Renaissance High School

Family Welcome Packet August 2023



Verynda Stroughter, Principal

"A School for the Mind, a Mind for the Future"

Greetings!

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the 2023-2024 school year! Please be sure to read this document in its entirety and reference it when necessary. My hope is that it helps to prepare you for the school year. This year we will begin on **Monday, August 28**th! Please note there will be no school on Friday, September 1st and Monday, September 4th for the Labor Day Observance.

We continue to make our mark as one of the top 5% of schools in the country. This past year, we had an increase in our test scores, the number of students taking college level courses and exams, and an increase in our college readiness mark. Renaissance continues to be a great school to attend, and we are excited to partner with our community to continue our RISE.

Although we will remain academically focused, I cannot ignore our athletic and extracurricular programs. We have the honor of having two girls' programs who have done well in the state this past year. Congratulations to our girls' basketball and track and field teams for making it to the MHSAA State Finals. While all our Fine & Performing Arts Departments have done exceptionally well over this last year, our dance teacher, Mrs. Leath was named Michigan Dance Council Educator of the year! We have all around stellar programs that your child should investigate if they are not already involved in something.

One of my goals for this year is to continue to get every student involved in our school community outside of the classroom. If athletics or performance is not your forte, students can get involved in the management aspect of the programs. Students may also join one of our many clubs and volunteer organization to imbed themselves in the fabric of our school community. Students should not hesitate to step up, lead, and experience Renaissance for all that it has to offer.

Parents please join our PTSA, Dad's Club, or Athletic & Performing Arts Booster Clubs! We also have many opportunities for parents to volunteer. Let us know if you are willing and able to support us throughout the school day, before or after school. I look forward to working with you all this school year and seeing your active participation.

Make sure your information is updated at the school to receive weekly announcements. It is imperative that you are on all our school communication avenues, including PowerSchool Parent Portal (for grades and attendance), Blackboard (for announcements), Principal Stroughters' Remind Communication and class sponsors communication. If you have not downloaded the PowerSchool app and gotten your login information, be sure to get that done beginning August 22nd in the main office during regular business hours.

We are dedicated to providing the highest quality educational experience in the state of Michigan. Together, we will strengthen our spirits, challenge our minds, broaden our perspectives and be flexible in our steps to another successful school year!

Educationally,

Verynda Stroughter, Principal

Administration Team

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	Grade Level Responsibility
Verynda Stroughter	Principal	12 th Grade
Lauria Cradu	Assistant Drivation	Oth Crada

Lewis GradyAssistant Principal9th GradeJoseph HunterAssistant Principal11th GradeCindy PowellAssistant Principal10th Grade

Welcome New Staff - 2023/2024

Joseph Hunter, AP DJ Slater, Math Matthew Kern, Science Christopher Gray, Band

Vernon Williams, ESE Jaquette Bradley-Ware, POC Ed Johnson, Football Coach

Save The Date

During registration, students will obtain schedules, receive their textbooks, take their student ID & yearbook picture, and receive their school ID (TBD). School ID's will be necessary to enter the building every day. Students can purchase school uniform shirts, receive first day homeroom assignments, purchase the Homecoming Package, and pay senior dues. All students MUST have on a collared school shirt to take a school ID photo (white or burgundy color). Seniors will take cap & gown photos. See senior notice for instructions. Only RHS students should be in attendance during orientation; parents, siblings, family members and friends should not attend.

August 22	9 th , A – L: 8am – 10am 9 th , M – Z: 10am – 12pm
August 22	11 th , A – L: 1pm – 2pm 11 th , M – Z: 2pm – 3pm

August 23	10 th , A – L: 8am – 10am 10 th , M – Z: 10am – 12pm
August 23	12 th , A – L: 1pm – 3pm 12 th , M – Z: 3pm – 5pm

Make Up Day

August 24	9 th & 11 th : 8am – 10am	
	10 th & 12 th : 10am – 12pm	

New for 2023!

- AP Seminar for 10th graders
- AP Precalculus
- Marquee Sign
- New Main Office and Media Center Carpet
- Coming soon...new audio in auditorium

Counseling Staff

Counselors are assigned by last name; the assignments are as follows:

A-G: Melissa Jones, melissa.jones@detroitk12.org

H-O: Kelly West, Kelly.west@detroitk12.org

P-Z: Wendy Nichols, wendy.nichols@detroitk12.org

College Transition Advisor: Cionne Jones, cionne.jones@detroitk12.org

Upcoming Dates

August 22 – 23: Student Orientation by grade level

August 25: Varsity Home Football Game, 7pm

August 28: First Day of School

September 1 & 4: Labor Day Observance, No School

September 6: Freshmen Parent Meeting, 5pm

September 10: First Varsity Volleyball Tournament

September 11: Parent-Student-School Compact Agreement Due

September 12: Senior Parent Meeting, 5pm

September 14: Probation Student Meeting, 10am

September 14: Probation Parent Meeting, 5pm

September 27: Curriculum Night, 5pm

October 6: Homecoming Football Game, 7pm October 7 (Tentative): Homecoming Dance

Communication

The main office is open daily. Beginning August 21st, the main office will be open from 8am – 4pm. If your contact information (phone number and address) has changed, we ask that you update your information as many things are sent out from the school and district using this information. All families should have access to PowerSchool to manage attendance and grades. If you do not have PowerSchool login information or need to update your contact information, please come to the main office during regular business hours. Also, Principal Stroughter has a Parent Remind group where information is shared regularly. You may contact the main office for your Remind group information.

Be sure to check our school website regularly as many announcements and information is shared in that space. Go to www.detroitk12.org/renaissance

Lockers

Lockers already have a combination lock on it. A separate lock is not needed. Students should not share lockers nor give their combination to anyone.

During orientation, ALL students should try to open their locker to ensure that it will open. If there are any concerns, it should be taken care of during orientation.

Seminar Class

Every student will have a seminar period. This course is designed to give students a weekly opportunity to catch up on work, prepare for standardized tests, meet with teachers/counselors, attend Phoenix Focus Workshops (or other schoolwide meetings), and participate in community service. During the first week, students will receive instructions on how to "sign out" of seminar to take care of business within the school. This course is graded as a Pass/Fail course. A "failed" course negatively impacts students' overall GPA.

First Day Bell Schedule

Students will report to a special homeroom on the first day of school. After the homeroom period, students will follow their schedule for the rest of the day.

August 28, 2023 - Bell Schedule ONLY

Period	Start Time	End Time
HR	8:00 AM	8:45 AM
1	8:55 AM	9:40 AM
2	9:45 AM	10:30 AM
3	10:35 AM	11:20 AM
4	11:25 AM	12:50 PM
5	12:55 AM	1:40 PM
6	1:45 PM	2:30 PM
7	2:35 PM	3:20 PM

First Day Homeroom Assignments

Students will receive homeroom assignments during orientation. Signs will also be posted throughout the hallways on the first day of school. Homeroom is only for the first day of school. All other days, the regular schedule will be followed. See below.

Lunch Hour

Lunch occurs 4th hour Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday and 5th hour on Wednesday for everyone. There are three lunches designated by departments. Students should only attend one lunch period. See below.

Bell Schedule

The school day is from 8:00am -3:20pm. On Monday, Tuesday and Friday students attend all courses hours 1-7. On Wednesday, students attend odd hours and on Thursday, students attend even hours with a seminar class. See below.

Renaissance Bell Schedule – 2023/2024

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1 st Hr	8:00am – 8:55am	8:00am – 8:55am	First Hour 8:00am – 9:40am	<u>Second Hour</u> 8:00am – 9:40am	8:00am – 8:55am
2 nd Hr	9:00am – 9:53am	9:00am – 9:53am	<u>Third Hour</u> 9:45am – 11:25am	<u>Seminar</u> 9:45am – 11:25am	9:00am – 9:53am
3 rd Hr	9:58am – 10:51am	9:58am – 10:51am	Fifth Hour A Lunch	Fourth Hour A Lunch	9:58am – 10:51am
4 th Hr	A Lunch 10:51am - 11:21am Lunch 11:26am - 12:26pm Class B Lunch 10:56am - 11:26am Class 11:26am - 11:56am Lunch 12:01pm - 12:26pm Class C Lunch 10:56am - 11:56am Class 11:56am - 12:26pm Lunch	A Lunch 10:51am – 11:21am Lunch 11:26am – 12:26pm Class B Lunch 10:56am – 11:26am Class 11:26am – 12:26pm Class C Lunch 10:56am – 11:56am Class 11:56am – 12:26pm Lunch	11:30am – 12:00pm Lunch 12:05pm – 1:40pm Class B Lunch 11:30am – 12:20pm Class 12:20pm – 12:50pm Lunch 12:55pm – 1:40pm Class C Lunch 11:30am – 1:05pm Class 1:10pm – 1:40pm Lunch	11:30am = 12:00pm Lunch 12:05pm = 1:40pm Class B Lunch 11:30am = 12:20pm Class 12:20pm = 12:50pm Lunch 12:55pm = 1:40pm Class C Lunch 11:30am = 1:05pm Class 1:10pm = 1:40pm Lunch	A Lunch 10:51am – 11:21am Lunch 11:26am – 12:26pm Class B Lunch 10:56am – 11:26am Class 11:26am – 11:56am Lunch 12:01pm – 12:26pm Class C Lunch 10:56am – 11:56am Class 11:56am – 12:26pm Lunch
5 th Hr	12:31pm – 1:24pm	12:31pm – 1:24pm	Seventh Hour	Sixth Hour	12:31pm – 1:24pm
6 th Hr	1:29pm – 2:22pm	1:29pm – 2:22pm	1:45pm = 3:20pm	1:45pm – 3:20pm	1:29pm – 2:22pm
7 th Hr	2:27pm – 3:20pm	2:27pm – 3:20pm			2:27pm – 3:20pm
			A Lunch: FLA Math PE	· ·	

Policies and Procedures...At a Glance!

We follow the DPSCD Student Code of Conduct. Please visit detroitk12.org, download a copy and review for your information.

Arrival

Students are permitted to enter the building at 7:15am. Upon early arrival, students should report to the Phoenix Café until 7:45am, at that time, they may proceed to their first hour class.

Departure

Dismissal is at 3:20pm. Students must leave the building by 3:30pm unless they are participating in a supervised activity with a staff sponsor. It is imperative that parents plan for students to be picked up at the end of the day. Students who have not been picked up by 3:30pm must wait outside of the building. Campus must be cleared by 3:30pm.

Early Dismissal

An early dismissal letter may be submitted to your child's counselor upon arrival to school in the morning if they need to leave early. Once the verification process is completed, your child will receive written permission for early dismissal from class/school. The student must present the early dismissal pass to the teacher and report to the counseling office for pick up. Students will only be released to a parent or legal guardian as indicated on our Student Information System. In emergencies, parents may come to the counseling office to sign their child out early from school and wait for them to be sent to the office. Parents must come into the building and present a valid ID for early dismissal request. All early dismissal pick-ups must occur by 2:45pm. Students are not permitted to walk out of the building prior to checking in with the office.

Closed Campus

Renaissance High School is a closed campus. Students are not to leave the building between 7:15am and 3:20pm without a written pass from a counselor or administrator, unless they are enrolled in dual enrollment or an internship program.

Food

Food and beverages brought into the school must be for individual consumption only. Any items brought into the school for mass consumption, distribution, or sale will be confiscated and the student may face disciplinary action. Unauthorized fundraising is prohibited.

Deliveries

Parents, please refrain from sending or delivering items such as flowers, Edible Arrangements, balloons, food deliveries etc. to students during school hours. These items will not be accepted by building security or staff and are strictly prohibited. Helium balloons are strictly prohibited from being brought into the building for any reason.

Students are not allowed to have food delivered by any outside source, this includes but is not limited to Door Dash, Uber Eats, GrubHub, etc.

Dress Code

Students are required to follow the RHS dress code (Khaki color or burgundy pants, shorts or skirt with a white or burgundy collared shirt, white or burgundy Renaissance shirt or hooded sweatshirt {hoods and hats may not be worn in the building at any time}, with school ID) daily. Students out of dress code will not be allowed to attend class. Parents will be required to bring proper attire. Outerwear should be placed in students' lockers. Hats and hoodies are not to be worn in the building. Sweaters and/or layers should also be in school colors. School spirit wear can be worn on Fridays with blue jeans. Friday spirit day is a privilege that can be removed by administration, if necessary.

Cell Phones and Headphones

Cell phone/headphone usage is allowed in common areas (hallways, Phoenix Café). However, all devices must be put away in classroom areas. Devices may be used for classroom purposes at the discretion of the teacher.

Student Absent Reporting

When your student will be absent, you may send an email to all the teachers and the counselor AND write a note so that your student can provide to each teacher for signatures and drop the note off in the counseling office to be recorded on PowerSchool. Counselors should also be notified for a student long term absence (more than 3 consecutive days).

Absence notes MUST be presented on the day of return. After three days of student return, an absence excuse WILL NOT be accepted.

Renaissance High School Communication Process

Matters Involving:	Academic Progress	Attendance Progress	Behavior Concerns	School Communication	Athletics
Step 1:	Contact ClassroomTeacher	Contact ClassroomTeacher	Contact ClassroomTeacher	Contact	Contact Coach
Step 2:	Contact School Counselor	Contact Dean of Culture	Contact Dean of Culture	Main Office	Contact Athletic
Step 3:	Assistant Principal				Director
Step 4:	Principal Stroughter				

Communication Process Practices:

School formal strategies include:

- Blackboard and Remind are used to communicate regularly. All parents should ensure they are enrolled in all communication platforms.
- Monthly school newsletter posted on school website and sent via Blackboard and Remind by the first Monday of each month. A weekly calendar will also be sent each week.
- School website: www.detroitk12.org/renaissance assists with communicating with the immediate and wider community
- Staff email: used for two-way communication with various members of the school staff (see attachment)
- School Social Media: Follow us on:
 - Twitter: @RenaissanceHig3
 - o Facebook: renaissancehig3
 - o Instagram: www.facebook.com/phoenix.rise.7311
- Parent Information Meetings are held at least once per year to communicate expectations and curriculum information.
- PTSA Meetings are held monthly to communicate and address the needs of the school community.
- Title I Parent Workshops are held at least twice per year to share valuable information pertaining to the growth and matriculation of our students.
- Information Sessions for a Specific Purposes: Information sessions are held as needed and will cover a variety of topics including athletics, school performances, extracurricular activities, class meetings and counselor informational sessions.
- Grade Level Assemblies: held during the first week of school to provide expectations for the school year

Professional Communication Practices

When communicating with parents, staff members will:

- Approach discussion in an open, courteous and respectful manner.
- Listen attentively to the concerns of parents, seeking clarification where necessary.
- Present their own or the school's point of view in professional and objective terms.
- Seek support from Administration or colleagues if needed.
- Take into consideration cultural and personal sensitivities and protocols when dealing with the school community.

Parent Meeting Practices

- While some matters may be addressed immediately, it is desirable to arrange meetings to address issues at a time and place that is mutually convenient and is conducive to a positive outcome.
 - Unless unusual circumstances apply, staff arrange meetings with parents in a timely manner.

Dealing with Issues

There may be times, despite ongoing communication, where members of the school community are unsure, disagree or believe there is a problem or issue concerning their child. Parents should not wait for a small issue to grow into a large one:

- If the matter involves your child or is an issue of everyday class operation, parents need to make an appointment to see
 their classroom teacher, detailing the reasons for the appointment. The classroom teacher should be the first point of
 contact.
- If the matter involves operations beyond the classroom or concerns that are not easily resolved, an appointment should be made with a member of the school's Administration.

Staff Name	Staff Email	Dept.
Abdun-Noor, Jamil	Jamil.abdunnoor@detroitk12.org	Math
Alster, Adam	Adam.alster@detroitk12.org	Science
Anderson, Alexis	Alexis.anderson@detroitk12.org	Science
Anderson, Paris	Paris.anderson@detroitk12.org	Counseling Center
Beasley, Darius	Darius.beasley@detroitk12.org	World Language
Bell-Bowers, Christina	Christina.bell@detroitk12.org	English
Bennett, Tanya	Tanya.bennett@detroitk12.org	Performing Arts
Boffman, Danielle	Danielle.boffman@detroitk12.org	School Psychologist
Bridges, Cynthia Dr.	Cynthia.bridges@detroitk12.org	Science
Brown, Chandra	Chandra.brown@detroitk12.org	Physical Education
Carone, Stephanie	Stephanie.carone@detroitk12.org	English
Carter, Alexis	Alexis.carter@detroitk12.org	Academic Interventionist
Carter, Flodean	Flodean.carter@detroitk12.org	English
Charles, Bernard	Bernard.charles@detroitk12.org	Social Studies
Chesleran, Emil	Emil.cheslerean@detroitk12.org	Math
Clark, Elleana	Elleana.clark@detroitk12.org	Main Office
Colding, Brian	Brian.colding@detroitk12.org	Art
Curtis, Frances Dr.	Frances.curtis-fields@detroitk12.org	Science
Davis, Katharine	Katharine.davis@detroitk12org	Global Language
DeBose, Patrice	Patrice.debose@detroitk12.org	Performing Arts
deBruin, Duncan	Duncan.debruin@detroitk12.org	Social Studies
Dudlar, Maria	Maria.dudlar@detroitk12.org	Speech Therapist
Duke, Odette	Odette.duke@detroitk12.org	Art
Grady, Lewis	Lewis.grady@detroitk12.org	Main Office
Gray, Christopher	Christopher.gray@detroitk12.org	Performing Arts
Hackett, Angel	Angel.hackett@detroitk12.org	Math
Highsaw, Charlene	Charlene.highsaw@detroitk12.org	Social Studies
Hunter, Joseph	Joseph.hunter@detroitk12.org	Main Office
Jackson, Nathan	Nathan.jackson@detroitk12.org	Math
Jarmon, Renee	Renee.jarmon@detroitk12.org	Business
Johnson, LaVar	Lavar.johnson@detroitk12.org	JROTC
Johnson, Willie	Willie.johnson@detroitk12.org	Social Studies
Jones, Melissa	Melissa.jones@detroitk12.org	Counseling
Jones, Michon	Michon.jones@detroitk12.org	English
Kern, Matthew	Matthew.kern@detroitk12.org	Science
Kimble, Tiffani	Tiffani.coleman@detroitk12.org	Resource
Leath, Rosalind	Rosalind.leath@detroitk12.org	Performing Arts
Mansour, Nidhal	Nidhal.mansour@detroitk12.org	Math
Miro Sans, Anna	Anna.sans@detroitk12.org	Global Language
Mitchell, Belita	Belita.mitchell@detroitk12.org	Main Office
Morgan, Danielle	Danielle.morgan@detroitk12.org	Main Office
Mullin, Padraic	Padriac.mullin@detroitk12.org	Social Studies
Newell, Develyn	Develyn.newell@detroitk12.org	Science
Nichols, Wendy	Wendy.nichols@detroitk12.org	Counseling
Phillips, Emily	Emily.phillips@detroitk12.org	Science
Piscopink, Gregory	Gregory.piscopink@detroitk12.org	Social Studies
Plumridge, Beth	Beth.plumridge@detroitk12.org	Physical Ed.

Powell, Cindy	Cindy.powell@detroitk12.org	Main Office
Prudhomme, Danielle	Danielle.baker@detroitk12.org	Math
Richardson, Audrey	Audrey.richardson@detroitk12.org	Science
Safah, Rayana	rayana.safah@detroitk12.org	Global Language
Scott, Joel	Joel.scott@detroitk12.org	Global Language
Slater, DJ	Dara.slater@detroitk12.org	Math
Smith, Kevin	Kevin.smith@detroitk12.org	Social Studies
Stroughter, Verynda	Verynda.stroughter@detroitk12.org	Main Office
Tahir, Aisha	Aisha.tahir@detroitk12.org	English
Tegue, Lazare	Lazare.tegue@detroitk12.org	Math
Thomsen, Vicky	Hsiaochun.lin@detroitk12.org	Global Language
Towns, Curtis	Curtis.towns@detroitk12.org	English
Varineau, Justin	Justin.varineau@detroitk12.org	Math
Vos, Erin	Erin.vos@detroitk12.org	Social Studies
Washington, Laura	Laura.washington@detroitk12.org	English
Webb, Jeffres	Jeffres.webb@detroitk12.org	Academic Interventionist
West, Kelly	Kelly.west@detroitk12.org	Counseling
White, John	John.white@detroitk12.org	Counseling
Williams, Regina	Regina.williams@detroitk12.org	Math
Williams, Vernon	Vernon.williams@detroit12.org	Resource
Wilson, Christal	Christal.wilson@detroitk12.org	English
Woodberry-Means, Michael	Michael.woodberry@detroitk12.org	Math
Woods, Reni	Reni.woods@detroitk12.org	English
Woods, Sharla	sharla.woods@detroitk12.org	Academic Interventionist