

The RamGram



Award Winning Newsletter of Robinson Secondary PTSA

September 2011

Robinson Secondary School

PTSA[®]

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Important Dates!

Robinson PTSA 2011

September 8 7pm
**General Membership
Meeting**
@ School Media Center

November 12
 10am-4pm
Robinson Marketplace

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome, and welcome back!
I hope you and your family enjoyed a fun-filled and safe summer.

As we start this new school year, we hope we can count on your support by joining the PTSA - it costs only \$15.00!

You can find the membership form in this RamGram, as well as some examples of what your PTSA can do for you.

Please mark your calendar for September 8 at 7pm for our first General Membership meeting in the Robinson Media Center, we have a special presentation on Success for parents and students; don't miss out!

Also, please check out the Robinson PTSA website: <http://robinsonptsa.org/> for more information on upcoming events.

Hope you enjoy the new school year!
Suzanne Tsacoumis, PTSA President



2011-2012 Reflections Program – Theme: “Diversity Means...”

What is the Reflections Program?

The Reflections Program is an arts recognition and achievement program. Students participate in the arts areas of literature, dance choreography, film/video production, musical composition, photography, and visual arts. Robinson Secondary School participates in two age divisions: grades 6-8 and grades 9-12. Reflections is a "self-discovery learning program."

Are all students of Robinson Secondary School eligible to participate?

All students of Robinson Secondary School are eligible to participate in the Reflections Program.

What is this year's theme?

The theme for the 2011-2012 program is "**Diversity means...**" Only new pieces inspired by the theme are acceptable.

When is the deadline?

Each student must submit his or her completed work and forms into the **Robinson Main Office no later than October 21, 2010**. No exceptions.

For more information go to the [Robinson PTSA Reflections website](#) or contact Sandra Otero de Solares (ssolares07@gmail.com).

The Robinson Marketplace will sell Raffle tickets at Locker Distribution Days and Back to School Nights.

All of the Raffle money earned will go to general PTSA funds which help every student and program supported by the PTSA. Prizes have been generously donated by local and national vendors.



The more tickets you buy, the higher your chances are of winning these fabulous prizes.

Raffle tickets will be sold for \$1 each OR 6 tickets for \$5.

Please buy generously!

Thank you for your support of this important fundraiser. We look forward to seeing you at the **Robinson Marketplace on Saturday, November 12th.**

The Robinson Marketplace, Volunteers Needed!

The Robinson Marketplace committee continued to work through the summer searching out unique and exciting vendors for our upcoming indoor market, **Saturday, November 12, 2011.** Our spaces are nearly all full and you are going to really enjoy the results.

This is the major PTSA fundraiser for the year and we are going to need a lot of volunteer help from now until November 12th to make this event the fabulously fun and successful day it will be. There are many opportunities for Student Service Hours from all grades (even 6th graders are welcome from our elementary schools). We need adults for long and short term help as well.

If you would like to help on the Advertising Committee, this area really needs a dedicated person(s)! In addition, we are looking for a co-chair of the Raffle committee who will be responsible for the Raffle and the Raffle Booth on the day of The Marketplace. If you can lend your time for any volunteer opportunities big OR small please email Amy Riddick at MarketplaceVolunteers@gmail.com. Thank you.

Student Entertainment at The Robinson Marketplace

As part of our Indoor Market, We would like to feature the talents of our many Robinson and elementary school students throughout the day. Performances will take place on the stage between the Gold and Blue Cafeterias. Each performing group will be given 20 minutes on the stage and 10 minutes to set up. Performances will run during our market time of 10am – 4 pm.

Please direct all inquiries to Ingrid Calarco marketplace@robinsonptsa.org

What Does the PTSA Do?

Your membership dollars sponsor and support the following activities:

- Publish and distribute the Ram Gram
- Publish and sell Middle and High School Student Directories
- Special Education Parent Programs
- Reflections Competition
- Back-to-School Nights
- Ram Gardens
- Student Services Fund
- Academic Letter Recognition
- International Fair
- Middle and High School Annual Breakfast
- Teacher and Staff Development and Mini-Grants
- People's Choice Awards
- Odyssey of the Mind and Other Student Programs
- Senior Student Scholarships
- Student Leadership Grants(Boys and Girls State)
- All Night Graduation Party
- Teacher and Staff Appreciation Luncheon
- Touching Bases Teacher "Snack Bags"
- Student Assemblies
- Parent, Teacher, and Student Educational Programs
- County and State Legislative Advocacy
- School Projects
- PTSA website and PTSA member outreach system

Important Dates:

September 1 4-7pm
Ram Rally
@Basketball Courts

September 13 7pm
Academic Booster Club Meeting
@Principal's Conference Room

Helpful Links

Summer Homework Assignments

http://www.fcps.edu/RobinsonSS/high-school/hs_summerassignments.htm



<http://www.fcps.edu/kit/>



<https://www.mylunchmoney.com/>

Helpful Links

Robinson Athletics Department

http://www.fcps.edu/RobinsonSS/athletics/athletic_index.html

Robinson Theatre Arts

<https://sites.google.com/site/robinsondrama/>

Virginia Department of Education

<http://www.doe.virginia.gov/>

Bell Schedule:

<http://www.fcps.edu/RobinsonSS/bell/>



Food at School

http://www.fcps.edu/fs/food/food_at_school/

For lunch menus, directions on how to put money on your child's lunch card, "nutritional" information, etc

Student lunch price: \$2.75



ATTENDANCE

Please call **703.426.6040** to report all attendance issues

Select the correct extension and provide the following information:

Name of child (please spell last name)

Please provide reason for absence or tardy

If your child is sick please provide:

1. Symptoms of illness
2. When illness started (date)
3. Your name
4. Relationship to student
5. A contact number



WE'RE ON THE WEB!

<http://robinsonptsa.org/>

<http://www.fcps.edu/RobinsonSS/>

<http://www.facebook.com/fcpsva>

<http://twitter.com/fcpsnews>

<http://www.fcps.edu>

Join the Robinson PTSA without using a single stamp!

Sign up online:

<https://campusfees.com/shop.cfm?ss=16542>



Confused about volunteer hours?

Click here: <http://www.fcps.edu/DIS/ServiceLearning/>

Dates: October 16-17, 2011

<http://www.fcps.edu/dis/SchoolCounseling/FCPSCollegeFairNigh/index.html>




Ready
Prepare. Plan. Stay Informed.

Are you ready?

Be prepared for anything, visit FEMA's site to see what should be in your emergency supply kit:

<http://www.ready.gov/america/getakit/index.html>

Do you have a family emergency plan?

<http://www.ready.gov/america/downloads/familyemergencyplan.pdf>

2011-2012 Standard School Year Calendars

September 6, 2011	School Begins
October 10	Columbus Day Holiday
November 4	First Grading Period Ends*+
November 7 - 8	Student Holidays
November 23	Students Released 2 Hours Early (Guidelines for Early Release)
November 24 - 25	Thanksgiving Break
December 23 - January 2	Winter Break
January 16	Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday Holiday
January 27	Second Grading Period Ends*+
January 30 - January 31	Student Holidays
February 20	George Washington's Birthday - Presidents' Day Holiday#
March 30	Third Grading Period Ends*+
April 2 - 6	Spring Break
April 9	Student Holiday#
May 28	Memorial Day Holiday
June 14	Graduation On or After This Date*
June 19	Last Day of School*+ #N

* Schools are open.	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2">Makeup Day Schedule</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Days Missed</th> <th>Makeup Days</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1 - 3</td> <td>No makeup required</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td> <td>February 20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5</td> <td>April 9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6</td> <td>No makeup required</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7</td> <td>June 20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>8</td> <td>No makeup required</td> </tr> <tr> <td>9</td> <td>June 21</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10</td> <td>No makeup required</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Makeup Day Schedule		Days Missed	Makeup Days	1 - 3	No makeup required	4	February 20	5	April 9	6	No makeup required	7	June 20	8	No makeup required	9	June 21	10	No makeup required
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+ Report cards are provided to parents at the end of each grading period and at the end of the school year.																					
# Date subject to change if more than three school days are lost because of inclement weather.	Date for the last day of school may be earlier or later depending on unanticipated events.																				
N Early release on the last official day of school.																					

New Virginia Graduation Requirement for Economics and Personal Finance Starts This Year

Because of legislation passed by the 2010 General Assembly, one additional credit in economics and personal finance must be completed prior to graduation beginning with students enrolled in grade 9 during the 2011-12 academic year.

FCPS has developed a course entitled Economics and Personal Finance to meet the new state requirement which can be taken face-to-face or through the FCPS Online Campus; the online course is available this fall. In addition, two semester courses, AP Microeconomics and AP

Macroeconomics, will meet the state diploma requirement. Further, FCPS is working with local colleges and universities to seek dual enrollment options after school and during the summer in another alternative effort to meet the requirement.

For more information, go to <http://www.fcps.edu/news/economics.pdf>.

2010-2011 Reflections Program

Congratulations to two of our students who placed in the 2010-2011 Reflections Program at the District Level:

Riley Mahan in the Film Category – Award for Excellence

Tristan Schuler in the Music Category – Award of Merit



Want something in the RamGram? Please email the editor at: ramgram@robinsonptsa.org

Robinson Secondary School



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2011 – 2012 PTSA Membership Form

Your membership in the PTSA helps support the many valuable programs and activities that occur throughout the year at Robinson. Membership includes access to the Virginia PTA and National PTA, valuable teaching and parenting resources, and PTA member discounts to well-known retailers and service providers. Visit www.vapta.org and www.pta.org for more information. Becoming a member of the PTSA does not obligate you to volunteer.

****NEW**** Purchase your membership online. Visit www.robinsonptsa.org for details. ****NEW****

First Name: _____ Family (Last) Name: _____

Address (Street, City, Zip): _____

Phone #: _____ e-mail address: _____

List additional member's names here: [e.g., Mary (Parent), John (grade 7), Alice (Aunt), Mike (Faculty)]

Fill in number of memberships and total \$ in the table below:

Parent / Adult Membership	#	@ \$15.00 each*	\$ _____
Student Membership (7 th – 12 th grades)	#	@ \$5.00 each	\$ _____
Robinson Faculty / Staff Membership	#	@ \$5.00 each	\$ _____
Scholarship Fund Contribution (100% Tax Deductible)			\$ _____
Cash _____	Check # _____	TOTAL:	\$ _____

Please make checks payable to: Robinson Secondary School PTSA

***Parent / Adult Membership fee has increased due to an increase in National & State PTA dues.**

Tax Information:

The Robinson PTSA is a non-profit organization under IRS code 501(c)(3).

Return Completed Membership Form:

- (1) at Locker Distribution Days (see school's Blue/Gold Calendar for dates)
- (2) at New Student/Parent Orientation (see school's Blue/Gold Calendar for dates)
- (3) at Back-to-School Nights (see school's Blue/Gold Calendar for dates), or
- (4) Mail to Robinson Secondary School PTSA, 5035 Sideburn Road, Fairfax, VA 22032

Thank you for supporting Robinson PTSA!
www.robinsonptsa.org

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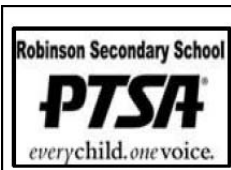
Check #: _____

Amount: _____

Scholarship: _____

Deposit Group: _____

Deposit Date: _____



ROBINSON SECONDARY SCHOOL 2010-2011 PARENT VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

Robinson needs YOU.

Please check all volunteer activities you are interested in participating in. ALL VOLUNTEERS, NEW AND RETURNING, ARE REQUESTED TO USE THIS FORM! Thank you for your support! Any questions, call *Terri Min, PTSA Volunteer Coordinator, 703-978-7585, email volunteercoordinator@robinsonptsa.org*. Drop your completed form off at the PTSA Membership Table on Locker Distribution Days (9/1/10, 9/2/10 & 9/3/10) or Back to School Nights (9/15/09 & 9/22/09); or mail to Terri Min, PTSA Volunteer Coordinator, 10155 Marshall Pond Road, Burke, VA 22015; or, sign up on-line: <http://www.robinsonptsa.org/volunteer.html>.

VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES – SPECIFIC EVENTS:

- Back to School Night – Sept. 15 = MS; Sept. 22 = HS
- School Pictures (Sept. 7/8 - HS, Sept. 9/10 - MS) – Assist photographer as needed.
- Health Screening (Oct. 5-6)
- Book Sale – Nov. 11 – 13 - Book pickup, Sorting, Event Set up, Event Sales, Event, take down
- Flu Clinic - November 13
- Art Show – (Date TBD) Help with set up (after school), hospitality, and take down (evening)
- Thanksgiving Lunch Helpers

REGULAR VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES:

- Clinic – Assist clinic aides with sick & injured students and paperwork – weekly/biweekly. Training session required
- Media Center Aide – Assist with library duties ½ day, weekly, biweekly _____ (Day of week)
- Class Volunteer – Class of: 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 (Circle all that apply)
- Copier - copy printed materials as needed

MIDDLE SCHOOL ONLY:

- Magazine Drive – (Sept.-Oct.) – Very important fundraiser! Help with () Prize distribution or () Daily order tallying
- Middle School TEAM Helper – assist a team with clerical work, e.g. copying; Sunshine club; chaperone field trips
Circle: Red Green Blue Purple Gold Stars Comets Lasers Eagles Champions
- I am available during the day to help with activities

PTSA COMMITTEES:

- Education (Middle) Education (High School) Education (Special)
- Health and Safety (Middle and High School)
- Hospitality – Bake/cook for PTSA activities, such as Sub-school coffees & activities, Welcome New Families to the Area Reception, Staff Appreciation, Art Show, Academic Reception, Teacher Appreciation Day, etc.
- Ramgarden Landscaping – Help with Robinson’s lovely front garden and other beautification activities.
- Scholarship Committee – award PTSA scholarships to deserving scholarship candidates (9, 10and 11grade parents only)
- Publicity – Make signs and/or posters, write press releases, take photos for newspapers, help advertise events

WHEN NEEDED:

- Call Me If Needed Committee – Short notice activities, and when I’ve run short of volunteers
- Available during the day to help. CALL ME!

Thank you for being a volunteer. The PTSA will email/phone you to confirm your volunteer choices. There may be times when only a limited number of volunteers are needed; therefore, if you are very interested in volunteering for a particular event, contact the Robinson PTSA Volunteer Coordinator, Terri Min, directly at 703-978-7585.

NAME: _____ HOME PHONE: _____ CELL: _____

EMAIL(s): _____

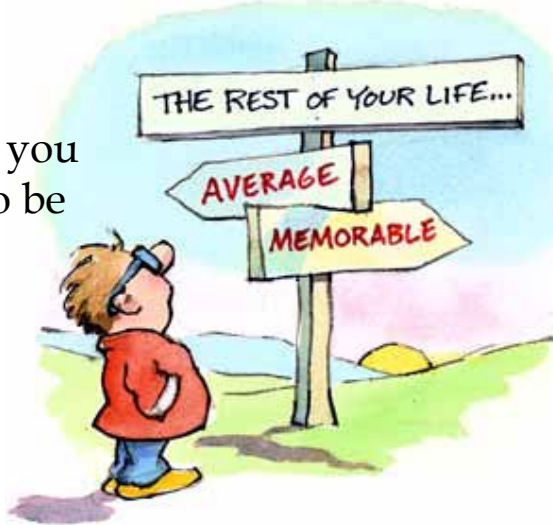
NAME & GRADE of your student(s): _____

Robinson PTSA presents...

Success Principles

Are you ready to make this the best year of your life?

Parents: Would you like your child to be self motivated?



Teens: Would you like to improve your grades with less effort?

If want to make the **2011-2012** school year unlike any other, where you are performing better than ever, more joy, less stress, then this is a must-attend event for you!

You will learn to:

- *Change the outcome of any event
- *Surround yourself with friends and mentors
- *Build your confidence and self-esteem
- *Set goals that will energize your life



Where: Robinson Media Center

When: Thursday, September 8th

Time: 7-9 p.m.

Presenter: Rina Hafiz

Whether your goal is to become a better student or athlete, start a business, make lots of money, getting a leadership position, or simply find guidance and direction, you'll learn the principles of excellence at this amazing workshop.

The Robinson Marketplace

Saturday, November 12, 2011

10am-4pm

James W. Robinson, Jr., Secondary School

5035 Sideburn Road

Fairfax, Virginia 22032

www.robinsonptsa.org

?’s email marketplace@robinsonptsa.org

We need Student and Adult Volunteers

Email Marketplacevolunteers@gmail.com

JUST IN TIME FOR THE HOLIDAYS!

**A UNIQUE BLEND OF OVER 70
HAND CRAFTERS, HOME
BUSINESSES, BOUTIQUE SHOPS,
& SPECIALTY FOOD VENDORS
ALL AVAILABLE IN ONE PLACE
FOR YOUR SHOPPING
PLEASURE!**

FREE ENTRY

FABULOUS RAFFLE PRIZES

STUDENT ENTERTAINMENT

MAKE & TAKE CRAFTS

FAMILY FUN!

**PLEASE PLAN TO ATTEND & SUPPORT
OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY. ALL PROCEEDS
USED BY THE PTSA TO
BENEFIT SCHOOL PROGRAMS.**