



Renaissance Report

JUNE 12, 2019



**This is the final Renaissance
Report Weekly Newsletter
for this school year! Thank
you for reading it each
week. We have enjoyed
communicating with you!**





Join Us!

Renaissance Public School Academy
Groundbreaking Ceremony
East Side of School Building
Friday, June 14, 2019 11:30 a.m.

WHAT

- A 9,500 square foot addition of four classrooms, restrooms, and a Project Exploration Space the equivalent size of approximately four classrooms.
The addition is about the size of two of our existing pods.

WHY

- Our school has reached our authorized, maximum enrollment of 450 students for 2019-20.
- The current building is ideally built for 325 students in traditional classroom settings of desks in rows.
- Project Based Learning requires space for group work and the creation of projects of extended periods of time. We have run out of room to work together, create student driven learning and showcase that learning for others.

FAQ

- **Is RPSA adding more classrooms to increase enrollment?**
No. We have grown our enrollment and developed our vision for learning in an environment not suited for Project Based Learning. This new space allows us to realize our vision and mission in a true PBL environment.
- **Will RPSA be adding staff?**
No. We have all of our multi-age teams and support staff in place. This new space will mean staff will have more space to better guide student learning.
- **What about the parking lot?!?!?**
The project will include an expansion of our existing parking lot by approximately 20 spaces. Though it does not solve all of our parking challenges, it is a step in the right direction.



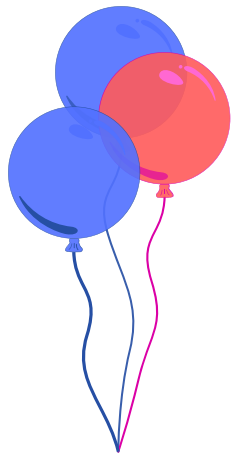
Renaissance Public School Academy
Facility Expansion

COSTS

- Costs for the building structure estimated at \$1.2 million dollars are being paid for with a loan from IFF of \$1 million dollars and \$200,000 from the RPSA general fund budget/fund equity.
- \$65,000 grant to purchase furniture and equipment to support a Project Based Learning environment throughout the new and existing classrooms supported by the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe.

TIMELINE

- 2017-18
Project visioning, financing secured and architectural designs created
- Spring, 2019
Initial project bidding and permits secured
- June, 2019
Groundbreaking
- July, 2019
Site preparation and construction begins
- Winter, 2020
Estimated construction completion
- Spring, 2020
Estimated internal finish work completed
- June, 2020
New construction ribbon cutting ceremony
- August, 2020
RPSA classrooms being utilized by students, staff and families



Field Day

June 14, 2019!

The Annual RPSA Field Day will be held on our last day of school!

We are so excited to celebrate the groundbreaking on our new addition! The groundbreaking will happen at 11:30, followed by an all school family lunch! Pack a picnic or sack lunch and join your child for lunch on our last day! Lunch will conclude at 12:15.

Field Day Event Times:

Kindergarten, Voyagers, Islanders: 9-11am
Trailblazer & Middle School: 12:30-2:30pm

**An ICTC shuttle will do a continuous loop from First Baptist Church:
11:15 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**



PROUDLY ANNOUNCING

RENAISSANCE PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMY

KINDERGARTEN GRADUATION

HELP US CELEBRATE OUR RPSA GRADUATES!

RPSA GYMNASIUM

JUNE 12, 2019

6PM

***Please have students in their classrooms
by 5:45.**



RPSA 8TH GRADE GRADUATION

8th grade students and their families are invited to celebrate with us at our graduation ceremony in the gymnasium.

JUNE 13TH AT 6:00 PM

8th graders should arrive
by 5:30 PM and meet in the
Middle School Pod C.

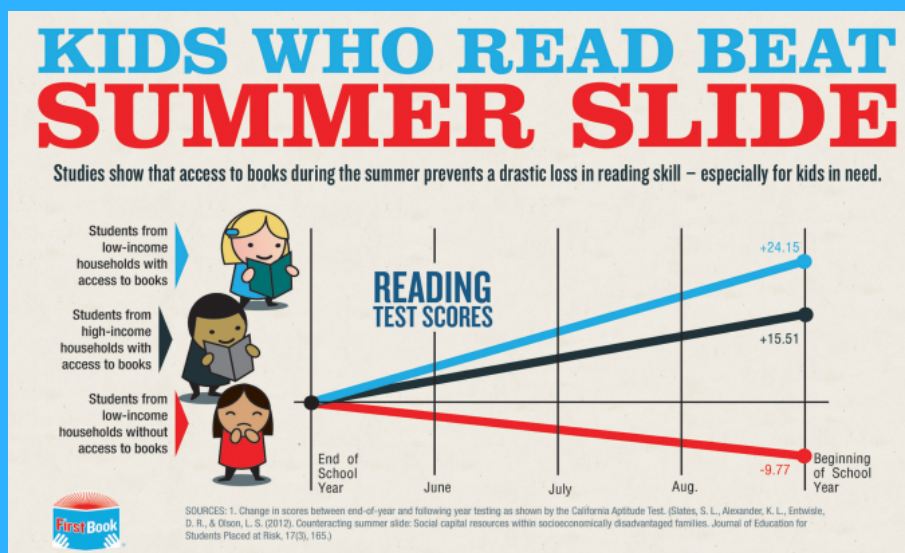
Exciting news...FREE BOOKS!

We have EXCITING news to share! Your child will be receiving an RPSA backpack filled with books this week! These books have been chosen especially for your child. He or she had an opportunity earlier this spring to choose some of the titles they would enjoy reading over the summer. The staff at RPSA would like to send a huge thank you to the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe for this amazing opportunity to provide books for all students. We know that reading only a few books (12-15 books for grades K-2 and 4-6 books for grades 3-8) can dramatically decrease the effects of summer slide!

What is Summer Slide?

What Is It?

“Summer Slide” is the tendency for students to lose some of the achievement gains they made during the school year. Did you know that children in low-income households fall behind an average of 2 months in reading during the summer? Also, summer slide is cumulative, which means these learning losses build up each summer. Imagine what this might mean for students as they move from grade-to-grade!



What Can We Do?

Access to books is critical! The public library is an excellent free resource for families to have access to books in a wide range of interests and reading levels, as well as librarians to guide children and families in selecting great books.

When children select reading materials themselves and read for enjoyment, they receive the most gains in reading achievement, including better reading comprehension, writing style, vocabulary, spelling, and grammatical development. Also, the longer that this free, voluntary reading is practiced, the more consistent and positive the results.

Children and teens tend to read more when adults in their lives encourage them to read, and also when they see those adults reading often themselves.

Children that feel that reading is fun tend to read more often, so summer programs that help make reading enjoyable and social are most successful.

Reading just 4-6 books in grades 3-8 and 12-15 books in grades K-2 over the summer has the potential to prevent a decline in reading achievement scores from the spring to the fall, so even small steps are very beneficial.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at your convenience.

Laura Bailey

Literacy Coach, RPSA

lbailey@renaissancepsa.com



Have you registered yet?!

Registration forms and price information available in
the RPSA newsletter and at the front office.

Session 1: July 8th-18th

Think Like a Scientist!

All campers will have the chance to learn how to study and observe like a scientist! Camp will offer outdoor exploration, experiments, and hands on activities during these two weeks to engage our young scientists! Voyagers will complete a project in Entomology, Islanders will become Paleontologist, and Trailblazers will become museum curators with real exhibits from the Museum of Science and Natural History at CMU!

Field Trips include Museum of Science/4H Gardens at MSU and Impression 5 as well as grade level specific day trips!



Session 2: July 29th - August 8th

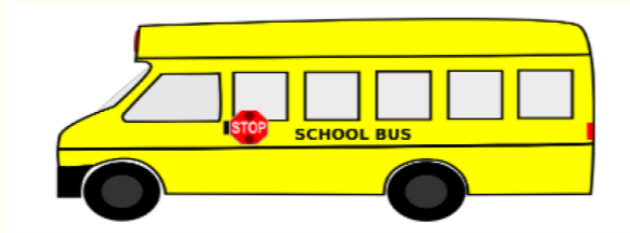
Innovation & STEM

Campers will be immersed in hands on learning as we explore ways to innovate, think creatively, and develop new solutions to existing problems. Voyagers will study biomimicry to learn the Science of flight from birds, Islanders will innovate new games and entertainment options from recycled materials, and Trailblazers will design and build boats - to actually fish from!

Field Trips include the Air Zoo in Kalamazoo, local trips for each grade level, and an end of camp celebration at a local park!



Athletics Announcement



Beginning next year, Renaissance Athletics will no longer be transporting its student-athletes via bus. Many factors went into this decision, and we are more excited than ever about the direction our athletics program is headed.

We could not be more pleased with the service we received these past six years from Shepherd Schools, and their transportation department. They have been absolutely wonderful for our student-athletes, and they have been very professional to work with. That being said, we wanted everyone to know that our decision has nothing to do with the drivers or buses that transported us.

As I have mentioned in recent newsletters, and in the athletics website, be on the lookout for new and exciting changes to our athletics program. This is the first announcement, and there will be more to come. Please understand that, as decisions are made, we will keep everyone informed of those changes. We are not trying to be mysterious; however, we do not want to announce decisions that have not been made.

Please understand that we believe every decision that is made is what is best for the program. What this decision DOES mean is that, moving forward, families will be in charge of transporting their children to and from athletic events.

Be on the lookout for future changes...they will be announced as they are made. Thank you for your patience, trust, and understanding. Go Rams!

Sincerely,
Mr. McCausey, RPSA Athletic Director

Interested in playing sports next school year? You may want to take advantage of this opportunity!



Cox Sports Medicine
and Orthopedic Surgery
Benjamin A. Cox, D.O.
Located at 2600 Three Leaves Drive, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

FREE SPORTS PHYSICALS!

For the months of June and July
989-418-3777
www.coxsportsmedicine.com



Please contact our
office for an
appointment.

Yearbooks Are Still Available!!

Forgot to order a yearbook?
NO problem!! We have plenty
left at the office.

Cost \$12.00

See Ms. Tina for help with
getting a 2018-2019 yearbook!!



Interested in running Cross Country in the fall?

Mrs. Papenfus is hosting an informational meeting for any families that may have students interested in becoming a Running Ram this fall!

When:

Thursday Morning at 7:40 am
(in the STEM Lab)

What:

This informal meeting will cover everything you need to know about the Renaissance Cross-country program.

Who:

Any student who will be in 5th-8th grade
in the fall.

Why:

Cross-country is awesome!

Youth Police Academy is a free program for youth in grades 6-8 who have an interest in law enforcement. You can pick up an application at the Department of Public Safety, 804 E. High Street.



Youth Police Academy

July 8 - 25, 2019
(Monday - Thursday)
9am - 3pm



Mt. Pleasant Area
community foundation
For good. For ever.

This is a free program for youth, grades 6-8, who have an interest in law enforcement.

Application deadline is June 17.

(989) 506-2714
Mt. Pleasant School's
Liaison Officer

Mt. Pleasant
[meet here]

Application deadline is June 17th!

MEET UP and EAT UP

**Healthy food
to fuel your summer.**

Come and fuel your summer with free lunches for children 18 and under. We will be serving free healthy meals to anyone in the community or visiting the community at our locations.

Fancher Elementary 801 S. Kinney Ave Mount Pleasant, MI 48858
June 24th-August 16th from 11:00-1:00

Vowles Elementary 1560 S. Watson Road Mount Pleasant, MI 48858
June 24th-August 16th from 11:00-1:00

Pullen Elementary 251 S Brown Mount Pleasant, MI 48858
June 24th-August 2nd from 11:00-1:00

Ganiard Elementary 101 S. Adams Mount Pleasant, MI 48858
August 5th-August 23rd from 11:00-1:00

All locations are closed July 4th and 5th

We are so
thankful
for this
community
program!