

**NOVEMBER 3, 2023**

# RAMS RECAP

*Renaissance Public School Academy Newsletter*



*Renaissance Academy*

# RAMS

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Voyager Field Trips

**November 7-10, 2023**

### Last Day of Trimester

**November 10, 2023**

## NO SCHOOL

**November 22-24,  
2023**



Hello RPSA Families!

We had another wonderful week this week! Our Fall celebrations on Tuesday were a blast, and we loved hearing all of the students Trick or Treat in the snow stories on Wednesday.

This week's newsletter includes two important updates for families:

1. You will see the RPSA Defining Practices on page 2. These practices define who we are as a school and how we work towards our mission. This month, we will highlight DP #2 - Voice and Choice. Check out page 3 to see all the ways we incorporate this at each grade level!
2. Our ALICE Parent meeting was a great discussion on Wednesday night. We've included an FAQ document on page 4 of this newsletter for families to reference. If you have any additional questions or concerns, please reach out to Mrs. Nix so we can discuss.

Have a wonderful weekend!

With RAMS Pride,  
The RPSA Leadership Team



Renaissance students will find their passion to live fulfilled lives and make a difference in the world.

## OUR DEFINING PRACTICES:

#1 We value connections with students to inform our personalized practices at varying levels of complexity depending on the individual.

#2 We honor student voice and encourage student choice through self directed, individual student selected projects.

#3 We use inquiry based approaches to guide students through Project-Based Learning experiences as well as content deep dives.

#4 We believe in the power of ongoing, innovative, rigorous, professional growth.



DP # 2: We honor student voice and encourage student choice through self directed, individual student selected projects.

# WHAT DOES VOICE AND CHOICE LOOK LIKE?

**Voyager Wonderings**

**Islander Wonder Workshop**

**Trailblazer Genius Hour**

**Student Driven PBL Units**

**Middle School ICE Projects**

**Individual Goal Setting**

# ALICE/School Safety FAQ

We were so appreciative of the families who were able to attend our ALICE Informational Meeting this week. For those who could not attend, we wanted to share answers to a few of the questions we've received. If you have any additional questions or concerns, please reach out to Mrs. Nix.

How are emergencies communicated to students?	All RPSA Staff have the Rave Panic Button app and will use it in the case of emergencies. Students will receive directions from their teacher following the alert. We will also continue to make announcements over the PA.
What is the Rave app?	Sheriff Main shared at our informational meeting about a new emergency alert tool available in Isabella County. Visit <a href="http://www.isabellacounty.org">www.isabellacounty.org</a> to learn more about Rave Facility.
How will ALICE be taught to students?	We will share with students that all RPSA staff have been trained in something called ALICE. Students will learn that ALICE includes alert of an emergency, lockdown and barricading the door, and sometimes evacuation. Our messaging to students will be that in an emergency their teacher knows what to do and they should follow their lead. That might mean staying quiet in a part of the classroom, or it might mean leaving the building and going to a safe place. We will have conversations with students about the importance of listening to their teacher in an emergency. Some classrooms may read all or part of the book "I'm not scared, I'm prepared...I know ALICE" to help guide these conversations with younger students.
What about this is new for RPSA this year?	Our staff have been trained in ALICE procedures over the last two years, and we work to update and review our school safety plans yearly. None of these pieces have changed. What is new this year is that when we practice a lockdown drill, we will be talking with students about some additional steps they may see their teacher take including barricading the door and practicing leaving the building together.
Will students be asked to "counter" an attacker?	No, students will not be asked to counter an attacker. Our staff have been trained in ways to slow or stop an attack if an attacker were to enter the classroom. We will not be teaching or asking students to practice this concept, but we as a staff are trained and know this should be considered in an emergency.
How will parents know when conversations and drills take place?	We are not able to communicate when safety drills will take place ahead of time, however teachers will message parents following a drill to let you know that we did practice at school that day so you are able to have follow up conversations at home. Teachers will communicate with parents via Seesaw as conversations take place in the classroom.
Is law enforcement going to help with drills?	Yes, law enforcement is always on site for safety drills. During a lockdown, only uniformed officers unlock classroom doors.

# Student Shout Outs

We've had such a great start to the school year and would like to start recognizing students who are going above and beyond. Be on the lookout for Student Shout Outs in our newsletter each week. Students who are caught following RAMS Pride Expectations will receive a special shout out from a staff member. They'll bring home a note from the staff member and have their names listed in the newsletter so you can help us celebrate them at home as well.

**#RAMSPRIDE**



# Student Shout Outs

- Avery H.
- Jovi P.
- Justin K.
- Isaiah C.
- Charles A.
- Luke A.
- Keegan B.
- David J.
- Caleb K.
- Landyn L.
- Ramie M.
- Addison N.
- Edward P-P
- Colby P.
- Remy S.
- Jensen H.
- Micah D.
- Cam D.
- Cameron S.
- Kota T.
- Mina S.
- Asiianah B.
- Alaina S-A
- Charlotte W.
- Hunter T.
- Nate W.
- Chase B.
- McKenna M-S
- Emilio L.
- Jaidyn B.
- Connor K.
- Jeremiah L.
- Roman H.
- Gracie F.
- Rechella H.

**Way to go  
RAMS!**

**#RAMSPRIDE**



# Coins for a Cause!

November 6th-15th

We are partnering with United Way of Gratiot and Isabella Counties to raise money for the Isabella County Restoration House through a "Coin War!"

United Way is prepared to match our funds raised, and will even give the winning classroom from each school a PIZZA PARTY!

Bring in your coins, and compete with the other classes!



Positive Points:

Each penny= 1 point!

Negative Points:

Nickel= -5 points

Dime= -10 points

Quarter= -25 points

Each class will have their own bucket in the lobby! Bring in your coins each morning!



To purchase eggs, please park and walk up to the chicken coop. Eggs will be available to purchase every Friday.

# Girl Talk

Psychoeducation and Support Group for Trailblazer and Middle School Girls



**When:** Trailblazer Meeting – Every Thursday during lunch, starting October 26th.

Middle School Meeting – Every Wednesday during lunch, starting October 25th.

**Where:** Renaissance Public School Academy, See Jordan Curtice, School-Based Outpatient Therapist for more information.

**Goal:** To provide a supportive environment for girls to empower one another and learn skills to thrive.



## **Girl Talk**

Girl talk is a support and psychoeducation therapy group offered to Trailblazer and Middle School girls.

The group will be facilitated by Jordan Curtice, School-Based Outpatient Therapist with Isabella Citizens for Health.

Session topics may include: improving self-worth and self-esteem, body image, learning healthy coping skills, communication/conflict resolution skills, healthy relationships and more.

**In order to be a participant in group, members must complete Isabella Citizen's for Health's intake paperwork.** Please contact Jordan for more information: 989-491-1445 or [jordan.curtice@isabellahealth.org](mailto:jordan.curtice@isabellahealth.org) or [jcurtice@renaissancepsa.com](mailto:jcurtice@renaissancepsa.com). You can also visit her in the counseling office in room A-15 at RPSA.





# DRIVE-THROUGH MOBILE FOOD DISTRIBUTION

FOR ALL ISABELLA COUNTY RESIDENTS

**Date change: Saturday, Nov. 4, 2023**

**Registration:** 9:00 a.m. for vehicles to line up

**Distribution:** 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. (or until food is distributed)

## Black Elk Building Parking Lot

7500 Soaring Eagle Blvd., Mt. Pleasant MI, 48858

**FREE shelf stable, frozen and produce**

### Details:

- Proof of Residency: bring government-issued ID or mail with your address
- Stay in your vehicle for registration and food distribution
- Food will be placed in your trunk/hatchback, so please make room ahead of time
- Restrooms will NOT be available
- If you have any symptoms of COVID-19, please stay home, and arrange for someone to bring your identification and a note allowing them to pick up food for you

### Who Can Participate:

Anyone in financial hardship or in need of food for any reason.

### For more information, please call:

Greater Lansing Food Bank at (517) 449-0360

*For the safety of our volunteers and staff, we ask that you wear a mask, if you are able. Masks will be available if you do not have one.*

*In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability.*



**Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan**

*“Working Together for Our Future”*

7500 Soaring Eagle Blvd.  
Mount Pleasant, MI 48858  
989-775-4000  
[www.sagchip.org](http://www.sagchip.org)

# Holiday Outreach Of Isabella County

“Coordinating the Community for Holiday Giving”



We will be providing winter coats, boots, hats & mittens, linens, bin of household staples, holiday items, a book for every child and a stocking for children and adults!

## REGISTRATION INFORMATION for 2023

When? Monday to Friday: October 30 - November 3

Monday to Friday: November 6 to November 10

Call any time between 8:00am to 4:00pm

CALL: 989-773-4204

Holiday distribution will be on Friday, December 15 & Saturday, December 16 at a new Location. Distribution will be at Morey Courts, 5175 Remus Rd., Mt. Pleasant MI. This is the large sports complex off Isabella Rd. Plenty of parking and easy access through the front door.

YOU MUST REGISTER EVERY YEAR!

Appointment cards will be mailed in early December

*Next*

# PTO MEETING

Renaissance Academy

**RAMS**



- Winter Family Event Planning
- Mini Grant Application Process Update

**November 27, 2023** 

**3:45 PM** 

**Renaissance Public School Academy** 

# SCHOOL BREAKFAST MENU

		WEDNESDAY 01	THURSDAY 02	FRIDAY 03
		Yogurt Granola Bar Fruit Milk	Pop-Tart Graham Crackers Fruit Milk	Whole Grain Donuts Fruit Milk
MONDAY 06	TUESDAY 07	WEDNESDAY 08	THURSDAY 09	FRIDAY 10
Cereal Bars Fruit Milk	Cereal Fruit Milk	Yogurt Granola Bar Fruit Milk	Pop-Tart Graham Crackers Fruit Milk	Whole Grain Donuts Fruit Milk
MONDAY 13	TUESDAY 14	WEDNESDAY 15	THURSDAY 16	FRIDAY 17
Cereal Bars Fruit Milk	Cereal Fruit Milk	Yogurt Granola Bar Fruit Milk	Pop-Tart Graham Crackers Fruit Milk	Whole Grain Donuts Fruit Milk
MONDAY 20	TUESDAY 21	WEDNESDAY 22	THURSDAY 25	FRIDAY 24
Cereal Bars Fruit Milk	Cereal Fruit Milk	NO SCHOOL	NO SCHOOL	NO SCHOOL
MONDAY 27	TUESDAY 28	WEDNESDAY 29	THURSDAY 30	FRIDAY 01
Cereal Bars Fruit Milk	Cereal Fruit Milk	Yogurt Granola Bar Fruit Milk	Pop-Tart Graham Crackers Fruit Milk	Whole Grain Donuts Fruit Milk

MONTH: NOVEMBER

YEAR: 2023

CREATED WITH:  
EDIT.org

# SCHOOL MENU

MONTH: NOVEMBER

YEAR: 2023

		WEDNESDAY 01	THURSDAY 02	FRIDAY 03
		Pepperoni Pizza Baby Carrots Fruit Milk	Cold Turkey ham and cheese Croissant sandwich  Baked Beans  Fruit Milk	3 Cheese Calzone Marinara Sauce Fruit Milk
MONDAY 06	TUESDAY 07	WEDNESDAY 08	THURSDAY 09	FRIDAY 10
Chicken Patty Sandwich Broccoli Fruit Milk	Corn Dog Bites Fries Juice Milk	Cheese Pizza Baby Carrots Fruit Milk	Penne Alfredo Bakes Beans Fruit Milk	Chicken Quesadilla Salsa Fruit Milk
MONDAY 13	TUESDAY 14	WEDNESDAY 15	THURSDAY 16	FRIDAY 17
Cheeseburger Broccoli Fruit Milk	Popcorn Chicken Fries Fruit Milk	Pepporoni Pizza Baby Carrots Fruit Milk	Cold Turkey, Ham and Cheese Croissant Sandwich  Baked Beans  Fruit Milk	3 Cheese Calzone Marinara Sauce Fruit Milk
MONDAY 20	TUESDAY 21	WEDNESDAY 22	THURSDAY 23	FRIDAY 24
Chicken Patty Sandwich Broccoli Fruit Milk	Tuna and avocado salad Grilled chicken with mushrooms Mandarins	NO SCHOOL	NO SCHOOL	NO SCHOOL
MONDAY 27	TUESDAY 28	WEDNESDAY 29	THURSDAY 30	
Cheeseburger Broccoli Fruit Milk	Popcorn Chicken Fries Fruit Milk	Cheese Pizza Baby Carrots Fruit Milk	Penne Alfredo Bakes Beans Fruit Milk	

# Renaissance PSA 2023-2024 Calendar

August '23						
M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	
	1	2	3	4	5	
7	8	9	10	11	12	
14	15	16	17	18	19	
21	22	23	24	25	26	
28	29	30	31			

September '23						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

October '23						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

November '23						
M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	
		1	2	3	4	
6	7	8	9	10	11	
13	14	15	16	17	18	
20	21	22	23	24	25	
27	28	29	30			

December '23						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

January '24						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

February '24						
M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	
			1	2	3	
5	6	7	8	9	10	
12	13	14	15	16	17	
19	20	21	22	23	24	
26	27	28	29			

March '24						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

April '24						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

May '24						
M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	
		1	2	3	4	
6	7	8	9	10	11	
13	14	15	16	17	18	
20	21	22	23	24	25	
27	28	29	30	31		

June '24						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

July '24						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

**First & Last Day**  
**PD Days: No School for Students**  
**No School for Students and Staff**  
**SLCs - No School for Students**  
**Family Visits**

M, Tu, Th, F Daily Schedule:  
 8:00 a.m. - 3:25 p.m.

Wednesday Early Release:  
 8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.