



Summer Updates, July 31, 2019

Dear RPSA Families,

We sincerely hope your families are enjoying your break. Many things are happening at Renaissance, even though it is summer. We wanted to update everyone as we prepare for the school year ahead.

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

Our first day of school will be BEFORE Labor Day this year. We will welcome students back on Monday, August 26. We will have a four day week with no school on Friday, August 30 or Monday, September 2 in observation of the Labor Day holiday.

Our school day will run from 8:00-3:25 daily. Doors will open each morning at 7:30am. Our school day ends at 2:00 on Wednesdays. PEAK will be available again this year until 6:00pm daily.

OPEN HOUSE

All students and family members are invited to our annual hot dog picnic Open House on Wednesday, August 21 from 5:00-6:30. We will be serving hot dogs and chips while classrooms are open from 5:00-6:00 for students to drop off their first day of school supplies while touring their classroom. Back to school paperwork will be filled out that evening.

CLASS LISTS AND FAMILY VISITS

Teachers will be making personal phone calls to all students on their class lists beginning July 31. Our goal is to meet one on one, face to face with 100% of our families by our August 21 Open House. Please call the school if your phone number has changed over the summer.

CHANGES TO OUR BREAKFAST AND LUNCH PROGRAM

Due to changes at the state level our school is no longer eligible for universal free breakfast and lunch for all students. As a result students will need to pay to eat breakfast and lunch at school beginning this year. A full price meal will cost \$2.00 for breakfast and \$3.50 for lunch. Students who qualify for a reduced price meal will pay .30 cents for breakfast and .40 cents for lunch. Families will need to fill out an application to determine if their children are eligible for free or reduced meals. Our staff is prepared to assist any family in completing the required paperwork if necessary. Families who do not qualify for a free or reduced meal program will need to pay for breakfast and lunch if their child chooses to eat at school. As always, a student may bring a cold lunch from home.

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

As of mid-July we are still waiting on the necessary permits from the state and township to begin construction. As we begin the process it will surely be obvious since we anticipate lots of digging in the front and the back of the school. Please be patient! The new addition we will have in the end will be worth all of the challenges we will face this year.

LEADERSHIP AT RENAISSANCE

Over the past several years RPSA has grown to be a unique school of choice for students in the mid-Michigan area. After re-enrollment and open enrollment last spring we exceeded our enrollment cap of 450 students and now have waiting lists for enrollment at every grade level.

Last spring the RPSA School Board decided to transfer greater leadership and operations oversight to our staff by ending our full service management agreement with an outside company and reorganizing our school's leadership structure. This means even greater local control of our mission and vision as a school. It also means that there will be some changes in leadership responsibilities at Renaissance going forward.

Lisa Bergman, Executive Director

Mrs. Bergman will be taking on greater responsibilities working with the RPSA School Board and furthering the vision and mission of our school. It is the intent of the school board and RPSA leadership to further advance our school by building partnerships with local, state and national organizations with similar visions of student learning.

Brandy Reihl, RPSA Business Manager

Miss Brandy, as she has been known since the school opened over 24 years ago, will now be responsible for all day to day business operations of the school. Brandy will continue to work with our authorizer, CMU, as well as coordinate all the business of the RPSA School Board. Brandy will coordinate and supervise all non-certified classroom staff. She will ultimately be

responsible for the leadership and decision making related to the business operations of our school.

Henry Mayer, Dean of Curriculum and Instruction

With close to 20 years of experience at RPSA, Mr. Mayer will continue to have oversight of all curriculum, instruction, assessment and technology. He will work directly with our three instructional coaches, classroom teachers and interventionist to further develop the strengths of our incredible teaching staff. Mr. Mayer will supervise all certified staff. All things teaching and learning will be lead by Mr. Mayer.

Sarah Anderson, Dean of Students

Mrs. Anderson will be taking on the leadership of all student related needs for our school. She will continue to coordinate special education services, 504 plans, medical plans and other unique student needs as well as the day to day student experiences for all of our students. Mrs. Anderson will be our school's point of contact for families for all student related needs.