

AUGUST 23, 2024

RAMS RECAP

Renaissance Public School Academy Newsletter



UPCOMING EVENTS

No School

August 30, 2024

September 2, 2023

RPSA Birthday Week

September 3–6, 2024

Big Air BMX Assembly

September 5, 2024



Renaissance Academy

RAMS

Hello RPSA Families!

We are wrapping up the best first week of school! Thank you for everything you have done this week to help your child be ready for back to school. Their eager, smiling faces each morning have made the return to school a joy. We also appreciate all of your help following pick up and drop off procedures so our parking lot can run smoothly. It was such a great week, we can't wait to see what the school year brings!

In this week's newsletter you will find some important information regarding our school communication system. This was sent out via text message yesterday as well. If you do not opt into the new School Messenger system, you will no longer receive text messages from the school. This includes newsletters, general announcements, and school closures. Please take a moment to opt in to the new program.

We hope you all have a wonderful, and restful, weekend!

With RAMS Pride,
The RPSA Leadership Team

#RAMSPRIDE



Be Safe Be Responsible
Be Kind Work Hard

We love celebrating our students when they're caught showing RAMS Pride. We look for students who are being safe, being responsible, being kind, or working hard and try to highlight them with a "Shout Out". Students receive a blue paper to bring home and show off to their families. Their names are also included in the weekly newsletter. The first time a student receives a shout out, they get to visit the book vending machine too!

We're excited to celebrate these amazing students who received a Shout Out in the first week of school!

- Kaled A.
- Clarke M.
- Benjamin P.
- Nova M.
- Paisley R.
- Terry S.
- Vincent W.
- Avery W.
- Meredith W.
- Zack K.
- Kira S.
- Maleki D.
- Angelia S.
- Khadijah H.
- Bentlee M.
- Olivia R.
- Quinn S.
- Charles A.
- Charlotte E.
- Roxanna H.
- Karter M.
- Tecumseh W-C
- Rhyanna B.
- Goe C.
- Aryani H.
- Kayden H.
- Landyn L.

#RAMSPRIDE



Be Safe Be Responsible
Be Kind Work Hard

- Isaiah W.
- Aubriella R.
- Aaliyah B.
- Nikos F.
- Harper P.
- Annika R.
- Claire S.
- Ian T.
- Colin A.
- Vivian P.
- Jon K.
- Atlas M.
- Aubrey Q.
- Ellianna S.
- Ezra P.
- Jude S.
- Gabriel S.
- Bryson R.
- Isaac A.
- CJ P.
- Caden R.
- Brooklyn F.
- AJ K.
- Dominus L.
- Gibson N.
- Liam M.
- S'Miyah P.
- Harley D.

Way to go Rams!



August 22, 2024

Renaissance Families,

Beginning September 1, 2024, Renaissance Academy will begin using a new platform to deliver messages such as school closings, newsletters, and other important announcements. The new platform, called School Messenger, is similar to our current system. For the most part you should not notice any significant changes in the way you receive messages.

While most things will remain the same, there is one important change you need to be aware of. *FAMILIES MUST OPT-IN IF THEY WISH TO RECEIVE SMS TEXT MESSAGES.* Families who do not opt-in to the SMS Text messages will receive announcements via email only. While opting-in is not required, doing so will ensure optimal communication between school and families as it provides one more layer of messaging.

Families who wish to opt-in will need to do so from each phone on which they wish to receive SMS Text messages, and you can opt-in at any time. Instructions for opting-in are found below.

This flyer will be sent out multiple times over the next several days. Please disregard it if you have already taken action.

Please email Jon Koster, Assessment and Technology Coordinator, with any questions.
jkoster@renaissancepsa.com

Parents and Guardians

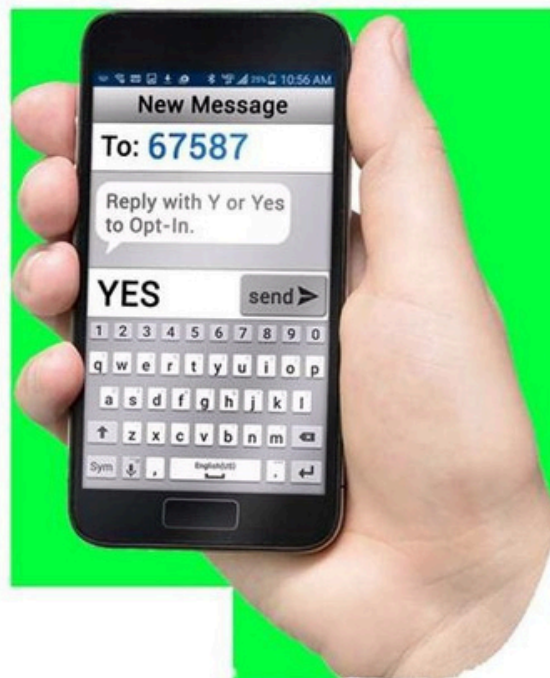
You can take advantage of our Text Messaging Service

Our school utilizes the SchoolMessenger system to deliver text messages, straight to your mobile phone with important information about events, school closings, safety alerts and more.

You can participate in this free service* just by sending a text message of “Y” or “Yes” to our school’s short code number, **67587**.

You can also opt out of these messages at any time by simply replying to one of our messages with “**Stop**”.

SchoolMessenger is compliant with the Student Privacy Pledge™, so you can rest assured that your information is safe and will never be given or sold to anyone.



**Opt-In from
your mobile
phone now!**



**Just send
“Y” or “Yes”
to 67587**

i Information on SMS text messaging and Short Codes:

SMS stands for Short Message Service and is commonly referred to as a “text message”. Most cell phones support this type of text messaging. Our notification provider, SchoolMessenger, uses a true SMS protocol developed by the telecommunications industry specifically for mass text messaging, referred to as “short code” texting. This method is fast, secure and highly reliable because it is strictly regulated by the wireless carriers and only allows access to approved providers. If you’ve ever sent a text vote for a TV show to a number like 46999, you have used short code texting.

Attendance Matters



Help Your Child Succeed in School: Build the Habit of Good Attendance Early

DID YOU KNOW?

- Starting in preschool and kindergarten, too many absences can cause children to fall behind in school.
- Missing 10%, or about 2 days each month over the course of a school year, can make it harder to learn to read.
- Students can still fall behind if they miss just one or two days every few weeks.
- Being late to school may lead to poor attendance.
- Absences and tardiness can affect the whole classroom if the teacher has to slow down learning to help children catch up.

Attending school regularly helps children feel better about school—and themselves. Start building this habit in preschool so they learn right away that going to school on time, every day is important. Eventually good attendance will be a skill that will help them succeed in high school and college.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

- Set a regular bedtime and morning routine.
- Lay out clothes and pack backpacks the night before.
- Keep your child healthy and make sure your child has the required shots.
- Introduce your children to their teachers and classmates before school starts.
- Develop backup plans for getting to school if something comes up. Call on a family member, a neighbor, or another parent.
- Try to schedule non-urgent related medical appointments and extended trips when school isn't in session.
- If your child seems anxious about going to school, talk to teachers, school counselors and other parents for advice on how to make your child feel comfortable and excited about learning.
- If you are concerned that your child may have a contagious illness, call your school or health care provider for advice.
- If your child must stay home due to illness, ask the teacher for resources and ideas to continue learning at home.

When Do Absences Become a Problem?



Note: These numbers assume a 180-day school year.

Visit Attendance Works at www.attendanceworks.org for free downloadable resources and tools!

ISABELLA COUNTY & RENAISSANCE PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMY TRUANCY POLICY

2024-2025 School Year

Renaissance Public School Academy uses the countywide truancy policy as the guideline for our attendance policy. Please feel free to contact the school if you have any questions.

The Renaissance Public School Academy Truancy Policy is as follows:

After 5 Unexcused Absences:

A letter communicating the absences AND a copy of the Isabella County Truancy Policy Summary will be mailed home. Classroom teacher will make contact with the family.

After 8 Unexcused Absences:

A referral will be made to the administration and a letter will be sent to the family. A meeting or phone call from the administration may be necessary but is not required of all families at the 8th absence.

After 10 Unexcused Absences:

A second referral will be made to administration who will make a phone call to the family to discuss the student's attendance record. The phone call and conversation will be documented by the administration. A meeting may be required if a plan to assist the student and family are necessary.

- *The administration may recommend that the parents/guardians of the student appear before the RPSA school board to explain the absences.*
- *A referral to the Isabella County Truancy Officer may be made by the administration if there is evidence that the parents/guardians are not willing to work with the school to improve attendance.*

Tardies:

Morning and afternoon tardies are considered one in the same. The accumulation of 3 tardies will result in an additional day of absence for the student.

New School Trimester:

The number of student absences will be calculated from the beginning of the school year until the end of the school year - not trimester to trimester. If a student has 20 or more absences at the end of the school year they will start the next school year as if they already have 3 absences. This will not be reflected in the new school year attendance, but it will be used for calculating the number of attendances according to the Truancy Policy.

It is the practice of Renaissance Academy to establish strong home-school communication. As a result, we will inform parents, in writing, of all absences on record beginning at the fifth unexcused absence. Determination of the need to contact the truancy officer beginning with the tenth absence will be made on each individual student's unique situation. A meeting or conversation between the school leader and parent/guardian will be required at the 10th absence to determine a plan of support for successful attendance the remainder of the school year.

Excused Absences

An excused absence is one for which the student provides a valid reason, supported by appropriate documentation when required. The following conditions constitute an excused absence:

1. Illness or Medical Appointments

- *Personal Illness: Absences due to personal illness will be excused with a note from a parent or guardian. For illnesses extending beyond two consecutive days, a note from a healthcare provider is required.*
- *Medical Appointments: Appointments with healthcare professionals (doctors, dentists, etc.) are excused. A note from the medical office must be provided.*

2. Family Emergencies

- *Immediate Family Member Illness or Death: Absences due to the serious illness or death of an immediate family member will be excused. Documentation such as a medical note or a funeral program is required.*

3. School-Sponsored Activities

- *Participation in school-sanctioned events, such as field trips, athletic competitions, or academic competitions, is excused. Pre-approval from the school administration and appropriate documentation from the event coordinator are necessary.*

4. Religious Observances

- *Absences due to religious holidays or events will be excused. A written note from a parent or guardian specifying the nature of the observance is required.*

5. Legal Obligations

- *Absences due to court appearances, probation meetings, or other legal obligations will be excused. Appropriate legal documentation must be submitted.*

For an absence to be considered excused, the following documentation must be provided:

- A note (handwritten, Seesaw message, or email) from a parent or guardian, explaining the reason for the absence.
- Additional documentation as specified above, such as medical notes, legal documents, or pre-approval forms.
- All documentation must be submitted to the office within three school days of the student's return to school.

Failure to provide the necessary documentation within the specified time frame will result in the absence being marked as unexcused.

School Day Start and End Times

- Our School day begins at 8:00am
- Students may enter the building beginning at 7:40 am - all students are to enter through the front doors
- Our School day ends at 3:25 pm
- Pick up takes place from 3:25 pm to 4:00 pm
- Families may park and walk to the sidewalk using crosswalks, or use the drive thru lane (see procedures below)

Before and After School

We are very excited to continue to offer after school care this school year. This program does hold a child care license and must follow all licensing rules:

- Cost
 - \$20 per day After School OR \$50 weekly
- Time
 - end of school - 5:30pm
- Guidelines
 - Kindergarten through 6th grade only
 - to meet staffing rules, families must register and pay the week prior (no drop ins)
 - stop into the front office for registration paperwork

**After School programing will begin on
August 26th**

Drop Off and Pick Up Procedures

For the safety of students and to ensure efficient drop off and pick up of students everyone is required to follow the expectations below...

- Enter the parking lot and make a right turn only.
 - Access to parking spots on the left will require the driver to pull into the drive through lane (left lane) and go around.
- The RIGHT lane is for drop off and pick up only.
 - Remain in your car and allow students out anywhere along the sidewalk before school
 - Remain in your car and pull up to your child's designated spot on the sidewalk to pick up.
 - Staff will not be able to speak with parents in the pick up lane. If you wish to speak to a staff member you must park and walk up using the crosswalks.
- The LEFT lane is a drive through lane to allow access to all parking spots.
 - **Students may NOT be dropped off or picked up from the left lane.**
 - Do NOT stop in the left lane for any reason so traffic can continue to flow.
 - Do not allow students to walk into the building alone from a parking spot.
 - An adult who parks must walk a student through the crosswalk to the school entrance.
- **PARKING EXPECTATIONS**
 - Parents wishing to park must walk their children to the building using DESIGNATED CROSSWALKS ONLY.
 - ABSOLUTELY NO parking at any time, anywhere in the bus zone north of the main entrance crosswalk.



Free Breakfast and Lunch!

The State of Michigan has included funding for food service programs as part of the School Aid Package in the MI budget. As a result, all K-12 students in the state will receive FREE breakfast and lunch this school year.

All families will still need to complete the lunch application that will come home during the first week of school. This impacts funding we receive for grant initiatives.



Back to School Paperwork

Please keep an eye out for back to school paperwork to come home with your child the first week of school. All families will need to complete updated Emergency Cards and fill out Household Survey information.

If your child has any medical needs, including the use of an inhaler, we must have documentation from a doctor. Please stop by the office or contact Ms. Tina (tsinger@renaissancepsa.com) for the appropriate paperwork.


August 2024



Welcome Back Rams!!!

Breakfast

Monday


	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20 Poptart Kit Fresh Fruit Juice Milk	21 Oatmeal Round Fresh Fruit Juice Milk	22 Trix Cereal Kit Fresh Fruit Juice Milk	23 Cinnamon Pull Aparts Fresh Fruit Juice Milk	24	25
26 Cereal Kit Fresh Fruit Juice Milk	27 Cinnamon Rolls Fresh Fruit Juice Milk	28 Donut Holes Fresh Fruit Juice Milk	29 Sausage Egg Cheese Croissant Fresh Fruit Juice Milk	30	31 	

August 2024



Welcome Back Rams!!

Lunch

Monday	Tuesday	Wed	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20 Popcorn Chicken Waffle Fries Grilled Chicken Salad Mandarin Oranges Milk	21 Pepperoni Pizza Celery Veggie Salad Pineapple Milk	22 Cheese Burgers Mixed Vegetable Caesar Salad Peaches Milk	23 Chicken Patty Corn Chef Salad Pears Milk	24	25
26 Ravioli Waffle Fries Grilled Chicken Salad Pineapple Milk	27 Grilled Cheese TomatoSoup Crackers Caesar Salad Peaches Milk	28 Cheese Pizza Carrots Chef Salad Pears Milk	29 Walking Taco Refried Beans Salsa Sour Cream Veggie Salad Mandarin Oranges Milk	30	31 	



Michigan's Online Career Exploration Tool

Welcome to Pathfinder, a free online career exploration tool designed for students, parents and job seekers!

The goal of Pathfinder is to increase the number of Michigan residents with high-quality, in-demand degrees and credentials. The online tool provides real-time current Michigan labor market information, as well as data on education and training programs, to help you make informed choices about your educational path and career options. You also get the guidance you need with a personalized educational development plan, or roadmap!

With Pathfinder, you can:

- Search for exciting and interesting careers
- Discover schools in Michigan that offer programs of interest
- See detailed job projections, annual openings, growth potential, salaries for Michigan
- View Michigan's top careers

Create a Personalized Career Roadmap Today!

Pathfinder.MiTalent.org

Get an Educational Roadmap in 3 Easy Steps

Start by visiting Pathfinder.MiTalent.org, then complete the following steps:

1. Choose an Occupation
2. Choose a Field of Study
3. Choose a School

Completing this process will generate a customized roadmap that can help guide you to your chosen career destination! Completed paths can also be emailed and printed for later viewing.



**EMPLOYMENT
& TRAINING**

Renaissance PSA 2024-2025 Calendar

August '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

September '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					

October '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		

November '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

December '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				

January '25						
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 '25						
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	

March '25						
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 '25						
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 '25						
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

June '25						
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 '25						
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.