



2021 Phil Barber Award for Outstanding Community Patron

Janet Bassingthwaite & Christine Romano

Every once in a great while, all things fall into place at just the right time, and people's paths cross at just the precise moment to make amazing things happen. That's what happened in the spring of 2020 when Christine Romano and Janet Bassingthwaite met each other.

Both ladies have been living in Southlake for a while, Janet since 2007 and Christine since 2011, but their paths had been staggered. Both of them volunteered their time to serve on MOPS boards, but during different times. When Christine joined the Old Union Elementary PTO board last spring as the Fundraising Chair, she met Janet who was the President. They both knew right away that they were going to be fast friends! What they didn't know was

that the world as we knew it was about to be turned upside down with Covid-19. When Covid hit they knew they needed to be ready to pivot and adapt. It was such a dark time, they knew they wanted to do something to bring light and hope back to the forefront. In the fall of 2020, they came up with the idea of Dragons Light the Night. It would quickly grow to not only include OUES PTO but other CISD elementary schools as well. In February of 2021, these amazing ladies had formed committees, gotten sponsors, engaged the entire community & taken over Town Square - in the end, they raised well over \$50,000 directly for our schools! Dragons Light the Night 2022 is proud to have all of our CISD PTOs participating and is looking forward to an incredible year! Follow the example of these two incredible Dragon Moms, you never know what, or who, is just around the corner and you never know what you can accomplish.

Don't see obstacles in your path, see them as opportunities to realize your potential, strength, and your Dragon heart!