

**ROBBINSDALE SPANISH
IMMERSION SCHOOL 
PARENT TEACHER ORGANIZATION**

General Assembly Meeting Agenda: October 24, 2023

*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](#).

(22 attendees; 1 online, 21 in person)

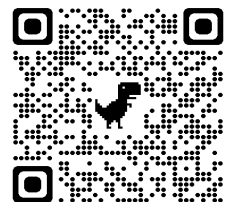
Agenda:

- Welcome (SueLynn Junkert) - 2 minutes
- Introductions (Round table: please share name, role at the school/PTO and/or children names/grade. What is your favorite fall tradition?) - 5 minutes
- Intern Intro (Mariela) - 5 minutes
 - From El Salvador, has a brother living in Ohio, working with grades K-3
 - [MARIELA COREAS.pdf](#)
- Update from the Principals - (Ken Habel & Dr. Alejandra Estrada-Burt) - 10 minutes
 - Conference Dinners
 - Thank you for all the donations of food, money, and time that went towards feeding staff for the three nights of conferences. It was very appreciated by staff!
 - Chess Club
 - Principals have been in contact with the coordinator. Chess Club is still happening this year, but starting a bit later than usual. Club sign-up should be coming soon.
 - Breakfast/Lunch
 - Continuing to work to improve the speed of students receiving meals at both breakfast and lunch.
 - Kinder & 1st gr. started the year with barcodes to scan to replace each student punching in their ID number, to help speed up the process. Now all students K-5 will have barcode tags on backpacks to scan.
 - Breakfast in previous years, serving ~ 250 kids/morning; now serving 430 kids/morning.
 - Open positions
 - Media Education Assistant, Special Education Assistant, and Kindergarten long-term sub opening due to a planned maternity leave
 - Raz Kids
 - Classroom licenses previously funded by PTO. Principals are currently working with the district for ongoing Raz Kids license funding. Planning to have Raz Kids Español add-on
 - Other updates:
 - Staff development days ahead on Nov. 6 & 7
 - Staff working with <https://www.thecatalystapproach.com/> - supporting school and classroom management, equity driven
 - Student devices starting to go home with students this week in upper grade levels
- Treasurer's Report (Morgan Wallace-Johnson) - 15 minutes
 - [2023.09.30 Treasurer's Report](#)
 - Excess reserves- ~\$20,000 currently; higher than anticipated due to funds being returned from unused money that was approved last year

- Grant proposals review and vote - [Grant Proposal Slides](#)
 - Digital Piano for Music Room
 - Grant application by Mari Scott, music teacher
 - Approx. \$2000-2500
 - Yearly tuning for current pianos: \$100-200 each; digital would require \$0
 - Would benefit all grade levels. Much easier to move a digital piano between locations needed for classes and concerts/performances. Better volume control
 - Motion made by Sarah Taylor to approve grant for \$2500. Seconded by Kat Carlson. Motion approved.
 - Pros of the Rope
 - Grant application by Sra. Unvergast- 5th grade teacher
 - In coordination with Sr. Seiffert, this program would engage students in jump rope activities that will build endurance and cooperative skills
 - Proposing all grades participate, but need to work out logistics for space and timing.
 - During school day, 45 minutes per class, each class would attend once
 - Suggestion- add jump ropes to playground, to be able to use skills learned
 - \$4832.50 proposed, but increased to \$4900 to allow for purchase of playground jump ropes
 - Motion made by Mariah Messer to approve the grant for up to \$4900. Seconded by Jessica Chapman. Motion approved.
 - Snack Supply Box for teachers
 - Grant application by Jessica Chapman on behalf of the PTO board
 - Teachers frequently reporting increasing need for snack donations to share in the classroom
 - Free and reduced lunch numbers have increased - currently ~ 34% of students. Was ~ 8% approx. 8 years ago.
 - English as a second language numbers are also up ~135 students within the school
 - Plan would be for simple snacks. Logistics to be figured out, but would plan that teachers would come to principals for snacks
 - Proposing \$1500; if using free and reduced lunch numbers as a guideline, roughly 250 students per day may need a snack provided
 - Motion made by Sarah Taylor to approve grant for \$1500. Seconded by Sarah Arroyo. Motion approved.
- Give to the Max Day - 11/16 (Sarah Meagher)
 - [Copy of Give to the Max Presentation](#)
 - Statewide program, launched in 2009
 - <https://www.givemn.org/organization/Rsispto>
- PTO financial overview
 - Intern Support
 - \$65,000+ annually for small living stipends for interns, school lunches, and program costs and fees for the school year
 - Classroom Enrichment
 - books, technology, supplies, grants, assemblies; have averaged \$4300 + grants per year
 - Avg of \$20,000- \$40,000 of money raised is spent on grants throughout the year
 - Community

- Staff appreciation lunches, 5th Grade Farewell, Student Recognition, Garden maintenance, etc.
 - Largest Fundraisers
 - La Noche ~ \$22,000 raised; Boosterthon Dance Fit Fall Fundraiser ~ \$25,000 raised; Skate Night ~\$4000 raised/last year
 - Program/Fundraiser Updates & Volunteer Needs - 15 minutes
 - October Recap
 - Conference dinners: \$865 donated. \$513 was spent at Costco for food. Total cost, including catered meal, was about equal to what was donated
 - Book Fair - comparable in sales to previous years. \$9000 in total sales. Total earnings and benefits for the school are still being calculated.
 - Chipotle Dine to Donate was very successful, although the restaurant was not prepared for such a big RSI turnout. \$762.38 raised.
 - Dance Fit Fall Fundraiser (Tiffany Knudsen)
 - Launches this Friday, 10/27. Fundraising from 10/27-11/2
 - Register students at: mybooster.com
 - Planning for nightly incentive challenges for classrooms
 - Be sure to look and see if your company will match your donation
 - Dance-a-thon date: 11/3; each child will receive a RSI tshirt
 - Skate Night (Tiffany)
 - Working on confirming a date with CheapSkate in Coon Rapids. Tentatively hoping for 11/15
 - La Noche Sin Niños (Kristi Loeck)
 - Feb. 23, 2024, confirmed. DoubleTree Hotel- West End, 7pm - midnight
 - DJ booked, will have hotel rooms blocked off
 - Silent auction planned. Night for fundraising, but also community-building
 - Volunteers needed! [RSIS PTO Volunteers](#)
 - Dine to Donate (Toby Breuch)
 - [Culver's Dine to Donate Flyer; folleto Cena para Donar de Culvers](#)
 - Culver's - Golden Valley, from 11/6 - 11/11
 - RSI to receive \$1 for every concrete mixer sold
 - No need to mention RSI or show the flyer; very successful in previous years
 - Directory (Toby)
 - Plan is for monthly distribution
 - [Sign up here for the 2023-2024 RSI directory.](#)
 - Email: RSISPTO@gmail.com
if correction or changes are needed
 - Open Floor (Anyone) - Remaining time to 7:30 pm

Scan code for Volunteer SignUp



Upcoming Events:

- ☆ 10/26 - 11/2 Dance Fit Fundraiser
- ☆ 10/27 Picture Retake Day
- ☆ 11/3 Dance Fit Dance-a-thon Event Day!
- ☆ 11/6 No School - Staff Development
- ☆ 11/7 No School - Election Day
- ☆ 11/6 - 11/11 Dine to Donate - Culvers, Golden Valley - \$1 for every concrete mixer sold
- ☆ 11/16 Give to the Max Day
- ☆ 11/16 Spirit Wear orders distributed to students
- ☆ 11/22 Spirit Wear Store closes - last day to order!
- ☆ 11/23 - 11/24 No School - Thanksgiving Holiday

- ☆ 11/28 November PTO General Assembly Meeting, 6:30-7:30, RSI Media Center & online
- ☆ 11/28 Lost and Found Clean Out

** Friendly reminder to please check the Lost and Found (at the main entrance of the school) for any items your student(s) may be missing!

All are invited to join us for an informal social gathering at Schuller's in Golden Valley following this meeting

2023-24 RSIS PTO Board Members

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

Have questions or want to get involved?

Email: rsispto@gmail.com
Facebook: [facebook.com/RSISPTO](https://www.facebook.com/RSISPTO)
Website: <https://rsi.rdale.org/families/pto>
Volunteer Interest & Current Needs:

<https://signup.com/Group/32702953766093000/>
Online Store: squareup.com/store/rsispto