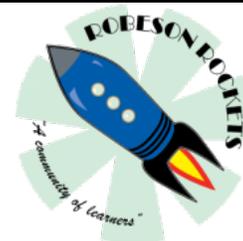


ROBESON ROCKET

August 2016



PTA NEWS

Welcome Back to School!

Greetings! The Robeson PTA welcomes you back to school. Our PTA brings together parents, staff, and students to collaborate, educate, and assist every child in social, emotional, and academic growth. We do this through our parent volunteers, funding of projects and school improvements, and informative monthly meetings.

If you haven't already, please join our **Friends of Robeson Facebook Page**. This is a closed group, so please submit a request to join, and we will add you.

PTA Meetings

We invite all teachers, parents, and staff to join us at our monthly meetings to share ideas, ask questions, or voice concerns.

PTA meetings are held on the third Tuesday of every month at 6 pm, except the first meeting, which will take place immediately after Open House on Sept 20th at 7 pm. You do not need to be a member of the PTA to attend meetings. **We provide free babysitting and pizza during meetings!**

Each meeting will have a special focus:

Sept 20 – 7 pm Board & committee introductions and Presentation of clubs

SCHOOL NEWS

Q&A with Principal Gaines

To start off the school year, we asked Principal Gaines a few questions about Robeson:

Last year, Robeson began Restorative Justice; how did it go, and what is in store for this year?

The 2015-2106 school year was definitely a learning year for Restorative Practices, and that will

- Oct 18 – 6 pm New playground presentation & fundraising goals
- Nov 15 – 6 pm Kindergarten Q & A and ST Math
- Jan 17 – 6 pm Parent/child art activity
- Feb 21 – 6 pm Making the most of Parent Teacher Conferences
- April 18 – 6 pm Literacy: the latest books & ways to make reading fun
- May 16 – 6 pm Jefferson Middle School guest speaker

Raise Money for Robeson While You Shop

A quick reminder that there are lots of easy ways to help raise money for our school while you shop:

- County Market Max card
- Schnucks "e-Script" card
- Coke Rewards
- Box Tops for Education

Fall-la-pa-loo-za

Sept 23rd, 5-8 pm

Fallapalooza is on Friday, Sept. 23rd from 5-8 pm! This is a fun evening with dinner, great games, treats, and an amazing silent auction and is the major annual fundraiser for our school. We will need donations for the cake walk, small toys, and books, plus lots of volunteers. Look for more information to come home with your kids.

continue this year. Like I communicated last year, Restorative Practices is not a "program" and therefore is not something we "implement." Instead, it is a shift in mindset and approach. This takes time, and we are definitely toward the leading edge in this work compared to other schools across the state and country. We will continue to support professional growth in this shift this year and beyond. Also, Mr. Pope and I will be implementing a practice known as restorative chats with students who receive discipline

referrals. On a related note, some of you may have heard about Senate Bill 100. The great news is that Unit 4's efforts with the ACTIONS alternative to suspension program and the student code of conduct, as well as Robeson's work in PBIS and restorative practices, put us in full compliance with this important state mandate.

What is PBIS?

PBIS stands for Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports. This is our approach to proactive, school-wide behavior based on a Response to Intervention (RtI) model that applies evidence-based programs, practices, and strategies for all students to increase academic performance, improve safety, decrease problem behavior, and establish a positive school culture.

Our PBIS efforts will continue to be community-focused, and include monthly kick-off assemblies.

What is the Robeson Peace Builder promise?

I am a Robeson student. I am a Peace Builder. I promise to be safe, be respectful, and be responsible. I promise to build peace at school, at home, and in my community each day.

After the pledge each morning, students recite the Robeson Peace Builder promise.

Does Robeson follow Common Core?

Yes, as with all public schools in Illinois, Robeson follows the Illinois Learning Standards, which are based on the Common Core State Standards (CCSS). These standards emphasize depth over breadth, and better prepare students to be college and career ready. It is important to understand that despite what you may read on social media, the Common Core standards do not prescribe how a teacher teaches, but they do focus on providing multiple strategies, as well as developing critical thinking skills.

(Editor's Note: Reading the actual standards are very interesting and can give you some insight into what your kids will be learning this year. You can read them at corestandards.org.)

Any other news for Robeson parents to know?

Robeson is excited to welcome several new team members this year. We are all committed to the core belief that all students can achieve at high levels, regardless of circumstances, and it is our job to make it happen. We do this through a commitment to equity and social justice. Our goals this year include student goal setting and increasing home communication.

Unit 4 is launching new websites for each of the elementary schools. These sites will be mobile-friendly, so they will display well on your phone or tablet. The Robeson site will include a calendar for our families, as another way of keeping them up to date on upcoming events and news.

2016-2017 DATES TO KNOW

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Aug 18-19, Thur-Fri – Boohoo Breakfast• Aug 26, Fri – No school• Sept 5, Mon – No school• Sept 20, Tues 6-7 pm – Open House• Sept 20, Tues 7-8 pm – PTA meeting• Sept 23, Fri 5-8 pm – Fallapalooza• Oct 3, Mon – No school• Oct 10, Mon – No school• Oct 18, Tue 6-7 pm – PTA meeting | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Oct 27-28, Thur-Fri – Parent Teacher Conferences, Book Fair, No School• Nov 11, Fri – No School• Nov 15, Tue 6-7 pm – PTA meeting• Nov 23-25, Wed-Fri – No School• Dec 20-21, Thur-Fri – Early Dismissal• Dec 22-Jan 4 – No School• Jan 16, Mon – No School• Jan 17, Tue 6-7 pm – PTA meeting• Feb 20, Mon – No School• Feb 21, Tue 6-7 pm – PTA meeting• March 9, Thur – Family Science Night | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• March 16-17, Thur-Fri – Parent Teacher Conferences, Book Fair, No School• March 20-24 – No school• April 14, Fri – No school• April 17, Mon – No school• April 18, Tue – PTA meeting• May 16, Tue – PTA meeting• May 24-25, Wed-Thur, Early dismissal• May 25, Thur – Tentative last day• May 30-June 5 – Snow days |
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