

# ROBBINSDALE SPANISH IMMERSION SCHOOL PARENT TEACHER ORGANIZATION

## General Assembly Meeting Minutes: September 27, 2022

Meeting is held in-person at the school (Media Center) and online via Zoom (<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88280637327>).

If attending in-person, please sign-in via paper sheet. If attending online, [please sign in here](#).

**Attendees: 31 total (8 were online)**

### Agenda:

- Welcome (SueLynn Junkert) - 2 minutes
  - childcare provided in gym with interns, Spanish translator and listening devices available
- Introductions (Round table: please share name, role at the school/pto and/or children name/grade, and why you chose to seek out a Spanish Immersion school) - 10 minutes
- Intern Intro #1 (May) - 5 minutes
  - from Columbia, is currently working with all grade levels at RSI; see bio link below
  - <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Af4Xzeegts6cJDO2H1KhLtyeNAxdZv6/edit?usp=sharing&uid=105034315267951270469&rtpof=true&sd=true>
- PTO Introduction & Overview (SueLynn Junkert & Mariah Messer) - 10 minutes
  - Nonprofit 503c, made up of parents, grandparents/guardians/caregivers, staff, & interested community members
  - Goal is to build community, support the school community- many volunteers opportunities and ways to be involved
  - reviewed fundraisers: Boosterthon Dance Fit Fundraiser, La Noche, Book Fair and other events
    - see the PTO website for more complete list and description of each  
<https://rsi.rdale.org/families/pto>
    - Fundraising goes towards school community and especially towards funding yearly intern program
  - Check out the PTO newsletter section in the All-school weekly newsletter for upcoming events and news
  - PeachJar fliers -updated weekly
  - Facebook PTO page and grade levels groups
    - <https://www.facebook.com/RSISPTO/>
    - 1st grade / *Primer grado*: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/rsis2034>
    - 2nd grade / *Segundo grado*: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/rsis2033>
    - 3rd grade / *Tercer grado*: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/rsis2032>
    - 4th grade / *Cuarto grado*: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/rsis2031>
    - 5th grade / *Quinto grado*: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/rsi2030>
  - RSIS Directory- have to opt in to have access
    - <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf6GZ51WA9PabuQOB0vBvFPKUJk3NMRyblfxWwOSXWnI-0Q/viewform>
  - SignUP- check for ongoing volunteer opportunities, link in weekly newsletter and also on the PTO website. <https://signup.com/Group/32702953766093000/>
- Welcome from the Principals (Ken Habel & Dr. Alejandra Estrada-Burt) - 10 minutes
  - Principals attend PTO meetings regularly and give updates on current events at RSI; questions from parents/attendees are welcomed
  - First training with Center for Biliteracy held since start of school year
  - Reviewed Back to School Night social held in early Sept & 35th Anniversary Celebration at Robbinsdale Middle School (RMS) (original site of RSIS) also held recently - 250+ attendees including alumni and past/current staff
  - All grades are working on building community, getting used to classroom rituals and routines, and settling into their learning environment
    - CHAMPS strategy briefly reviewed- students working on conversation skills, how to ask for help, classroom and school setting expectations
    - two staff meetings held, new staff getting acclimated, busy start to the school year

- Typically have 6 sections of Kindergarten classes, but 1 teacher unexpectedly resigned. Currently have 5 sections of Kinder with extra class split amongst the 5 remaining classrooms
  - position is posted, small pool of candidates statewide and nationwide teacher shortage
  - principals are working with district leadership and MN Dept of Education
  - several teachers throughout grade levels are on a 1-year leave
  - stressed desire to be transparent and also find the right candidate
  - principals to discuss with teachers transition plans for students once a teacher is hired.
- Treasurer's Report ( Morgan Wallace- Johnson) - 5 minutes
  - <https://drive.google.com/file/d/10yicr0ANAk635DgdUbWikc6di59IEOvl/view?usp=sharing>
  - reviewed July & August expenses and current balance status
- Grant Applications
  - biggest recent expense was grant used towards playground benches and shade structure
  - reviewed that excess reserves can be used for grant proposals
    - ideas can be brought to PTO meetings, PTO board members, school staff, or email the PTO [rsispto@gmail.com](mailto:rsispto@gmail.com), and then ideas eventually can be voted on at a future meeting
    - proposal paperwork can be requested from the PTO via email
- Program/Fundraiser Updates & Volunteer Needs - 10 minutes
  - RSIS Intern Program Update (Britta Weidner & Melissa Senyurekli)
    - Goal is for 10 interns each year (currently have 10 for 2022-23 school year)
      - Intern monthly stipends are funded by the PTO
      - Interns work within school classrooms and throughout the school school for the entire school year, attend school events and assist with childcare at PTO meetings
    - each intern ideally has 2 Host families throughout the school year, August-Jan. & Jan.-June
    - each intern also has 2 Aunt and Uncle families who provide additional activities and social support, as well as assist with transportation needs throughout their stay
    - still looking for 4 Aunt/Uncle families this year for the remainder of the school year and 2nd semester host families
    - Interest or questions can be sent to [RSISinterns@gmail.com](mailto:RSISinterns@gmail.com)
    - Students/families can reach out to interns individually via email for invites to additional social activities
  - Fall Dance-a-thon Fundraiser (Tiffany Knudsen)
    - Still in need of business sponsors for fundraiser t-shirt that is given to all 700+ RSI students
    - 10/27 Launch date for the fundraiser- 10 day program in school
    - One of RSI's largest fundraisers
  - Spring La Noche Fundraiser (Kristi Loeck)
    - La Noche is a parents' night out without kids that involves a silent auction fundraiser, appetizers, and music
    - Tentatively scheduled for Feb.10th, 2023
    - Working on securing a venue
    - Need additional coordinators- currently only 2 coordinators.
      - interested parties can sign up online on SignUp or contact current coordinators, Kristi Loeck & Mariah Messer
  - Scholastic Bookfair (Tiffany Knudsen)
    - Held at RSI and online during conference dates (10/11, 10/13 & 10/18)
    - Includes wide variety of both Spanish and English books
    - Volunteers needed!
      - <https://signup.com/client/invitation2/secure/10703347620087209/false#/invitation>
- Intern Intro #2 (Fátima) - 5 minutes
  - from El Salvador, working with most grade levels; see bio below
  - [https://docs.google.com/document/d/1vmm\\_vJ-iJUeXSivGTJI58bBkm5dsd\\_YZ/edit?usp=sharing&uid=105034315267951270469&rtpof=true&sd=true](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1vmm_vJ-iJUeXSivGTJI58bBkm5dsd_YZ/edit?usp=sharing&uid=105034315267951270469&rtpof=true&sd=true)
- Open Floor (Anyone) - Remaining time to 7:30 pm
  - Principals were asked if curriculum night will be held again
    - None are currently scheduled
    - several members discussed how valuable they have been previously in providing information
      - previous topics have included ongoing immersion path in the district after RSI, dual language immersion, ongoing changes to RSI's immersion program, and information focused on each grade level - specific curriculum or goals for each grade level.

- if parents/caregivers have current curriculum questions, okay to email teachers directly with those questions
- Principals will discuss future potential for curriculum nights with PTO board
- Communication patterns discussed
  - Per principals, no universal standard for communication with parents- each grade level has its own process of communicating with families. Parents/caregivers encouraged to email teachers with questions
  - Several parties are interested in creating more personalized and streamlined communication for students/families within classrooms. Potential for a volunteer “point person” within each classroom.
    - Dr. Estrada reviewed examples of district rules re: data privacy
    - Several members to discuss ideas further with members of PTO board

### **Upcoming Events:(UPDATE)**

- ★ 9/27: September General Assembly (GA)
- ★ 9/30: School Picture Date
- ★ 10/3: World Day of Bullying Prevention (wear blue against bullying) --chalk needs w/ AC collaborative
- ★ 10/5: No School-Staff Development
- ★ 10/7: Lost and Found Clean Out Day
- ★ 10/11: Conferences/Book Fair & Dinners
- ★ 10/13: Conferences/Book Fair & Dinners
- ★ 10/17: Dine to Donate @ Chipotle (Crystal, MN)
- ★ 10/18: Conferences/Book Fair & Dinners
- ★ 10/20: NO SCHOOL-MEA
- ★ 10/21: NO SCHOOL-MEA
- ★ 10/25: PTO General Assembly
- ★ 10/27: SpiritWear Distribution Day
- ★ 10/27: Boosterthon DanceFit Challenge Launch Day (10 Day in School)

From SueLynn Junkert to Everyone 06:33 PM

We'll start in a couple minutes

From Mariah to Everyone 06:42 PM

Hello, virtual attendees! Please sign in here:

\*Online Sign-in Sheet:

<https://forms.gle/Qoae5nUzUGdrZfx29>

Here are some other important links:

\*Meeting Agenda:

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1xEem7ynYe\\_BI-RUwi-UowuRvkWS3ElOy/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1xEem7ynYe_BI-RUwi-UowuRvkWS3ElOy/view?usp=sharing)

\*Treasurer's Budget Report:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/10yicr0ANAk635DgdUbWikc6di59IEOvl/view?usp=sharing>

Intern Bios:

\*May:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Af4Xzeegts6cJDO2H1KhLtyeNAxdZv6/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=105034315267951270469&rtpof=true&sd=true>

\*Fatima:

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1vmm\\_vJ-iJUeXSivGTJI58bBkm5dsd\\_YZ/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=105034315267951270469&rtpof=true&sd=true](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1vmm_vJ-iJUeXSivGTJI58bBkm5dsd_YZ/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=105034315267951270469&rtpof=true&sd=true)

From Kelsie L to Everyone 07:02 PM

can you put the directory link in the chat?

From Mariah to Everyone 07:05 PM

I can! Great idea. Give me one sec

<https://docs.google.com/forms/u/0/d/e/1FAIpQLSf6GZ51WA9PabuQOB0vBvFPkUJjK3NMRyblfxWwOSXWnI-0Q/formResponse>

From Mariah to Everyone 07:17 PM

Feel free to post questions here and I will make sure they get relayed and answered

From Kelsie L to Everyone 07:19 PM

is there a curriculum night?

or should I just email my son's teacher to see what his daily schedule looks like. kinder mom here!

From Mariah to Everyone 07:22 PM

I've noted those questions, Kelsie - both excellent questions - and we'll make sure to address them in the Open Floor time at the end of the meeting

From Mariah to Everyone 07:44 PM

Go ahead and email teachers directly with those questions now. Curriculum Nights have been hosted in the past but are not on the schedule now. Bringing back curriculum nights will be discussed moving forward.

From Steph to Everyone 07:46 PM

Thank you again for the online option!!

## **2022-23 RSIS PTO Board Members Have questions or want to get involved?**

Jessica Chapman & SueLynn Junkert as Co-Presidents  
Tiffany Knudsen & Toby Breuch as Co-Vice Presidents  
Morgan Wallace & Sarah Meagher as Co-Treasurers  
Amanda Houge and Mariah Messer as Co-Secretaries

Email: [rsispto@gmail.com](mailto:rsispto@gmail.com)  
Facebook: [facebook.com/RSISPTO](https://facebook.com/RSISPTO)  
Website: [RSISpto.org](https://RSISpto.org)  
Volunteer Interest & Current Needs:  
<https://signup.com/Group/327029537660930>

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Online Store: [squareup.com/store/rsispto](https://squareup.com/store/rsispto)