



October 20, 2021

ANNUAL TITLE ONE MEETING - TUESDAY, OCTOBER 26

You are invited to our Annual Title I Parent Meeting at 8:00 a.m. on Tuesday, October 26th. Do you have questions about what services we offer our students? Would you like to ask specific questions in a comfortable setting? Mrs. Bergman, RPSA Executive Director, and Mrs. Bailey, RPSA Literacy Coach, will be available to answer your questions virtually through Google Meet. Please click the following link to join us on Tuesday, October 26th at 8:00 a.m.

meet.google.com/qih-ceaq-vzv We hope to see you there! If you have questions but are unable to join the virtual meeting, feel free to call Mrs. Bailey at (989) 773-9889 or email at lbailey@renaissancepsa.com.

ACADEMIC CALENDAR CHANGE

We have made an adjustment to the school calendar. The spring Student-Led Conference originally scheduled for Wednesday, February 23, 2022 will now be held on Wednesday, April 20, 2022. This change increases the amount of time between the fall and spring Student-Led Conferences, and will allow students an opportunity to share the learning that takes place during the second half of the school year. February 23, 2022 will now be a regular session Wednesday that begins at 8:00 a.m. and dismisses at 2:00 p.m.

You can find the PDF version of our school calendar linked on the Documents page of the school website, and linked here at:

<http://renaissancepsa.com/wp-content/uploads/Renaissance-Calendar-2021-2022-revised.pdf>

UPCOMING SCHOOL EVENTS

- Virtual Title I Annual Parent Meeting - Tuesday, October 26 at 8 a.m. via Google Meet
- NO SCHOOL, Teacher Professional Development Day - Monday, November 1
- Student Led Conferences @RPSA - No School For Students - Wed, Nov 17
- Thanksgiving Break - No School - Wednesday, 11/24 - Friday, 11/26
- Winter Holiday Break begins Monday, Dec. 20
- School Resumes Monday, January 3, 2022

In Partnership,
The RPSA Team

Student Handbook Reminders

Dear RPSA Families,

The following sections from the student handbook have been shared with all students this week. Please support our efforts to create a safe and inclusive school setting by reviewing the following with your child.

HANDBOOK PAGE 27 Regarding toys and trading cards:

Personal Items

Because we do not accept responsibility for the student's personal items, students should leave at home those belongings that are not necessary to their education. More specifically, electronic games, toys, stuffed animals and trading cards are not allowed in school unless special permission has been granted. Any other personal items that staff members judge to be unsafe or inappropriate for school will be confiscated and held in the office until a family member retrieves them.

HANDBOOK PAGE 26/27 Regarding Dress Code:

Dress Code

All Renaissance students must adhere to the following guidelines:

1. Students may wear jeans, slacks, athletic pants, shorts or skirts.
2. Shorts and skirts must be longer than the student's fingertips.

The following clothing will be considered inappropriate during the school day:

1. Pajama pants
2. Halter tops with thin (spaghetti) straps
3. Pants with wording across the backside
4. Any clothing that reveals a midriff, low-cut neckline, or displays a deep underarm
5. ***Hats and hoods may not be worn in the building***
6. Any clothing that disrupts or distracts from the learning environment
7. Any clothing that is deemed indecent, inappropriate, or dangerous by school staff
8. ***Jackets and coats may not be worn in the classroom during the school day.***

HANDBOOK PAGES 13/14 - Snack and Treat Policy

Snack and Treat Policy

We recognize the importance of healthy snacks along with the importance of celebrations on occasion, and certainly want to continue these traditions at Renaissance. However, to be good stewards of our school facility and to serve as role models for our students when making nutritional decisions and to be responsive to those children who have food allergies or other

dietary restrictions, we have implemented the following policies with regards to snacks and birthday treats at school.

- *Treats with icing/frosting are not permitted. Cakes and cupcakes are not permitted at school.*
- *Any special treat such as for a birthday must be*
 - *Pre-arranged with the teacher prior to the day of the “celebration”*
 - *Brought in by the student at the start of the school day*
 - *Individually, pre-packaged before sending to school to assist teachers in passing them out to students.*
 - *Non-perishable - We do not have the ability to refrigerate or freeze items.*
 - *To protect classrooms from interruptions, students will NOT be permitted to take treats around the building during the school day.*
- ***Students may only bring water to drink during the school day.***
 - *Soda, coffee, smoothies, and power drinks are not allowed in the school. Any such drinks brought to school must be disposed of before entering the building.*
 - *Students may bring a healthy drink in their lunch if a cold lunch is packed. It may only be drunk during lunch period.*
- *Classroom snacks must be dry.*
 - *Dry snacks include fresh fruits, vegetables, crackers, cereal, granola bars, etc.*
 - *Snacks not allowed include juice filled items such as fruit cups, puddings, etc.*
- *School breakfast is available to all students.*
 - *Breakfast may not be brought from home to be eaten at school.*
 - *Only school breakfast may be eaten at school.*
 - *Students may not bring fast food, donuts, bagels, etc. into the school to be eaten before school begins.*
 - *Students not wishing to eat the school provided breakfast should plan to eat before they arrive at school.*
- *A student must bring their cold lunch to school with them at the start of the school day.*
 - *Fast food and delivered food is not allowed.*
 - *A family may make prior arrangements with the classroom teacher for a special lunch with their child. This is for special occasions only. Due to COVID 19 plan requirements, this practice is currently not allowable.*
- *Classroom celebrations may deviate from this policy on occasion with prior approval.*
- *Students in classrooms with classmates who have food allergies will be required to follow additional required safety protocols to ensure the health and safety of all students.*
- *Students do not have access to a refrigerator or microwave during the school day.*

- *These guidelines apply for any groups using our building (outside the cafeteria) after school hours or for activities taking place after school (PTO events, After School, tutoring, etc.) unless arrangements have been made ahead of time.*

CELL PHONES ON SCHOOL PROPERTY INCLUDING AT PRACTICES AND AFTER SCHOOL EVENTS

Students are required to turn in a cell phone to their teacher daily. Students may not have their cell phones on their person or in their lockers.

1. First offense will be dealt with in the classroom with a warning.
2. Second offense is the removal of the phone. It will need to be picked up by an adult family member in the office at the end of the day.
3. On the third offense, the phone will be given to an administrator for pick up by an adult and the student may no longer bring a cellphone to school the remainder of the school year.

A Message From the PTO

Our PTO still has RAMS Cards available for purchase. Families interested in participating in the Rams card sale may pick up cards in the office any day between 9:00am-2:00pm. Cards are \$10 each or 10 for \$90. Once again this year cards must be prepaid. You may also send money with your child and cards will be sent home that evening. Just let your child's teacher know via Seesaw so we check the backpack. Or give Miss Tina a call at the school office and she can get you all set up.



Reading Tips and Strategies

When you read at home with your kids, follow the **R.E.A.D.** plan.

R - Repeat Books

E - Engage and Enjoy

A - Ask Questions

D - Do More

This week we will focus on the R: Repeat Books. The following are examples of activities you could do at home when reading with your child following the R.E.A.D. plan:

- Read rhyming books over and over again. As you read, have your child complete the rhyming word at the end of each line.**
 - To see a short video example of a child reading a rhyming book with her mom, click [here](#).
- Read alphabet books to your child and eventually ask him/her to name the items on the page that you know he/she can successfully tell you.**
 - To see a short video example of a child reading an alphabet book, click [here](#).
- Repeated reading. Choose a passage that will not be very difficult for your child. Read the passage aloud to your child, and then read it together, helping your child figure out any tricky words. Next, have your child read the passage to you with a focus on accuracy. Finally, have your child read the passage to you again, paying attention to fluency and expression. The goal is to sound smooth and natural.**
 - To see a short video of a child doing a repeated reading with her mom, click [here](#).
- Related words. When you read a book about a topic, ask him/her to tell you all the words related to it. Ex: If you read a book about a dog, he/she might say dog, puppies, toy, food, play, leash. Add other words to help expand upon what he/she says.**
 - To see a short video example of a child thinking of words related to a topic, click [here](#).
- Think aloud. When you read aloud to your child, talk about what you are thinking. It is your opportunity to show your child that reading is a lot more than just figuring out the words. Describe how you feel about what's going on in the book, what you think will happen next, or what you thought about a character's choice.**
 - To see a short video of a parent using the 'think aloud' strategy, click [here](#).