



Renaissance Report

September 18, 2026



Dear Families,

One of the things we love about Project Based Learning is that learning is connected to the real world. We want our students to understand not just what they are learning, but why it matters. That's why our projects often connect students with real places, people, problems, and audiences; giving their learning an authentic purpose.

You'll also see this color at launch is meant to spark curiosity and give them opportunities to explore, learn from experts, and make connections beyond the classroom. These experiences are intentionally connected to the projects happening at school, so when your child comes home from a field trip full of questions and excited about what comes next, that's exactly what we hope to see!

We have seen some great project launches in the first few weeks of school. Our Voyager teachers launched their first project about caring for our community with a huge surprise to students - someone filled their classrooms with trash! The students had a great, real-life example of what it looks like if we don't take care of our learning space. Not to worry though, they cleaned it all up and recycled that trash into really neat art! The picture above is an axolotl created by Mrs. Liles' 1st graders.

We're also seeing a lot of great field trips scheduled this fall. Each grade level seems to have something on the calendar - or already taken a trip. Details about field trips will be sent to families through Seesaw directly from your child's teacher. Please be sure to check messages regularly.

It's been a great week of learning, and we can't wait to get back to it next week. Have a great weekend!

#RAMSPRIDE SHOUT OUTS

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 this week!

Aaron S.
Bennett C.
Layan A.
Axton M.
Clarke M.
Khy'ree O-S

Hawthorne W.

Daphne J.

Jackson F.

Brynlee K.

Jona M.

Layla B.

Nolan P.

Jude S.

Isadora Y.

Sophia L.

Justis P.

Marshall W.

Ava T.

Eden S.

Roxanna H.

Brantley C.

Reese K.

Charlotte S.

Raelynn C.

Phoenix C.

Payton S.

Aaliyah L.

Landyn L.

Oliver W.

Ronald E.

Merryl D.

Anistynn S.

Lily R.

Aris S-T

Julian R.

Lucah C.

Jaxson B.

Rebeca M.

Brailynn P.

Natalee B.

Xavier H.

Esme A.

Nikos F.

Mia B.

Noah R.

Gabriel S.

Jessie F.

Addison J.

Jacoby B.
 Jezeliah N.
 Lionel S.
 Olive F.
 Grady D.
 Nour A.
 Everett C.
 Airan G.
 Justin K.
 Lillianna W.
 Madison L.

Breakfast & Lunch Menu, September 21st - 25th



	9/21/26	9/22/26	9/23/26	9/24/26	9/25/26
Breakfast	Cereal Strawberries Fruit Juice Milk	Blueberry Muffin Cheese Stick Fruit Juice Milk	Cereal Frozen Fruit Sorbert Fruit Juice Milk	Cereal Apple Sauce Fruit Juice Milk	Donuts Frozen Fruit Sorbert Apple Sauce Milk
Lunch	Chicken Sandwich Waffle Fries Fruit Milk or Choice Salad	Walking Tacos Fruit Milk or Chicken Salad	Dominos Pepperoni Pizza Mandarin Oranges Broccoli w/ Ranch Vegetable Juice Milk or Chicken Salad	Hot Dogs (Beef) Baked Beans Fruit Milk or Chicken Salad	Quesadilla Salsa Chips Fruit Milk or Chicken Salad

Choice of White or Chocolate Milk Served Daily

USDA is an equal opportunity provider

Download the school calendar and handbooks here!

Important Dates

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September 21st - Parent Club Meeting

September 21st - 23rd Donuts with Grownups (see flyer below)

September 25th - No school for Preschool

September 30th - Orange Shirt Day

October 6th - Picture Retakes

October 8th-15th Scholastic Book Fair

October 15th - Student Led Conferences

October 16th - No School for All Students

October 26th - Parent Club Meeting

Family Engagement Event

We truly enjoyed spending the evening with some of our families this past Tuesday for the Raising Resilient Kids in a Screen-Filled World presentation. It was very informative and generated some great conversations about screen use as well as ways to foster more independence and resilience in our kids. If you couldn't join us that's ok! You can access the presentation below. We plan to host more family engagement events this school year and would love your input regarding the best times to schedule these. Please take a moment to complete the survey below to let us know what times of day and weekdays work well for you. We can't always meet everyone's schedule needs, but we'd love to have more information to help with planning future events.



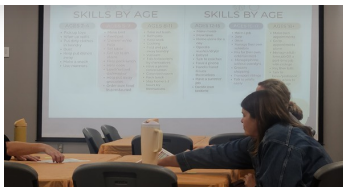
Copy of Family Engagement_ Raising Resilient Kids.pdf

Download

7.1 MB



Tracey Galgoci gave a great presentation.



Helpful information was shared regarding building independence at all ages.



We were able to give out some great door prizes to help with screen free family nights at home

When would you be most likely to attend a parent event?

Weekdays right after school

Weekday evenings after 5:00pm

Weekday mornings before 10:00am

Weekend Mornings

Weekend Afternoons

 Voting ends in 14 days

 Votes are anonymous and results are private

Reminders

School Policy on Personal Items

Parents, we are asking for your help to remind students that personal items need to be left at home. This policy is meant to support focus in the educational setting as well as to protect student personal property. The below items should be left at home:

- fidgets
- squishies

- toys
- stuffed animals
- personal purses/Small bags
- make-up
- electronic devices
- athletic equipment

From the School Counselor

Welcome Back, Rams!

My name is Doni Schumacker, and I am the School Counselor and Dean of Students here at Renaissance. While I officially joined the Rams family last spring, this will be my first full school year at RPSA! My background includes serving as an elementary school counselor and administrator in central Michigan since 2004, following a decade of counseling work in the private sector. Outside of school, I've raised three now-adult children right here in Mt. Pleasant, and love outdoor activities like hiking, camping, spending time at the beach, and skiing.

I am deeply passionate about helping students feel valued, connected, and equipped with the skills to live balanced, peaceful lives. Beyond visiting classrooms for monthly social and emotional skill lessons, I am thrilled to introduce our new **R & R Room**!

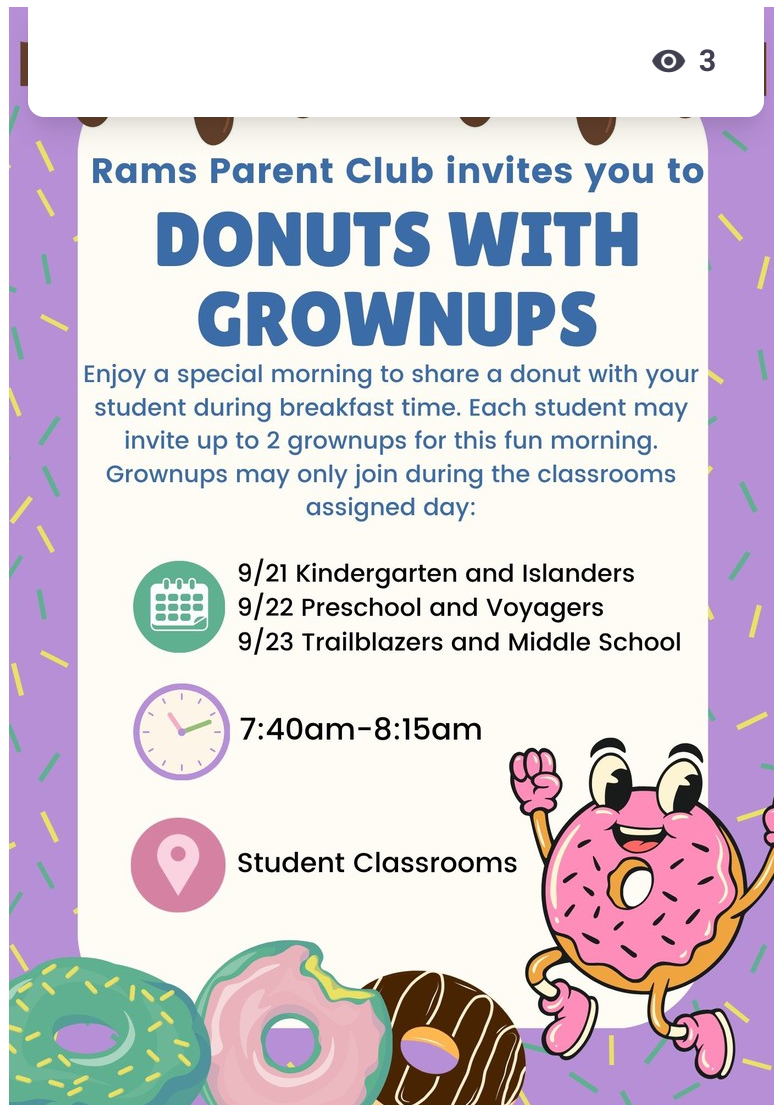
The R & R Room is a dedicated space designed to support students throughout the school day, featuring:

- **A Sensory Area:** For muscle and balance movement.
- **Quiet Workspaces:** For reflection and refocusing.
- **A Calming "Living Room":** Equipped with fidgets, sensory tools, and visual self-regulation guides.
- **A Collaborative Space:** For restorative conflict resolution, as well as individual and small-group skill-building sessions.

The R & R Room is already bustling with activity, and it's wonderful to see so many students putting these new skills into practice!

Upcoming Events

Donuts with Grownups



Donuts with Grownups hosted by Parent Club is next week! A couple of important things to note to help with space and coordination:

- only 2 adults per student
- siblings may not join from other classrooms
- if possible, please leave younger siblings at home. If you are bringing younger siblings, please leave strollers/wagons etc. behind as there is not room for them in the classrooms
- parents may only visit the grade level classrooms/hallways participating each day
- please plan to leave by 8:15 so that we can get the school day started

Orange Shirt Day



What is Orange Shirt Day and when does it occur each year? Orange Shirt Day, September 30th, is a day to honor and uphold Survivors and intergenerational Survivors of the Indian residential school system, and to commemorate those who didn't return home.

What does Orange Shirt Day symbolize and why?

Orange Shirt Day was created as an opportunity to discuss the effects of residential schools and their legacy. It honors the experiences of Indigenous Peoples, celebrates resilience and affirms a commitment that every child matters.

What is Orange Shirt Day in US?

September 30th is a day of recognition across the United States and Canada. Orange Shirt Day honors Indigenous children who were lost at residential and boarding schools. It also honors the legacy of survivors.

Is Orange Shirt Day only in Canada?

The event led to the annual September 30th Orange Shirt Day as a means of remembrance, teaching, and healing. In June 2021, the federal government declared 30 September a national statutory holiday to coincide with Orange Shirt Day.

How do you explain every child matters?

"Every child matters," became the motto of what soon became Orange Shirt Day, honoring even the wounded inner child within the adult survivors of Indian residential schools in Canada. It is an expression of the belief that all children are important, including the ones left behind at residential schools and adults who are still healing from the trauma they endured there.

What is reconciliation in simple words?

Reconciliation is a situation in which two people or groups of people become friendly again after they have argued: It took hours of negotiations to bring about a reconciliation between the two sides. It is the process of making two opposite beliefs, ideas, or situations agree. Reconciliation is about making & accepting apologies.

-courtesy of SCIT Tribal Observer

RAMS Parent Club



UPDATE!

We have had a record breaking
number of cards checked out!

**THANK YOU! THANK YOU!
THANK YOU!**

If each person who checked out ten
cards sells 2 we will make \$1000!!

If each person sells 5 cards we will make
\$2400!

**Every card sale helps us fund
assemblies, classroom supplies, &
fieldtrips as well as teacher mini grants.**

Questions?



ramsparentclub@renaissancepsa.com



Picture Retakes

Picture retakes will be October 6, 2026. All students will have their photo taken for the yearbook. Parents will receive an email from Guys and Dolls Photography after picture day is complete with information for ordering picture prints.



Picture Day FAQs With Student ID Number.pdf

[Download](#)

37.7 KB



School Price Guide.pdf

[Download](#)

12.0 MB

Attendance Matters

At Renaissance, some of the most meaningful learning happens through **inquiry, collaboration, hands-on projects, and experiences that simply can't be recreated when a student misses school.** Building strong attendance habits at home—consistent bedtimes, morning routines, and making school attendance a priority—helps ensure students are here, ready, and excited to take part in each day's learning.

We have been tracking our attendance already this school year and we are off to a great start. Our schoolwide goal is 95% average daily attendance. During the first 4 weeks of school we've hit that goal 3 out of 4 weeks!

Be here. Be curious. Be a Ram!



ATTEND TODAY.
ACHIEVE TOMORROW.

Good attendance today leads to more **learning**, more **growth**, and more **opportunities** for tomorrow.



- ✓ Be here.
- ✓ Be ready.
- ✓ Be your best.

STRIVE FOR FEWER THAN **5**
ATTENDANCE MATTERS!

 Renaissance Academy
RAMS

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School Leader

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