

**ROBBINSDALE SPANISH  
IMMERSION SCHOOL   
PARENT TEACHER ORGANIZATION**

General Assembly Meeting Agenda: January 16, 2024

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](#).

**(Attendance: 18 in-person, 2 online)**

**Agenda:**

- Welcome (SueLynn Junkert) - 2 minutes
- PTO Board Member introductions - 2 minutes
- Introductions (Round table: please share name, role at the school/PTO and/or children names/grade. What is something fun you did during winter break?) - 5 minutes
- Intern Intro (Pilar García) - 5 minutes
  - [Pilar's bio](#)
  - 22 years old, from Spain
  - Currently working in 6 different RSI classrooms. Would like to pursue a master's degree in the future
- Guest Speaker: Naida Grussing-Neitzel, Plymouth Middle School Principal - 15 minutes
  - Former immersion teacher at Cooper and an immersion parent
  - First year as principal at PMS, but has spent 14 years in administration, mainly as an assistant principal
  - Middle School immersion track includes science, social studies, and language arts in Spanish, as well as homeroom/Advisory
  - Immersion track continues into middle school and through high school in the district
  - She highly recommends continuing immersion track through at least 8th grade to include the academic pursuit of Spanish
  - Plymouth Middle School Info night next week, 1/23, 6pm - 7:30
    - 6-7pm is open-house, scavenger hunt for students; 7-7:30pm presentation by principal
  - No devices (including chromebooks) at lunch; currently have been integrating a 10-minute "movement break" outside after lunch when weather allows
  - Students have the opportunity to participate in a teacher-led trip abroad. Current trip in June is planned for Spain.
- Update from the Principals - (Ken Habel & Dr. Alejandra Estrada-Burt) - 10 minutes
  - More science within classrooms happening (Generation Genius, Science BUFs, STEM Club, STEM Night)
    - Trying to infuse more hands on projects. Each unit has hands-on component and a writing assignment
    - After-school STEM Club launched by Sra. Bridge this month
    - Teacher Committee- infusing STEM principles into biliteracy units
  - Spring Conferences dates: March 4th, 7th, 12th
  - Students are currently participating in winter evaluations
  - RSI was selected to administer the the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)
    - Assessment sample randomly pulls 50 students in 4th grade (25 for math and 25 for reading)

- letters will be sent to families of students that were selected in the random sample
    - Scores throughout the nation on the assessment help drive legislative policy
- Treasurer's Report (Morgan Wallace-Johnson) - 5 minutes
  - [12/31/2023 Treasurer's Report](#)
  - ~ \$12,000 in excess reserves remains for upcoming grant application deadline (Feb 2nd)
  - At next month's general assembly meeting, voting will occur on any grants submitted
    - teachers can submit applications, and if approved by the principals, the grant request is discussed with the PTO board and voted upon at the Feb. PTO GA meeting
  - Grant request
    - Grant request submitted by Sally Diehl, RSI's Culture and Climate Specialist
    - Request being discussed early as purchases would be for February, and be needed prior to the next grant application deadline
    - Request is for \$446.48 to purchase 40 books written by black or multi-racial authors re: African American history & culture.
    - February is Black History Month and 2/12/24 is National African American Parent Involvement Day (NAAPID); Feb. is also "I Love to Read Month" and when RSI's Rock n' Read event is held.
    - Goal would be for 40 books purchased and accessible to black and multiracial students & families with hope that numbers can grow in the future
    - Suggestion made to increase amount requested to add an additional set of the 10 selected titles so that an additional set can be added to the RSI Media Center for the larger school community to access
      - 10 titles from the list selected currently by staff
    - Tiffany Knudsen will check with Sra. Bridge to see if any Scholastic funds raised by the school at the last Book Fair could be used to purchase any of the titles
    - Motion made by Tiffany Knudsen to approve the grant for up to \$520. Seconded by Jessica Chapman. Motion approved by majority.

● Program/Fundraiser Updates & Volunteer Needs - 15 minutes **Scan code for Volunteer SignUp**

- Spanish Junior Great Books (SJGB) (Toby Breuch)
  - 8-week Spanish Reading curriculum program for 4th and 5th graders
  - Starts tomorrow morning, 1/17; led by interns (currently, Hector)
  - 7 students total. Not as much interest as previous years
    - ~ 20 kids last year
    - Suggestions: advertise at Adventure club, possibly look at moving to after-school, have materials for 2nd round available for teachers to discuss at Spring Conferences
- STEM Night (Jessica Chapman)
  - Monday, 1/29 @ RSI, 6-8pm
  - [Parent volunteers needed to help run activities](#)- materials and instructions provided
  - FREE event for the RSI community; interns and teacher volunteers will also be there helping run activity booths
  - Potentially will be adding an art activity- Dr. Estrada is working with the Art department
- La Noche Sin Niños, (Kristi Loeck/Mariah Messer)
  - Friday, February 23rd, 7pm - midnight, DoubleTree - Hilton Hotel West End
  - Buy tickets: <https://one.bidpal.net/rsislanoch>
  - Volunteer: <https://signup.com/go/YhkAxnV>



- Donate: <https://signup.com/go/PiHPSqR>
- Book a Hotel room: <https://group.doubletree.com/heppoi>
- Volunteers needed! Day of volunteer link will be coming soon
- Sledding Night (Amanda Houge)
  - Currently scheduled for Monday 2/12, but looking at potential date change due to conflict with 5th grade concert at Cooper that same evening
  - Valley Place Park in Crystal, 6-7:30
  - [D's Kitchen Food Truck](#) will be there with food available to purchase
  - First 80 hot chocolates are paid for by the PTO
  - Keep an eye on the [PTO Facebook Page](#) and upcoming school newsletters regarding the date
- Coordinators needed (Toby Breuch/Tiffany Knudsen)
  - [Book Fair Coordinator \(2024-25\)](#)
    - Current coordinator, Christine, will be leaving RSI after this year. Would like to have new coordinator(s) shadow the process before she leaves
    - Currently have one person signed-up, but room for an additional coordinator to share the role
    - Scholastic Book Fairs occur at RSI during conferences in fall and spring
  - Spring Conference Dinner Coordinator
    - Currently have a parent that has expressed interest
    - Coordinates dinners for staff (approx 60 people) during 3 conference nights in the fall and spring
  - [Spirit Wear Coordinator](#)
    - New coordinator needed for 2024-25 or could start earlier if desired!
    - Easily can be done from home, and low- pressure as items are sold at cost, without end-goal of raising funds
    - Ability to use your creativity to create designs if you wish, or use current designs and vendor
- Open Floor (Anyone) - Remaining time to 7:30 pm

### Upcoming Events:

- ☆ 1/22 No School - Staff Workshop
- ☆ 1/29 Family STEM Night @ RSI, 6-8pm
- ☆ 1/30 Lost and Found Clean Out
- ☆ 2/12 RSI Sledding Night - Valley Place Park, Crystal, 6 - 7:30pm
- ☆ 2/19 No School - President's Day
- ☆ 2/23 La Noche Sin Niños@ DoubleTree - Hilton Hotel West End, 7pm - midnight
- ☆ 2/27 February PTO General Assembly Meeting, 6:30-7:30, RSI Media Center & online
- ☆ 3/4 Conferences/Staff Dinners/Scholastic Book Fair
- ☆ 3/5 No School - Staff Development
- ☆ 3/7 Conferences/Staff Dinners/Scholastic Book Fair
- ☆ 3/12 Conferences/Staff Dinners/Scholastic Book Fair

\*\* 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](mailto:rsispto@gmail.com)  
Facebook: [facebook.com/RSISPTO](https://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](https://squareup.com/store/rsispto)

