



Tuesday, November 17, 2020

Dear RPSA Families,

After much consideration of countless factors, we have made the decision to close our building to in school learning beginning Monday, November 23 through Friday, January, 8. Virtual learning will take place for all students during this time with a return to in school learning anticipated on January 11, 2021.

This decision was not made lightly. We have had 14 weeks of successful, safe learning for Renaissance students both at school and learning from a distance. To ensure the future safety and well being of students, staff and families the RPSA administration, staff and school board collectively believe it is time to transition all students to distance learning until after the holiday break.

We will continue the rest of this week as planned.

- Wednesday, 11/18 as a distance learning day for all RPSA students.
- Thursday (11/19) and Friday (11/20) as usual.
- All learning supplies, including books, project supplies and chromebooks will be sent home with students at the end of the day on Friday, 11/20.

| Week Of | Expectations |
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| November 23 - November 27 Distance Learning for all students K-8 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monday and Tuesday are modified, student learning days. Students must attend their scheduled Morning Meeting, their specials both days and complete the learning expectations shared both days. Our intent is to maintain connections with students both days and at the same time allow teachers time to plan for the four weeks of distance learning in Dec/Jan. • No school Wed-Fri |
| November 30 - December 4 Distance Learning for all students K-8 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Five full days of student learning. Participation is required and attendance is taken every day based on work completion and Google Meet participation. |
| December 7 - December 11 Distance Learning for all students K-8 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mon/Tues/Thurs/Fri are four, full student learning days. Participation is required and attendance is taken every day based on work completion and Google Meet participation. • Wednesday, 12/9 is a non-student day dedicated to virtual Student Led Conferences (SLC) between individual students, their parents/guardians and teachers. SLC's will be scheduled with the classroom teacher through Seesaw communication. |

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| <p>December 14 - December 18 Distance Learning for all students K-8</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Five full days of student learning. Participation is required and attendance is taken every day based on work completion and Google Meet participation. |
| <p>December 21 - January 1</p> | <p>Winter Break - No School for two full weeks</p> |
| <p>January 4 - January 8 Distance Learning for all students K-8</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Five full days of student learning. Participation is required and attendance is taken every day based on work completion and Google Meet participation. |
| <p>January 11 Anticipated return to In School learning for students who choose to return to learning at the school building.</p> | <p>Families will be given the opportunity to select to return to In School learning or opt to remain in Distance Learning through a survey in mid December.</p> |

WE MUST STRESS THAT ATTENDANCE IN GOOGLE MEETS AND WORK COMPLETION IS NOT OPTIONAL DURING THIS BUILDING CLOSURE. Students must attend Morning Meetings, small group learning sessions, one-on-one meetings and complete all required school work shared through Seesaw and/or Google Classroom. Last school year our focus was on maintaining connections and ensuring the safety and well being of students. This year we assume those expectations AND daily attendance, the rigor of daily learning as well as work completion. We cannot stress enough that this time is not optional. If your child becomes ill and cannot participate you must communicate that to the teacher and the office at 989-773-9889.

TECHNOLOGY NEEDS

Each student will be assigned a chromebook and a charge cord. This technology is to be used for learning and must be returned in working order to the school when we reopen the school building. Technology questions, including repairs or replacements should be directed to the classroom teacher who will communicate appropriate steps to take.

SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL NEEDS

In cases where your child needs immediate assistance or the matter is confidential, we have set up a phone line specifically to meet those needs. You may contact Mrs. Anderson, our Dean of Students and School Social Worker, by leaving a detailed message at 989-492-8328. Mrs. Anderson will return your call as soon as possible.

NUTRITIONAL NEEDS

Weekly food distribution will take place every Monday from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. and again from 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. We will offer contactless, curbside pick up at the front of the school. Simply come between either of the stated times each week and pick up a week's worth of food for every student in your family.

As always, we deeply appreciate your partnership with us on this long and stressful journey. We are honored to be serving as the guides for your child's learning. We are taking these precautions now so we can return to the days of 450 students learning and growing under one roof. Until that time, please know we are here for your family.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Lisa Bergman
Executive Director, RPSA