



April 6, 2022

## Student Led Conferences

Spring Student Led Conferences (SLCs) will take place on April 20th. Teachers will be sending a signup sheet via Seesaw. Our goal is 100% participation for our students, so please let your child’s teacher know if you need to make special arrangements. As we prepare with students at school, we’d like to share some information to help you prepare as well. Check out this helpful information about the purpose of an SLC:

An SLC is...	An SLC is not...
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- a time for students to dive deep into their learning of one or a few pieces of work that they are proud of with teacher guidance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the same as sending home a portfolio of work for parents to see</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- a chance for parents to ask their child about their learning and provide feedback on their growth</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- a one sided presentation of work</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- an opportunity for students to take a leadership role in their education and share about their learning</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- a time for the teacher to give a progress update</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- a partnership between the student, parents, and the teacher that is led by the student (any other adults important to the child can attend too!)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- an informal parent-teacher conference</li> </ul>

We are so excited to see each of you and give our students this amazing opportunity to grow in their understanding and ownership of the learning process. Look for a set of suggested questions to ask at your child’s SLC in next week’s newsletter.

## Weather Related Delays Through June, 2022

In an effort to capture as much instructional time as possible the remainder of this school year, we have made the decision that whenever possible Renaissance PSA will not be canceling the entire school day if there are weather concerns such as fog prior to the start of the school day. Instead we will call a two hour delay to the school day and begin at 10:00am. It has been our practice to follow the lead of surrounding schools when calling weather delays and closures. This will likely continue during the winter months in years to come. However, at this point in the spring when snow and ice are unlikely, a two hour delay allows families time to take it slow getting their children to school and then make it to work. So PLEASE watch your text messages specific to Renaissance if there are further delays or cancellations for area schools as it is our intention to only delay two hours if at all possible.

## Enrollment Update for the 2022/23 School Year

Current students at RPSA had the opportunity to re-enroll for next school year way back in February. In March, RPSA held an open enrollment period for students wishing to enroll for the 22/23 school year. Many of our grade levels are at or near capacity which means **we already have a few waiting lists in third and seventh grade for next year.** If you know of families with students interested in enrolling for next school year, encourage them to call Brandy Reihl at 989-773-9889 to set up an appointment to complete an application. With our open enrollment period closed all future applications will be considered on a first come, first serve basis.

## RAMS Camp Annoucement

It is with a heavy heart that we inform families we will not be offering RAMS Camp this summer due to a number of factors. Key planning and application processes happen in the winter and this year we were in a very different/difficult position with the pandemic. Fortunately many of those challenges have subsided, however we were not left with enough time to coordinate a quality program with the necessary staffing. It is our sincere hope that we are able to offer it again in 2023. Mt. Pleasant Parks and Recreation is offering their PEAK program and information is available online at their website.

We **WILL BE** offering a series of free, family events throughout the summer as we did last year. Those events are in the planning stages but will be held regularly, in the evenings similar to last year. Look for more information and a calendar of events in the coming weeks.



APRIL 29TH - MAY 1ST  
WALK-A-THON

APRIL 30TH ALL PLEDGE  
MONEY DUE TO RPSA

THIS IS A PTO  
FUNDRAISER TO RAISE  
FUNDS FOR CLASSROOMS,  
STAFF, AND FAMILIES.

# Second Annual RPSA Walk-A-Thon!

RPSA Families: Again this year, in lieu of our annual carnival and raffle fundraiser, the Rams PTO is holding our second annual walk-a-thon! This will be a fun event to motivate us to get active outside and enjoy springtime weather, all while supporting the teachers and staff of Renaissance Public School Academy.

Check out our local parks and recreation websites for some downloadable maps and some interactive GPS maps! Look on our Facebook page for more details!



## How do we get started?

1. Set a goal! How many minutes do you think you can walk over the weekend?
2. Get pledges! Safely ask friends, family members, etc. to support your efforts. Donors can pledge how much they want to give per minute you walk or they can give a flat donation.
3. Decide where and when you will walk. We have attached links to community parks for ideas on where to walk. You can also keep it simple and (with adult permission and supervision) walk around your home, yard, driveway, etc.
4. Send photos of you walking to the PTO: [renaissanceramspto@gmail.com](mailto:renaissanceramspto@gmail.com) to be shared on the school Facebook page for entry into drawings for fun prizes!
5. Collect your pledge money and turn in to the school by May 6th to be entered into more prize drawings.

To accommodate our continued circumstances, we are again replacing this year's carnival and raffle with a walk-a-thon. Although school has continued to look different this year, the PTO has still been working to support RPSA through teacher appreciation, classroom enrichment, and school community activities. We hope you will join us for our second annual walk-a-thon!

The Renaissance Rams PTO thanks our 2022 Walk-A-Thon Sponsors!





In addition to gathering pledges and walking in the walkathon, the PTO would also like to reach out to business owners and sponsors within our school community. Below is an excerpt from the letter that will be circulated to area businesses. If you are interested in sponsoring or know of a business that may be interested, please be sure to have them contact one of our PTO members listed below.

*On April 29 - May 1, 2022 the RPSA PTO will be hosting its 2nd Annual Walk-a-thon. The money raised from this event goes directly to empowering students and staff through teacher appreciation gifts and activities, classroom enrichment supplies, and school community activities. Last year, despite the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, we had a very encouraging response from school families who participated in our first-ever Walk-a-thon, and our PTO was able to raise over \$4,700 through pledges & sponsorships.*

*As with any fundraising event, support from outside organizations is essential to our fundraising goal of \$5,000. Listed below are several ways your business can participate in this event. We have also included how your sponsorship will be promoted to our community as a thank you for your support.*

- ***Go Rams Platinum Sponsorship - A monetary or prize donation of \$250 or more***  
*Business logo to appear on Walk-a-thon t-shirts, business name included on our flier and pledge sheet for the event, on our school Facebook page, and in the school newsletter.*
- ***Go Rams Silver Sponsorship - A monetary or prize donation of \$100-\$249***  
*Business name to be listed on our flier and pledge sheet for the event, on our school Facebook page, and in the school newsletter.*
- ***Go Rams Bronze Sponsorship - Monetary donations and prizes valued under \$100***  
*Business will be acknowledged on our Facebook page and in the school newsletter.*

*Would you consider supporting this event by sponsoring in one of the ways listed above? Commitments from businesses like yours help to play a significant role in the success of our youth.*

*Thank you in advance from Renaissance Public School Academy PTO. We look forward to hearing from you!*

*Sincerely,*

*Karen Lehr  
Walk-a-thon Chairperson  
989-560-8353*

*Jessica Molyneux  
RPSA PTO President  
217-260-5340 | renaissancepto@gmail.com*



# AFFORDABLE CONNECTIVITY PROGRAM

## WHAT IS IT?

The Affordable Connectivity Program is an FCC program that helps connect families and households struggling to afford internet service.

### The benefit provides:

- Up to \$30/month discount for internet service;
- Up to \$75/month discount for households on qualifying Tribal lands; and
- A one-time discount of up to \$100 for a laptop, desktop computer, or tablet purchased through a participating provider.

## WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

**A household is eligible if one member of the household** meets at least one of the criteria below:

- Has an income that is at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Guide lines;
- Participates in certain assistance programs, such as SNAP, Medicaid, Federal Public Housing Assistance, SSI, WIC, or Lifeline;
- Participates in Tribal specific programs, such as Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance, Tribal TANF, or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations;
- Is approved to receive benefits under the free and reduced-price school lunch program or the school break fast program, including through the USDA Community Eligibility Provision;
- Received a Federal Pell Grant during the current award year; or
- Meets the eligibility criteria for a participating broadband provider's existing low-income program.

## TWO STEPS TO ENROLL

# 1

Go to **ACPBenefit.org** to submit an application or print out a mail-in application.

# 2

Contact your preferred participating provider to select an eligible plan and have the discount applied to your bill.

Some providers may have an alternative application that they will ask you to complete.

Eligible households must both apply for the program and contact a participating provider to select a service plan.

## LEARN MORE

 Call 877-384-2575, or

 Visit [fcc.gov/acp](https://www.fcc.gov/acp)



## **PLEASE HELP YOUR CHILD REMEMBER THEIR BOOTS**

As winter turns to spring our playground enters MUD SEASON. Students must have a change of shoes to go outside and rubber boots are the ideal footwear. They are easy to get on and off plus they don't track big chunks of mud into the school. We do LOTS of work on the floors of our classrooms and mud on shoes makes that unpleasant. If your child is in need of boots for recess, please reach out and we will gladly help find a gently used pair for them. If you have an extra pair or two of rubber boots you could donate, they can be dropped off at the office.

## **UPCOMING SCHOOL CALENDAR EVENTS**

- **Friday, April 15 - NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS AND STAFF**
- **Wednesday, April 20 - STUDENT LED CONFERENCES (No School for Students)**

