

July 21, 2021

Dear RPSA Families,

On behalf of the RPSA staff we sincerely hope that your family is finding some time to enjoy each other's company this summer. Though it may be a bit quieter than usual around the school, there are lots of things happening as we prepare for the upcoming school year.

Our **summer family events** have been a huge hit. Week one 117 people attended one of the magic shows and 178 people stopped by the zoo the second week. Week three's "Around Town" event had 116 people attend with week four's trip to the Loons taking a total of 98. Rumor has it some serious fish were caught (and then released) at last week's family fishing event. Keep a watch on the RPSA Facebook page for the final few events this summer.

You may notice a new roof on the main building. It was completely reshingled earlier this month. There is new carpet in the Pod C/Traiblazer classrooms and new furniture in the Voyager classrooms. The walls that were taken down last year between our Middle School classrooms have been rebuilt. The last, big, summer project will be several concrete slabs for picnic tables on both playgrounds and a new basketball court for the upper elementary playground. Ms. Barb and Ms. Char are painting and cleaning non-stop in anticipation of a school full of students on **August 24**. And though we could not get it scheduled before August, we will have a completely refurbished gym floor by mid-September. We can't wait to show off all of the improvements during family visits in early August.

Yes! You read that correctly! We are planning to return to in person, individual **family visits** for all students and their families the first two weeks of August. **Classlists** are being finalized. Families can expect a call in early August to set up a time with the classroom teacher.

There have been lots of questions about procedures for the fall regarding **masks** at school. We want to let our families know that we are engaging in every opportunity to remain informed on the latest guidance and requirements for schools. At this time we are gathering feedback from our staff members. Next week the leadership team will be attending a meeting with the health department and other area school leaders. After that meeting we plan to survey our families. We believe it is important to get input from all stakeholders before making a final decision. The start of the school year is still a month off and much can change in that time. For those who would like to share more detailed thoughts than a survey may allow, emails can be sent to Lisa Bergman, Executive Director, at lbergman@renaissancepsa.com at any time. Special thanks to the families who have already taken the opportunity to share their thoughts.

Finally, the question of after school **PEAK** has been asked by many families as we work to return to a normal school year schedule. We have been in constant contact with officials from the city of Mt. Pleasant in the parks and recreation department. We plan to meet again in early August to review the feasibility of PEAK offering a program at RPSA. We realize many families rely on after school care, especially on early release Wednesdays. We are committed to offering viable options for the upcoming school year either through the PEAK program or other avenues if necessary. Look for a question in the upcoming survey and more information at your child's family visit with their teacher.

Every once in a while, check Seesaw, Facebook and your emails for updates as the start of the school year draws closer. In the meantime, enjoy your summer with family and friends and read a good book or two.

Sincerely,
The RPSA Staff