

PTA NEWS
8/24/2016

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Would you like to join the RCE PTA mailing list?

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

Quick Look at Important Info and Dates

Reminders:

Complete your Big Form, one per family, online prior to **September 9**. You can join PTA, donate to underwriting, purchase directories and yearbooks, put a birthday on the marquee, as well as sign up to volunteer all on this form. <https://cwsclients.wufoo.com/forms/the-pta-big-form/>

If you purchased your own school supplies or received the "ship to home" option from schooltoobox.com, you must still purchase the RCE specialty curriculum materials required by your grade level. <https://cwsclients.wufoo.com/forms/grade-level-specialty-school-supply-items/>

Purchase spirit wear online prior to **September 9**. Even if you ordered in the spring, be sure to take a look at the new merchandise being offered this fall! <https://cwsclients.wufoo.com/forms/spirit-wear-fall-201617/>

Register to volunteer. All volunteers must register and gain approval before starting volunteer service each year. If you were approved to volunteer during the 2015-16 school year, your status is valid until **October 1, 2016**. After that point, all returning volunteers need to be re-registered and approved for the 2016-17 school year. If you plan to attend field trips, help with class parties, be a Mystery Reader, help in the library, etc. then you **MUST** do this! <https://volunteer.springbranchisd.com>

Visit the PTA website, www.rcepta.com, to familiarize yourself with information that can be found there, including updated information on events happening at RCE, and be sure to like both the "Rummel Creek Elementary" and "RCE Auction" Facebook pages.

Important Dates:

8/25	<u>Odyssey of the Mind Informational Meeting (kiva)</u>	7:00 p.m.
8/26	<u>Room Parent Meeting (kiva)</u>	9:00 a.m.

<u>8/30</u>	<u>WatchDOGS Kick-Off Meeting (cafeteria/gym)</u>	<u>6:00 - 7:30 p.m.</u>
<u>9/1</u>	<u>First Day of SPIRAL (Thursdays this year)</u>	-
<u>9/2</u>	<u>PTA Back to School Coffee/General Meeting (cafeteria)</u>	<u>9:00 - 9:30 a.m. Coffee</u> <u>9:30 - 10:30 a.m. Meeting</u>
<u>9/5</u>	<u>NO SCHOOL - Labor Day</u>	-
<u>9/9</u>	<u>Big Form, Spirit Wear and Class Dues Deadlines</u>	-
<u>9/13</u>	<u>Picture Day</u>	-
<u>9/13</u>	<u>Spirit Night at Los Tios</u>	-
<u>9/15</u>	<u>Back to School Night</u>	<u>5:30 - 6:30 p.m. PK-2</u> <u>6:30 - 7:30 p.m. 3-5</u>
<u>9/21</u>	<u>District Scout Night (more info to come)</u>	<u>TBA</u>
<u>9/23</u>	<u>PTA Staff Appreciation Luncheon (hosted by Kinder)</u>	-
<u>9/30</u>	<u>SBEF Style Show at Royal Sonesta</u>	-
<u>10/3-7</u>	<u>GenTex Week</u>	-
<u>10/6</u>	<u>General PTA Meeting (kiva)</u>	<u>9:00 a.m.</u>
<u>10/7</u>	<u>NO SCHOOL for RCE students - Staff Development</u>	<u>NOT ON DISTRICT CALENDAR</u>

Message from the Principal

Hello again to all RCE families. We have had a very smooth start to our first full year in the new building. I visited with every class on the first day of school. We reviewed expectations, introduced new students, talked about the dress code, presented the new Spirit Stick, and shared examples of Olympians that showed respect in the recent games. Every student appears excited to be back in school. I was most impressed with the students' answers to the question, "What is the purpose of school in your life?"

Please adjust your calendars to reflect the date and times for our Back to School Night. On Thursday, September 15 @ 5:30 our Pre-K through 2nd grade parents will go to their child's classroom. Then at 6:30, parents of 3rd-5th grade students will meet with teachers. During these times, teachers will be covering information on curriculum, grading, and expectations. Because of the importance of the information that will be shared, this is a 'parent only' event. We hope all parents will be able to attend this event in order to set the stage for a successful year.

Nancy Harn
Principal @ Rummel Creek Elementary
713-251-6700

Help Needed - Open PTA Positions

RCE relies on the help of MANY PTA volunteers to keep our traditions going, and we can't do it without YOU! We are still looking for a few good men and women to step up to chair some of our committees, including:

Grandparents/Special Friends Day

Recycling

Red Ribbon Week

Reflections - Chair Kristen Jurek would LOVE a co-chair/helper

Senior Walk

5th Grade Talent Show

5th Grade Track Meet

If you're willing to lead any of these committees, or if you need more information, please contact Susan Marks (PTA President) at sgmarks@comcast.net or Caroline Bennett (1st VP - Committees) at carolinehbennett@hotmail.com. You can also indicate your interest on the Big Form (and thank you if you have already done so!)

School Supply Drive

School Supply Drive for Baton Rouge

The flooding in Baton Rouge has severely damaged several schools and displaced many students. In addition to finding temporary locations so that the students can begin their school year, they are greatly in need of school supplies and backpacks for all the displaced students. We will be collecting school supplies to send to these students. Several of our neighborhood families will be traveling back and forth delivering the supplies. If you're interested in helping out, please bring your donations any time between now and September 2nd and place them in the box in the foyer. Thank you for your generosity!

Odyssey of the Mind

Creativity, Teamwork, Problem Solving, STEM, Art...: Odyssey of the Mind gets them all on ONE extracurricular activity! Come to the awareness meeting on Thursday 8/25, at 7:00pm in the RCE Library. Contact RCE Coordinator Helen He for further questions (helen.he@bp.com).

We Are Girls Conference

WE ARE GIRLS CONFERENCE
FIND YOUR POWER
 GIRLS EMPOWERMENT NETWORK

**REGISTER OR APPLY FOR A SCHOLRSHIP
 FOR
 WE ARE GIRLS - AUSTIN**

EARLY BIRD TICKET SALES END SEPTEMBER 15TH!

And all you Houstonites - mark your calendars!
 We Are Girls - Houston is on April 29, 2017! We can't wait!

Who: Girls in grades 3rd -8th and the adults that care about them. (That includes parents, guardians, social workers, counselors and anyone else that supports young girls in their lives.)
Theme: 'Find Your Power'
When: Saturday, November 5, 2016 from 9am-3pm (Door open at 8am)
Where: Austin High School, 1715 West Cesar Chavez, Austin, TX 78703
Cost: Tickets are \$20 early bird rate per person until September 15, tickets are \$30 per person thereafter. You can also apply for a scholarship(s). If you are interested in applying for a scholarship for more than 10 people please email wearegirls@genAustin.org.

[Click here to register.](#)

Family Underwriting

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Through the generosity of our families we are able to ensure an exceptional education for our students. Your **tax deductible** contributions fund FOUR staff positions, technology upgrades, new library resources, cultural programs and continuing education for our teachers. The fact that the PTA can support 4 staff positions (reading specialist, reading interventionist, math interventionist, and library assistant) through the generosity of our families is amazing!

Let's continue the tradition of tremendous support for RCE to ready our kids and our school for success at the highest level!

Recognition Level

Donation

Platinum	\$1,500 and up
Gold	\$1,000-\$1,499
Silver	\$500-
	\$999
Bronze	\$250-\$499
Friend of Rummel Creek	\$100-\$249
Neighbor of Rummel Creek	\$50-\$99
Supporter of Rummel Creek	\$5-\$49

**CONTRIBUTE NOW through the PTA
BIG FORM!**

If you accidently skipped this on the Big Form, you can contribute online through the special [PTA Underwriting Form](#).

Company matching: Be sure to ask your employer if they match charitable contributions.

WATCH D.O.G.S.

Everyone is asking...What is WATCH D.O.G.S.® that I keep hearing about?

WATCH D.O.G.S.® (Dads Of Great Students) is an innovative father involvement program offered by the National Center for Fathering which Rummel Creek Elementary is enthusiastically adopting for the first time this year. This program focuses on safety and education by using the positive influence of fathers and father-figures for a two-fold purpose: (1) to provide an unobtrusive fathering presence, and (2) to provide a positive and active role-model for students at the school. Fathers, stepfathers, grandfathers and uncles are asked to spend at least one day at their student's school volunteering. They will support the school through monitoring the school entrance, assisting with unloading and loading of buses and cars, monitoring the lunch room, or helping in the classroom with a teacher's guidance either working one-on-one or in small groups.

For more information on this exciting new program, interested Watch DOGS (dads, etc.) should plan to join us in the cafeteria on August 30, from 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. For more information, please contact Chris Holmes, csholmes1@yahoo.com.