

## MINUTES NOT APPROVED BEFORE POSTING ON PTO WEBSITE

### Herod PTO Meeting

November 17, 2009

6:30 pm – 7:10 pm – Presentation on Renzulli Learning System

Parents set up their own parent Login IDs and added their students to their account. See attached page for overview of Renzulli Learning System.

7:15 pm PTO Meeting called to order

Reviewed October's meeting notes, no changes were made and they were approved.

#### Principal report:

Construction on the new building is up and running.

The move to the new building is expected by Jan 2011. Total completion of the new building and tearing down of the existing building is expected by May 2011. During the construction process there is security in place. The only people that are allowed on the construction site are Ms. Nixon and Mr. Johnson. Everyone working on our site is finger printed, back ground checked and cleared. There should be little interaction between our current school and the new site, they are considered to be separate.

Magnet tours are going well.

If anyone has any creative ideas for fundraising, please let us know. An example might be selling bricks from the old school with "Herod" written on them.

There have been no new Rainbow's End donations since the last PTO meeting. About 45% of families have joined and about \$12,500 has been raised. That is short of our goal.

#### Danna Garcia:

The Book Fair is off to a slow start. We are hoping that sales pick up in the next few days. Book Fair doesn't necessarily raise money for the school, but books are supplied to the library and classrooms based on the total book sales generated at Book Fair.

The teacher should have filled out request cards at the Book Fair so that parents can buy books for the classrooms. Not all teachers have done this so far.

The last day to buy Book Fair dinner tickets is Wednesday. Tickets will probably not be sold on Thursday. The dinner is spaghetti supplied by Jamie's Fine Foods. Last year 250 people bought tickets and so far this year sales are less than half of that.

Parents need to sign up for the Herod Yahoo Email Group to receive email updates of things going on at the school and notifications of opportunities to get involved.

Thursday night, Nov 19<sup>th</sup> :

Literacy Night. There will be activities in the classrooms from 5:30 – 7:00.

Book Fair Dinner. Starts at 5:30.

Book Fair. Open til 7:30.

Directory:

The directory is currently being proofed. We are hoping that it will go out before Thanksgiving.

Auction:

Date is set for Saturday, March 27<sup>th</sup> at Brae Burn Country Club. The theme is “Peace, Love and Herod.” There will be many offsite planning meetings. Parents are encouraged to get involved in the planning, there are lots of different things to prepare for auction. Meetings are promised to be fun.

Shannon Groenewold:

Magnet Week is going well. Two parents at the meeting volunteered to help on the Wednesday tour. All volunteer spots for the rest of the week are covered.

Molly Brechtel:

December’s PTO meeting will be off site, probably at Molly’s house. May’s PTO meeting is off site also, usually at a restaurant.

PACT (Parent Administration Community Teacher Committee)

This is a shared decision making committee. Things such as budget, parent concerns and rating issues are discussed. There are forms in the front office called TOC (Topic of Concern) that you can fill out if you have any issues that you want to have discussed at a PACT meeting. The PACT members rotate off of the committee and spots do become available if you are interested. This committee meets once a month on a Monday.

Suggestions:

Herod Girls (Parents) Night Out.

This may help in strengthening friendships – a chance for moms to get to know other moms. Possible date will be in January or February.

Fabulous Fridays.

May be good to have this in the evening time for working parents who want to get involved.

If you have any ideas or suggestions for the Pre-PTO informational meeting (from 6:30 – 7:00 pm) please let us know.

Thanksgiving lunch with the kids on Thursday, Nov 19<sup>th</sup>.

You must purchase tickets for this event. You will get a school prepared lunch and be able to go outside of the building and have a picnic with your child.

Teacher Appreciation luncheon is on Friday, Nov 20<sup>th</sup>.  
Volunteers are not necessarily needed for this event. It is just listed on the PTO announcements so that parents realize that PTO money is being spent for this.

Thanksgiving PTO Food Drive:

You can donate grocery store gift cards or cash. Give these donations to Ms. Palmer in the front office. PTO only collects the money, Ms. Palmer distributes the money.

Another way to donate is to give your teacher \$2 and let her know that it is for the Thanksgiving Food Drive – this will buy your child a free dress day on Friday, Nov 20<sup>th</sup>.

8:05 pm – Meeting over

**Herod Elementary School  
PTO Meeting  
Tuesday, November 17, 2009**

**Welcome**

**Kristin Reeves/ Molly Brechtel**

**Reports:**

**Oct minutes for approval  
Principal Report  
Treasurer Report**

**Shannon Groenwold  
Jerri Nixon  
Celeste Mee**

**Committees:**

**Rainbow's End  
Book Fair  
Book Fair dinner  
Magnet Awareness  
Directory  
Auction**

**Tammy Feldstein  
Jenny Skjonsby  
Stacy Skalsky  
Shannon Groenwold  
Danna Garcia/Kristin Reeves  
Kristin Reeves**

**Closing Comments**

**Announcements:**

**Mon, 11/16 – Fri, 11/20  
Mon, 11/16- Fri, 11/20  
Thurs, 11/19**

**Wed, 11/18  
Fri, 11/20  
Mon, 11/23  
Wed, 11/25-Fri, 11/27  
Thurs, 11/25  
Tues, 12/15  
Thur, 12/17**

**Book Fair  
Magnet Awareness Week  
Book Fair Dinner and Literacy Night  
(tickets must be pre-purchased)  
Herod Night @ Gugliani's  
Teacher Appreciation  
Chick-Fil-A Night  
Thanksgiving holidays  
Cici's Pizza Night  
PTO meeting  
Teacher Appreciation**

# RENZULLI LEARNING SYSTEM

*An Education Partnership with Houston ISD  
Connecting the Curriculum to Kids' Lives*

## What is Renzulli Learning?

•Renzulli Learning is an online learning tool that connects students with **safe, dynamic, exciting, and fun activities**. Based on over 30 years of educational research, Renzulli Learning connects students with fun and proven learning tools.

•The **Renzulli Learning Profile** identifies each child's unique abilities, interest areas, learning styles, and expression styles.

•The system **differentiates instruction** for each student by matching activities to the unique answers of each child's learning profile.

•Teachers can send students engaging activities, assignments, and projects that are **customized to the HISD curriculum** objectives and the Texas Performance Standards Project.

•The new **Personal Success Plan** helps students identify heroes and helpers in their lives, explore careers, and learn goal setting and planning strategies.

•Students can **communicate virtually** and work collaboratively on assignments in the system.

## Where Can My Child Use Renzulli?

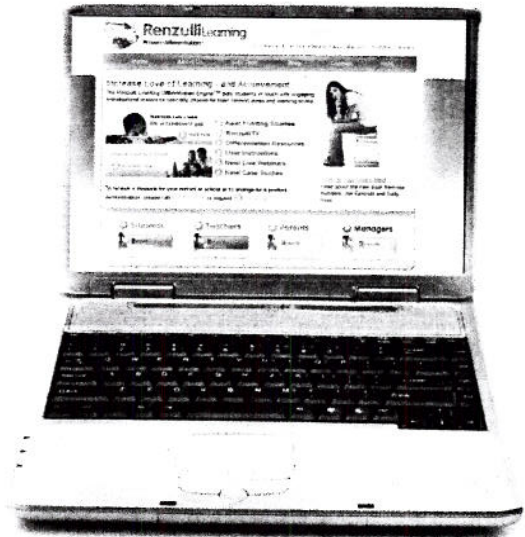
From any internet connection. (i.e. school, home, public library, etc.) 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

## Does It Cost Anything?

No. Houston ISD has purchased access to the system for all students on all campuses, K-12.

## Can I Monitor My Child's Work?

Yes. Sign-up for free parent access today! Parents can view their child's profile, work, sites visited, assignments, projects, and much more!



## Parent Access

### English

- 1)Go to [www.renzullilearning.com](http://www.renzullilearning.com).
- 2)Click the purple Parents button.
- 3)Find the sentence, "If you are here for the first time and want to register as a parent, please click [here](#)." and click [here](#).
- 4)Enter your child's username and password. (Up to 5 children.)
- 5)Complete the parent registration form.
- 6)Click Submit.

### Espanol

- 1)Escriba [www.renzullilearning.com](http://www.renzullilearning.com) en la barra de dirección navegador de Internet.
- 2)Haga clic en el botón de Padres morado en la parte inferior de la página.
- 3)Busque la frase: "Si usted está aquí por primera vez y desea inscribirse como Padre, por favor haga clic [aquí](#)." Haga clic en el enlace azul [aquí](#).
- 4)Ingrese el nombre de usuario de su hijo/a y la contraseña en las casillas correspondientes.
- 5)Ingrese la información solicitada.
- 6)Haga clic en Enviar (Submit).