

# PHOENIX NOTES

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## Principal's Corner

As we enter the fourth week of school, we are also approaching the fall testing window. A part of a student's high school career is showing what they have learned through testing. Where many students dread these days, Renaissance students revel in it! This is our opportunity to show everyone why we are who we are. We are the number one school in the district, leading in the county and in the state. When you decide to be a Phoenix, you are committing to be the best. To be the best means you prepare like the best, perform like the best and are proud of being the best. Although we have taken a pivot on our learning style, we are still going to provide you with a top-notch education. Students, do your part, log in on time, be ready for class each day, contribute to discussion, turn in assignments regularly, ask questions and engage in your learning!

## Screen Time

Renaissance is a premiere college prep institution, built on the foundation of academic excellence. Students come to Renaissance with the expectation that they will be among the best of the best and be challenged in their thinking. Parents send their students to Renaissance so that they will have the opportunity to attend any college or university they desire, be prepared for the rigor of college and hopefully attend for free! We realize the expectation and will provide you with the best we have to offer. Teachers will extend a college-like experience and will educate at a high level; even virtually.

At the onset, the Renaissance staff took into consideration the amount of time everyone would be online. Please know that this style of teaching and learning is just as difficult on the teaching staff as it may be on your student.

With that being said, we have built in asynchronous days daily. On these days, students MUST check into class, obtain some announcements then the time is theirs. Some students will work on assignments and some will take time away from the computer screen. It is their decision on how they would like to use this time.



### UPCOMING EVENTS

**Spirit Week 9/28 - 10/2**

**Homecoming Game & Senior Day  
10/3**

**Fall Assessments 10/7 - 10/27**

**Fight for the things that you care about but do it in a way that will lead others to join you.**

-Ruth Bader Ginsburg



## RECENT HIGHLIGHTS

### FALL ASSESSMENT

During the next month, we will administer several national assessment exams. We encourage all our students to test. The test will be administered in person. Please plan to attend on your scheduled testing day.

#### 9<sup>th</sup> Grade:

PSAT 9                      October 7<sup>th</sup>

#### 10<sup>th</sup> Grade:

PSAT 10                    October 29<sup>th</sup>

#### 11<sup>th</sup> Grade:

PSAT/NMSQT            October 14<sup>th</sup>  
Illuminate Social Studies & Science  
Assessment Window by October 9<sup>th</sup>

#### 12<sup>th</sup> Grade:

SAT Makeup              October 27<sup>th</sup>

**Please be sure to wear a mask and practice social distancing while in the building or waiting in line, even outside.**

When taking College Board testing, all students must have an approved calculator & 2- No. 2 pencils. Cell phones are not allowed in the testing room. Students should bring a sweater in case it is cool in the testing room. There will be no more than 18 students in each room.



### Homecoming Spirit Week

**Monday:** Character PJ Day

**Tuesday:** Tacky Tuesday

**Wednesday:** Family Day

**Thursday:** Masks Day

**Friday:** Virtual Background/Social Injustice Day

\*See flyer for more details.

All students are encouraged to participate RESPONSIBLY.



## BOOK OF THE MONTH

Class of 2024:  
March

Class of 2023:  
Fahrenheit 451

Class of 2022:  
Kindred

Class of 2021:  
Refugee

## NOTES FROM THE COUNSELORS

**Seniors:** Oct. 1<sup>st</sup> FAFSA opens, plan to be done by March 1<sup>st</sup>. • Oct. 15<sup>th</sup> has historically been the first college application deadline, check college websites for details. • Letters of recommendation request need 7 days. • Attend virtual meetings with college reps. • Research scholarships, various deadlines. • Visit college campuses. • Plan to have all application completed by October 31<sup>st</sup>.

**All Grades:** There are several things you can do to feel more comfortable with your academic workload.

- Communicate with your teachers! See when they are available for a virtual conference. Use Teams class time and don't forget about Seminar time.
- Encourage your parents to communicate with your teachers and use Schoology and Powerschool to keep up with your grades and attendance. • Use a planner or app to organize due dates, test dates, etc. • Be present. Not just in attendance but alert during your Teams sessions. • Learn to prioritize; school, work, clubs, sports, etc.
- Learn to prioritize your classwork, what's required, what's optional, what's weighted, etc. • Take a deep breath. Only semester grades are viewed on transcripts-there is time to make improvements. • Take time for yourself. Mental health is important. Get enough sleep at night, eat nutritious foods, talk to someone when you are stressed, exercise!