in the student records department for the past 4 years, and I have 10 years of clerical experience.*

*A little bit about myself; I am a life-long native of Champaign-Urbana, I have 3 biological children, 3 stepchildren and 2 grandchildren. I have been married to an amazing man for 16 years and we've been together for 21 years. In my past time I enjoy going to the movies/watching documentaries, baking, gardening (sometimes) and spending time with my family.*

*I am extremely excited and looking forward to working with the Robeson staff, students and families.*

### **Note from Principal Gaines**

Please remember that Robeson does not open until 7:30am. Any students that arrive by car or walking prior to

7:30 will not be allowed into the building and will not have supervision. Remember that the circle drive in front of the school is reserved for buses and should not be used for student drop off.

### **Spring Enrollment**

Enrollment for the 2017-2018 school year will be on Wednesday, May 10, from 3:30 to 7pm. Kindergarten screenings will be held that evening at 5 and 6pm. If you attend the 6 pm screening, you should arrive early to allow enough time to enroll your student beforehand. All students, new and returning, must be enrolled before the upcoming school year. Although there will be another enrollment day in August, we strongly encourage ALL families to enroll in May. Please note that there will be no kindergarten screenings in August.

### **PARCC Testing**

Beginning the second week of April, all third, fourth, and fifth grade students will take the annual PARCC assessment. Identical to last year, the assessment includes three sections of English Language Arts (ELA) and four sections of Math. Each section is between 60 and 90 minutes in length. This year, all testing grades will take the assessment on Chromebooks.

At Robeson we try and limit, as much as possible, the amount of instruction lost due to these required tests, while still providing students with an environment that allows them to do their best. Depending on the grade level, student testing will occur over four or five days.

As with every day of school, it is important students are well rested and have a healthy breakfast to do their best. It is also important that students are on time and absences are avoided during testing days. The testing schedule is:

**3<sup>rd</sup> Grade:** ELA at 8:15 and Math at 10:30 on April 10, 11, and 12; the 4<sup>th</sup> Math section at 8:15 (Leman/Hoskins) and 9:45 (Bost) on April 13.

**4<sup>th</sup> Grade:** ELA at 8:15 on April 25, 26, and 27; and Math at 8:15 & 11:30 on April 20 & 21.

**5<sup>th</sup> Grade:** ELA at 10 on April 18, 19, and 20; and Math at 9:05 & 10:20 on April 25 & 26.

If you have any questions about the test, please contact your child's teacher or Principal Gaines.

### Running Club

Get ready Robeson Road Runners - the Illinois 5K is almost here (April 21)! If you have not registered yet, please do so by **April 16** at: <http://illinoismarathon.com/races/5k/>

This year we have partnered with CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates for Children) to support their mission in helping kids. To learn more about CASA, please visit: <http://www.casa4kids.org/>. If you would like to donate, select "Donate" when you register and look for the Robeson Road Runners fundraising for CASA, or go to: <http://www.imathlete.com/donate/RobesonRoadrunners?z=1489503985655>

Information about the pasta dinner and t-shirts will be going home soon.

### Multicultural Night

**Robeson's Multicultural Night will be on Thursday, April 27 from 6 to 7:30pm.** Join us in celebrating the different cultures represented in our Robeson community! There is still time to get involved with this wonderful event. Families may set up tables displaying their country's background/culture, bring food made with a family recipe to share, and/or help plan, set up, and clean. Please return your sign-up sheets ASAP and no later than April 19. To sign up to help at the event, use the following link: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0845ADA928A7FE3-multicultural>. Please contact Mrs. Reger at [regerma@u4sd.org](mailto:regerma@u4sd.org) with any questions.

### Art Room Supplies

Mr. Wakefield needs lots of magazines for the students to cut out pictures for a fun art project. Also, if you have extra

pencils, markers, or other art supplies you can spare, they can be used by the students. Thank you!

### RBNC Spring Fling

The Really Big Numbers Club (RBNC) Spring Finale will be held on **May 18 from 4 to 7pm**. This event will be open to all Robeson children and families, regardless of whether they have participated in the club.

There will be several stations where families can observe or participate in RBNC demonstrations/experiments, including: sub-zero ice cream, giant soap bubbles, electrical circuits and static electricity, marshmallow catapults, magnetism, mathemagic tricks, and balloon rockets.

We could use lots of volunteers! If you would like to help, please consider one of three volunteer options:

- 1) Serve as an assistant to someone else who is running a station.
- 2) Volunteer to run a station. Professor J would send you some instructions about how the station works.
- 3) Contribute by donating snacks, drinks, or prize items.

If you are interested in helping with this event, please let Prof. J know ([drijtstagg@gmail.com](mailto:drijtstagg@gmail.com)) which of the volunteer options (1, 2, or 3) you would like to help with. Thank you!

### Drama Club Update – Schoolhouse Rock, Live!

The drama club students have been working very hard and are now entering "crunch time!" In the coming weeks, rehearsals will be more frequent and longer. This is an exciting time, and Mrs. Stine knows the students' commitment and dedication will pay off.

A school performance is scheduled for **Thursday, May 18 at 8:30am**. On **Friday, May 19**, there will be a "red carpet" event from 5 to 6pm (details coming soon) and **showtime at 6:30pm**.

To help with the costs of the show, the club is selling happy ads for their performance program. Families/supporters may buy ads (\$5 each) in the program congratulating their student on their hard work! If you wish to purchase an ad, please return the completed form (previously sent home) by **NO LATER** than April 12. If you know any businesses that would like to be in the program, please let Mrs. Stine know. Thank you for your support!

For details regarding the rehearsal schedule, suggestions for costumes, to donate, and/or if you have questions, please contact Mrs. Stine at 315-3884 or [stineta@u4sd.org](mailto:stineta@u4sd.org).

### UPCOMING DATES

- Apr 14 (Fri) – No School, Spring Holiday
- Apr 17 (Mon) – No School, Spring Holiday

- Apr 18 (Tue) – PTA Meeting, 6 pm
- Apr 27 (Thu) – Multicultural Night

Questions, comments, or contributions for future newsletters? Please contact Liliana at [lilianlon08@gmail.com](mailto:lilianlon08@gmail.com)