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# JOHN REX PTA ROCKET NEWS

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## From The President

What a spectacular start to 2015! Thanks to the incredible generosity of our families, staff, volunteers and community, our first ever Fuel Up! Fundraising event was a huge success. Over 300 people attended and we raised more than \$35,000. The evening was full of incredible food and time with new and old friends, while student-inspired art garnered admiration from all.

As the largest fundraiser of the year, this event allows the PTA to support its various activities--for instance, we are especially excited that your PTA has approved funding for wagons for walking Wednesdays, equipment for the teacher workroom, enhanced curriculum materials, teacher appreciation, safety supplies for pickup and drop-off, and the installation of Lobby Guard, to name just a few of our projects throughout this year. Each one of these projects helps enhance and enrich the lives of our students and creates an atmosphere of learning that will inspire our kids to do great things. Funding from this

event will go towards these projects and more!

We couldn't have done it without our incredible volunteer committee, our families, sponsors, staff and the community. Special thanks go to co-chairs Amanda and Nathaniel Harding and their rock star committee: Maggie Howell, Anna Parsons, Lesley Martin, Lindsey Pever, Jamie Winteroth, Elissa Dyer, Amy Upchurch, Sara Cowan, Hattie Wagenseller, Laura Walter, Jan Johnson, Marcella Hunt, Aja Chatmon, Kari Kosanke, Kelly Hadsall, Chris Kavanaugh and Paige Hall. Thank you for all your time!

Go Rockets!

*Shannon Evers*

Shannon Evers  
PTA President

## Get Involved!

Join PTA! Contact [membership@johnrexpta.org](mailto:membership@johnrexpta.org).

The JRPTA will help out at this year's **Festival of the Arts!** Our assignment is to staff the **Children's Art Field** on **Tuesday April 21st**.

There will be 3 shifts, with 9 volunteers needed on each shift. We will need as many as 27 volunteers! Email Paige at [getinvolved@johnrexpta.org](mailto:getinvolved@johnrexpta.org).

**PTA Executive Board Elections** for the 2015-2016 calendar year will be held during the **PTA General Membership Meeting** on **April 16<sup>th</sup>** at **6:00 PM**. If you or someone you know is interested in learning about the Executive Board positions, please contact Kelly Masters-Newton, chair of the Ways and Means committee, at [kmastersnewton@icloud.com](mailto:kmastersnewton@icloud.com) or [405.537.3903](tel:405.537.3903) for more information. Please note that you must be a current member of the John Rex Elementary PTA in order to run for a position or vote.

## Upcoming Events

The **Health Wellness & Safety committee** will meet to discuss current & future projects on **Tuesday, February 17<sup>th</sup>** at **5:30 pm**, at Aunt Pittypat's Catering office - 1515 N. Portland Ave. Please email [hws@johnrexpta.org](mailto:hws@johnrexpta.org) with RSVPs!

Join us at our next **General PTA meeting** on **February 19<sup>th</sup>** where we will recognize several artistic students! These Rockets created art pieces selected by artist-in-residence Kiona Millirons into the "Kyoto Exchange." (Oklahoma has enjoyed a 30-year sister state relationship with Kyoto Prefecture, Japan. Cultural exchanges of art by kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> grade students from Oklahoma and Kyoto schools have fostered meaningful understanding and awareness of each region's culture.) The meeting will be held from **6:00-7:00pm** at John Rex Charter Elementary. Childcare will not be provided, but children are welcome. We will have pizza and snacks for purchase.

Monthly **clean up** around the school grounds is scheduled for **Saturday February 21<sup>st</sup>** at **10am**. [Beautification@johnrexpta.org](mailto:Beautification@johnrexpta.org) or just come join!

**Tuesday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>**: OKCPS PTA Council's annual **Taste of PTA** event. **Horace Mann Elementary** from **6:00 PM to 8:00 PM**. There will be food, fun, prizes, and guest speakers.

**Monday, March 30<sup>th</sup>**: Join the state **PTA rally for education**, 9 am on the steps of the capitol.

## Your Donations at Work!

Thanks to the many generous donations from parents and community leaders, the JRPTA was recently able to provide almost \$5,000 in funding for the Teacher Workroom! (This was before John Rex Rocket Fuel Up!). The donation was used to purchase die cuts, a book binding machine and a laminator to help our teachers keep their classrooms creative and exciting.

## Rocket Gear!

Product Sales will be selling more t-shirts, sweatshirts, water bottles, and window decals, too! The order website will open on **Thurs, Feb 12<sup>th</sup>** and will remain open through **Thurs, Feb 19<sup>th</sup>** <http://johnrexpta.tictail.com>. Order online or stop by the PTA table during Parent Teacher Conferences on February 16<sup>th</sup> and place your order on the spot.

## Coming soon...

A new bike rack on the SW corner of Sheridan and Walker, funded by Downtown OKC Inc.! Thank you!

## Don't Forget!

JRCES Intent to Re-Enroll Forms and Enrollment Forms for siblings must be returned to the school by **March 13, 2015!**