

# THE PARTNERSHIP PRESS

The Official Newsletter of Robinson Partnership

## SPECIAL OLYMPICS

### ALL THE WAY TO STATES!

Robinson Special Olympics is a fast growing program including both Unified and traditional teams in soccer, basketball, and track. For the first year ever, Robinson added an alumni team called "The Legends"! This year, The Legends soccer team led by Coach Maison and Coach Crenshaw made it all the way to states!

On Saturday November 3rd, the team packed their bags and headed for VA Beach! They played games on Saturday and Sunday and came in second in their division!

More than just playing soccer and winning an awesome medal, the team had an experience of a lifetime! They got to stay independently in the VA Beach hotel overlooking the ocean while eating, sleeping, and bonding as a team!

The team got dressed up and attended the Special Olympics opening ceremony at a local high school. The opening ceremony was complete with bands and the lighting of the torch! After the ceremony, everyone danced the night away (seriously, we were the last ones there!) at the athlete's dance!

"My favorite part of States is playing the games against the other teams and having so much fun at the dance with all my friends and other people. It was super inclusive, in many ways it was super special. I'm super grateful we got back to the championship road and hopefully we can get to do it again." - Nick Ortega



### BASKETBALL SEASON TO START!

First practice will be held on December 12th!

Contact Coach Crenshaw for more info!



## PARTNERSHIP CLASS

### FIELD TRIPS!

Each quarter the Partnership class builds relationships through field trips! In the first quarter, the class walked to University Mall and enjoyed a private showing of *The Incredibles 2*! This was a great opportunity for students to practice movie theater etiquette while having fun with their new friends. In the second quarter the class is going bowling! Each student will practice using money by paying for their bowling session and any snacks they choose to purchase. Stay tuned for pictures from bowling!!!

## LESSON PLANS

This quarter Partnership students started learning how to develop lesson plans. They work in small groups to create lessons following a specific format and including all components of a lesson plan including differentiation!

Each week, students will actually have the opportunity to teach a lesson on life skills or reading topics to the Foundations students in the class.

"Last year my favorite lesson that we did in Partnership was learning how to make a bed" -Lesley Akers

# PARTNER'S CLUB

## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD BOXES

Each month the Partner's Club has a service meeting where students work together on a small service project. In November, Partner's Club collected items and packed shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child. The boxes were filled with toys and self-care items and were sent to children in Uganda who wouldn't otherwise receive a gift. Students had a blast sorting toys and packing the boxes for boys and girls of all ages!

## UPCOMING PARTNER'S CLUB EVENTS!

- \*December 10th: Service Meeting "Sole Hope" 3:00-4:30 in the SGA Room!
- \*December 13th: WINTER WONDERLAND DANCE! 6:00-8:00 in Davala Hall
- \*January 10th: Karaoke Night! 6:00-8:00 in Davala Hall
- \*January 14th: Service Meeting "Blanket Making" 3:00-4:30 in the SGA Room.

"Packing the boxes was fun!"- Yuval Grossman



# RAISE AND SHINE

Raise and shine is a coffee cart that provides delicious warm drinks for teachers and staff members. The goal of this cart is to promote life skills development. Drinks are ordered, prepared, and served by the Robinson foundation students. This valuable job training is full of great skills that will be vital for their future.

Aside from the life skills, the students enjoy raise and shine days because it allows them to interact with teachers who they otherwise wouldn't have. Friendships have been made throughout the school, teachers look forward to a bright smile and a warm cup of joy.

HANG YOUR LAMINATED COFFEE SIGN ON YOUR ROOM ON THURSDAY/FRIDAY GOLD DAYS IF YOU WANT COFFEE! PLEASE HAVE CASH!



## WAT

by: Mrs. Medkeff

In Work Awareness and Transition class students have a lot of fun learning about the world of work and life after high school. Activities and lessons focus on the soft skills needed to be successful in any job and in all aspects of their lives. Students participate in school and community based work experiences including work sites at businesses in the community in which students can practice soft skills such as working as a part of a team, following directions and problem solving. At the end of each week, students who have worked hard and demonstrated good work habits earn a pay day reward!

A highlight of the class is how students are able to help teachers and serve the entire school. Students complete jobs for Robinson faculty and staff (and the occasional student) pressing letters for bulletin boards and displays, preparing mass mailings (folding letters, stuffing and sealing envelopes) collating materials for teachers, laminating, cutting, counting

graduation cords, and delivering jobs around the building to name a few. It is surprising some of the requests we get, but students always do their best to help others at Robinson.

Once a month WAT students meet with student leaders from the Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA). They learn about aspects of the working world. Recently they met and talked about how to dress for success. Fun was had by all! The students look forward to meeting again later this month.





## INCLUSIVE SCHOOLS WEEK HIGHLIGHT!

by Abbie Glaser

Inclusive schools week was celebrated on December 3-7. Robinson participated in activities that promoted acceptance and inclusion. Some activities included the walk in my shoes simulation, and an adapted fitness lesson with not only partnership students but all personal fitness classes were invited to participate.

---

**Inclusion: involvement and empowerment, where the inherent worth and dignity of all people are recognized.**

### Walk In My Shoes

Walk in my shoes is a non profit organization that was developed by a mother of a special needs student. She felt that many kids and adults did not understand what it was like to have a disability. She wanted to create a program that encouraged empathy. Robinson adapted the program and presented a simulation aimed toward high schoolers.

The simulations were held on December 4. Over 100 students learned about disabilities and underwent fun, confusing, and difficult activities to help develop a sense of empathy. The reactions of the students was enlightening. After each class was put through the 5 different simulations, they wrote notes of constructive criticism and strengths. Students showed true understanding and compassion for what its like to live with a disability. They expressed an interest in learning more about the struggles people face everyday. We can't wait for next year!

If you're interested in learning more about the walk in my shoes program, visit the link below.

[www.walkinmyshoes.net](http://www.walkinmyshoes.net)

# MEMBER HIGHLIGHT!

## TERESA LEWIS

by: Ms. Kruzynski & Mrs. Miller



Ms. Lewis has been teaching in FCPS for 22 years and comes to Robinson after teaching in general education and special education for 5 years at Terra Center!

Ms. Lewis is the mom of two kids: daughter Jordan (15) and son Ryan (12). She also have a dog, Chance, "who thinks he is a goat and will eat anything and everything under the sun ☺"

She is a die-hard Washington sports fan and has a huge crush on Optimus Prime (Transformers) and " I won't lie, I am a little obsessed with Disneyworld!"

Ms. Lewis loves watching reality TV and traveling with her kids over the summers to explore new countries, "So far, St. John, U.S.V.I. is my favorite".

## Q & A WITH MS.LEWIS

Why do you love teaching/special education?

Ever since I was a little girl, I have always wanted to be a teacher and after teaching kindergarten and 2nd grade for several years, I wanted to try special education. I have worked with special education preschool to 6th grade, and I now have the pleasure of working with some awesome high schoolers. I find that I really enjoy teaching and I have the unique perspective of having experience in general education and special education, so I think it helps me to make informed decisions when it comes to individual student needs.

How are you liking Robinson so far?

Robinson is the only high school I wanted to work at, so I am really liking it so far! I am enjoying meeting new people while also having the opportunity to reconnect with familiar faces from my days in elementary school! I am still learning about Blue/Gold days-I'm not sure if I will ever understand it ☺, but I truly like everyone's willingness to pitch in and help each other out.



CONNECT WITH ROBINSON PARTNERSHIP

[www.robopartnership.weebly.com](http://www.robopartnership.weebly.com)