



The Barbara B. Rose Elementary School PTO Executive Board is (in front from left) Angela Llerena, Cori Cornelissen, and Barkha Kuvadía Barister. In back, from left is: Ronika Goyal, Jared Kilgore, Vera Hiles, and Rebecca Koenig. Location courtesy of The Hampton Social in South Barrington.

## Rose School Parents Make the Grade

Barrington 220's Barbara B. Rose Elementary School in South Barrington has the most diverse student population in the school district, yet the parents operate together as one big family with student learning and school experience as their core values. Led by the Rose PTO Executive Board, the parent's focus at this Blue Ribbon (2014) and A+ Niche rated school is on the more than 425 students who attend grades K-5 there.

The school year is a nonstop showcase of activities that Rose parents make possible. Thirty committees manned by more than 70 parent volunteers offer events that reach out within their school and within the Barrington 220 district. A Back to School Picnic in August, Family Fun Night in September, Barrington Giving Day in November, Family Fitness Night, and Bus Driver Appreciation effort in December are just a few of the parent-supported events that bring the Rose community together.

"Rose is committed to providing all students with an enriching, innovative, and motivating learning environment, while supporting students' social and emotional needs," Principal Heather Schumacher said. "Our staff and parents work collaboratively to inspire each student to have the mindset that they will be a successful and contributing member of our global society."

Last year was the school's 20th anniversary gala with a fundraising goal to finance a new school playground, which was met with great success. "We are very grateful for the support of our wonderful PTO," said Principal Heather Schumacher. "Rose has a tight-knit community that is always willing to work with us to provide the best opportunities for our students. The kids love their new playground!"

The Rose PTO and its parent committees work hard to create meaningful student and family activities, as well as to help with a variety of school improvement projects. There is a Teacher Appreciation Week, school spirit-wear to order, and helping hands needed for Blessings in a Backpack which is hosted by Barrington Children's Charities. Music programs, field days, book fairs, cultural nights, and author visits are just a few of the activities made possible by Rose parents.

In February 2020, the Rose PTO is hosting its annual fundraiser at Neoteca in downtown Barrington, led by Avani Patel, Payal Trivedi, and Anjali Talati, to help with future school initiatives. It's also a chance for the Rose parents to catch up with each other and talk about the year ahead. 