

# ROBESON ROCKET

December 2018



## PTA NEWS

### Hospitality Committee

The Hospitality Committee thinks Our Staff is the Sweetest and is organizing a hot chocolate and sweet treat station on **Wednesday, December 19** in the staff lounge. The PTA will provide the hot chocolate, and we are asking families to provide desserts. Please visit <https://robeson.memberhub.com/hubs/19587/signup/forms/14140/responses/875486/edit> to sign up.

### Playground Fundraising Committee

Our next Family Meal Out will be at Freddy's Frozen Custard & Steamburgs (420 W. Towncenter Blvd) on **Tuesday, December 11 from 4 to 8pm**. Dine-in, carry out, or hit the drive through for some burgers, fries, and custard, and 20% of the proceeds will go towards our new Robeson playground! Bring in the flyer that was sent home or mention to the cashier you are with Robeson Elementary School.

Thank you to everyone who participated in our October and November Family Meals out! Portillo's was a HUGE success, earning our school \$346! We also earned \$125 from Papa Murphy's. Your support of Robeson's playground renovations is greatly appreciated!

### Otis Spunkmeyer Fundraiser

Our cookie fundraiser was a success! We sold over \$34,000 in cookies, which translates into \$14,000 in profits for our school. We had 138 total sellers. The top seller was Natalie Summers with 89 items. The #2 seller was Melaya Ward with 69 items. The top selling class was

## SCHOOL NEWS

### Hour of Code

International Hour of Code week is from **December 3 to December 9**. Robeson students will be participating as they do each year, and there will be exciting activities all week. Every student will participate in one hour of coding throughout the week. Activities will include creating a dance party, coding "Angry Birds," and taking an "I conquered coding" selfie. In addition, Robeson is hosting an Hour of Code Family Coding Night on **Tuesday, December 18 from 6 to 7:30pm**. All K-5 students,

Ms. Baby's 1<sup>st</sup> grade, earning a pizza party in their classroom. Congratulations to our top sellers! Thank you to everyone who sold and/or bought cookies!

The limo ride to Jupiter's for qualifying students will be on **Tuesday, December 18** during the school day. A sign-up to chaperone for this event will be posted soon.

### PTA Meeting

The next PTA meeting will be on **Tuesday, December 18 from 6-7pm**. Please note that the meeting coincides with our Blood Drive, as well as Family Coding Night. We planned it this way in an effort to avoid having families come to the school for events on multiple days.

At the meeting, Principal Pitcher will discuss assessment, including an overview of the kinds of testing that the school administers and how teachers use the information to support our students. Mrs. Madden will review the upcoming music events, including the Opera for the Young event in January and the Arts and Culture Night in May, which is an evolved Multicultural Night we have had in the past that incorporates a wider focus on the arts.

The playground committee will also be presenting its Walk-A-Thon plans for the spring. We will hear updates from the Hospitality and Social Committees and some clubs, as well as proposed budget amendments.

As always, pizza and babysitting will be provided. There will be pizza and cookies available at 5:45pm for those Robeson students participating in the coding event. Parents who attend the meeting will have a chance to join their students for the final part of the coding event.

teachers, and family members are invited to attend this event to try out computer coding! Parents attending the PTA meeting that evening may join their students at 7pm.

### Winter Concerts

Kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> grade students will perform in a concert on **Thursday, December 13**. The concert for kindergarten will be at 6pm, and students should meet their teachers in their regular classrooms at 5:50. The 1<sup>st</sup> grade concert will follow at 6:30pm, and students should meet their teachers outside the music room at 6:20. Please contact Mrs. Madden with questions.

### Wacky Winter Days

To celebrate the end of a GREAT semester, we will have Wacky Winter Days Week from **Monday, December 17 to Friday, December 21!** Students, teachers and staff are encouraged to participate by wearing wacky clothing items according to this schedule:

Mon, Dec 17 - Wacky Sweaters, Sweatshirts, Shirts, Holiday Wear

Tues, Dec 18 - Wacky Socks, Shoes, Slippers (send shoes with the slippers)

Wed, Dec 19 - Wacky hats, Headbands, Hair

Thurs, Dec 20 - Robeson Gear

Fri, Dec 21 - Pajama Day & Hats

### Message from Principal Pitcher

Greetings families! Thank you again to the PTA for constantly caring for our staff. We enjoyed the Thanksgiving feast that was provided in November. December is a busy time for families and in our classrooms. Routines have been established and every time I spend time in a classroom, I am reminded how fortunate I am to work with the faculty and staff at Robeson. Students are engaged, happy, and connecting to their teachers and peers. I am happy to share some additional items for the next month:

1. Reminder: If you have not completed the parent survey called the 5Essentials, we would appreciate your feedback. This informs how we are responding to the needs of families in regard to communication, accessibility, and academics. The survey can be found at: <http://survey.5-essentials.org/illinois/survey/parent/>

2. November's PBIS (Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports) focus was Empathy, Identifying Feelings & Showing Compassion and our incentive was a calming coloring party on November 30 sponsored by our 5th Grade team. December's theme is Emotion Management: Feelings in my body, Stop & Name Feelings, Calm Down and Manage Learning Challenges. We will kick off this month with an assembly on December 3 where the fourth grade team will share the incentive with the school. The bulletin boards in the main hallway always display information about the monthly focus.

### UPCOMING DATES

- Dec 11 (Tue) – Freddy's Meal Out, 4-8pm
- Dec 13 (Thu) – Winter Concerts (K & 1<sup>st</sup> grade)
- Dec 18 (Tue) – Jupiter's Trip
- Dec 18 (Tue) – PTA Meeting, 6-7pm
- Dec 18 (Tue) – Family Coding Night, 6-7:30pm

3. We continue to work on traffic at arrival and dismissal. There are two items with which I need support. First, I ask that safety always be considered. I received reports that there have been cars passing in the residential neighborhood approaching our drive, please do not do that. Second, *I am asking that cars do not park on the street along the chain link fence by the playground on Scottsdale from our exit drive past the crosswalk. This creates a one lane road and safety concerns for cars and pedestrians.* I will be placing notes on cars explaining this request. Please let me know if you have any questions.

### Blood Drive

Robeson will have a blood drive on **Tuesday, December 18 from 3 to 7pm.** Schedule your donation before December 18th's PTA meeting, and you will receive a \$10 Starbucks or Amazon gift card in the mail! You can make an appointment online at [www.bloodcenterimpact.org](http://www.bloodcenterimpact.org) or by calling the Blood Center at 217-367-2202. Please use group sponsor code 70958 when scheduling.

### Volunteer Opportunity

We are down a lunchroom/recess supervisor until we can fill the position. If you have any interest in volunteering during our lunchroom/recess times from 10:50am to 12:30pm, please contact Mrs. Beckless.

### Donations Needed

We are in need of baby wipes for the cafeteria for students to clean their hands after eating nut products. Please bring any donations to the main office. Thank you!

### Running Club

Robeson Running Club will meet from early February to mid-April. Permission slips will be going home this week and will be due back by **Friday, January 11.** This year, there will be a limit of 100 participants.

### Early Dismissal Days

Please note that students will be dismissed at **1:35pm on Thursday, December 20 and Friday, December 21.**

- Dec 19 (Wed) – Hospitality Hot Chocolate Station
- Dec 20-21 (Thu-Fri) – Early Dismissal at 1:35pm
- Dec 24-Jan 4 – No School, Winter Break
- Jan 7 (Mon) – No School for Students, Institute Day

