



RENAISSANCE RAVEN REVIEW October 2, 2020

Dear Families,

As we enter our second month of the 20-21 school year, the rhythm of days and classes is becoming smoother. We are seeing engagement from most of our students and fewer technology issues. This is progress! The staff does want to reiterate several norms that have been discussed with the students with the hope that families will have a conversation about them.

The first is the appropriate time for emailing a teacher. Before school, after school, or during a break, are the correct times for students to send messages or questions to teachers; not during class. Sending an email during a different class distracts from the learning and teaching that is taking place at that moment. Students are welcome to email teachers during the weekend, but please be aware that you may not receive an answer until Monday.

A second norm that we want to remind students and families of is the District guidance for the logging of grades into Skyward. The District has determined that after an assignment has been turned in, an appropriate time for the grade to be shown in Skyward is two weeks. At RSAR we try to input grades as soon as possible, but some assignments naturally take longer to assess. We ask for your patience, as well as the students', for that assignment to show up in Skyward.

Along with grades is the idea of missing work. In no way do we want students to become more stressed than they might already be. Missing work is just a signal to the student and to the parent that the teacher has not yet received an assignment. In the world we currently live in, this could be due to several reasons: technology, putting it in the wrong place, forgetting about it. Your child will not be penalized due to a late paper. But, again, we ask students, as well as parents, to have patience. When students inform us that a paper that has been missing is now turned in, we appreciate the notice, but we may not be able to get to it the same day--perhaps not even the next day. But we will get to it and it will be recorded into Skyward.

Finally, a clarification came today from the District on attendance. The following are the guidelines the District says staff should follow to mark a student present in class.

Students must show evidence beyond logging into class that they are present to be marked present.

Evidence to be marked present includes:

- camera on
- answering questions when called upon
- engaging in the chat
- adhering to teacher requests to stay after class to get extra help
- completing assignment for that class period outside of class

If none of these are present, you may mark the student absent. Some students are logging on and then not showing any other evidence of engagement.

These are difficult times. We are all working to make school as engaging, challenging, and "normal" as possible. The RSAR staff truly appreciates the support and words of encouragement that we have received from our community. Thank you.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out.

Sincerely,
Karen Amaya
Jyoti Bawa
Todd Bohannan
Martha Daman
Sarah Simmons

OFFICE HOURS

During remote learning the Renaissance school campus will be closed. However, there will be office hours for students to retrieve supplies or information. If you are unable to come during open office hours, please reach out to Mrs. Simmons to arrange a time. Please see the office hours below.

Wednesdays – 9:00 am to 2:00 pm

ATTENDENCE

Even though we are remote learning attendance is still being taken daily, please be sure to inform the school office (Mrs. Simmons) know if your student will be absent.

Absences- An absence may only be excused within 48 hours. Parent/Guardian communication is required for excusing an absence. You can email sasimmons@lwsd.org or leave a voicemail at (425) 936-1544. Please spell the last name of the student clearly. Please also leave a reason for the absence/tardy

STUDENT PICTURES

Student pictures were mailed out to all families. They should arrive next week. If you didn't order pictures you should still receive a preview pictures and information on how to order them if you would like to.

Picture Retakes will be on November 18th from 11 am to Noon.

CURRICULUM NIGHT

We are planning to hold a virtual Curriculum Night on October 6th. Links and how to view the presentation will be sent out closer to the scheduled date.

PTSA STUDENT ZOOM LUNCH

To help the new students get to know their RSAR community we have started holding Zoom lunches on Fridays. These Zooms are open to any student who is interested in connecting. Right now we are posting the

Zoom link on the RSAR Families Facebook page each week. If you are interested in joining or hosting a Zoom session please contact Julie Turner at jbspeech@outlook.com for information.

EHS LIBRARY

LOVE TO READ?

Hello RSAR Students! I am [Mrs. Story](#) the Librarian and my favorite thing about being a school librarian is sharing fiction and non-fiction books with students to read for personal interest, curiosity, and authentic life long reading. If you want any print books available in our library just fill out this [Book Request Form](#). I will check them out to you and let you know when and where to pick them up at EHS. We also have a lot of E-Books this year with a new service called SORA. Here is a [link](#) that explains it all. You can also access any E-Books from KCLS through this portal.

SCHOOL FEES

At this time, we will wait on all school payments (ASB, Class fees, Yearbook etc.) until the Fall. We are concerned about some of our families who are experiencing economic hardship. This time will also allow us to align the fees to the level of service we can provide. We have also decided to limit course fees.

Raven Review Newsletter

The Raven Review (RR) is a weekly newsletter sent to all students, parents and staff throughout the school year, typically on Fridays. Please watch for this weekly newsletter in your in-box as it is one of the ways Renaissance provides information that families may need throughout the school year.

If you've missed any of the LWSD communications regarding back to school, you can find that information at this link. <https://www.lwsd.org/get-involved/task-forces/return-to-school-task-force>

Counseling Corner

Suicide Prevention

The statistics scare everyone, but especially parents: according to the [2018 Healthy Youth Survey](#) of 8th graders in King County, **19% reported that they had considered attempting suicide, 16% had made a suicide plan, and 9% had attempted suicide in the past year.**

What can we do to decrease these statistics? Lake Washington School District has made investments to address mental health and substance use issues that can lead to suicide in young people. One is partnering with Youth Eastside Services (YES) to provide Behavioral Health Support Specialists (BHSS) such as myself in their schools.

While parents are often the first to notice their child struggling with anxiety and/or depression, teachers and school counselors can also provide a safety net. In my role at RSAR, I collaborate with school staff in recognizing and responding to students struggling with mental health issues. But we can't do this without parental support! It's essential to know the most common warning signs:

- Talking about wanting to die or to kill themselves
- Looking for a way to kill themselves, like searching online
- Talking about feeling hopeless or having no reason to live
- Talking about feeling trapped or in unbearable pain
- Talking about being a burden to others
- Using alcohol or drugs
- Acting anxious or agitated; behaving recklessly
- Showing rage or talking about seeking revenge
- Sleeping too little or too much
- Withdrawing or isolating themselves
- Extreme mood swings

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT SUICIDE PREVENTION:

[JOIN A CRITICAL CONVERSATION](#) about suicide awareness and prevention between YES CEO, David W. Downing, and **special guest Kevin Hines**, suicide survivor, best-selling author, filmmaker, and mental health advocate. Learn why our youth are in crisis and what you can do to help. October 22, 6-7PM. Register ahead at Youtheastideservices.org/preventsuicide.

Teen Suicide Prevention Resource Guide: This 2-page printable guide includes resources for teens and parents, how to start a conversation with your child, and what to do if you believe they are considering suicide. youtheastideservices.org/suicide-prevention-resource-guide/



CORA’S VIRTUAL DROP-IN OFFICE HOURS – for parents and students

WHEN: Every Monday and Friday, 2:00 – 4:00 PM

HOW: [Register here anytime](#). A confirmation email will give you details.

WHY: Need to vent? Worried about your child? Want to talk confidentially about family struggles and find a pathway forward? I’m here to listen and provide resources! Don’t hesitate to register and drop-in on my virtual office hours.

I am also available to meet for longer sessions with students and parents via Telehealth video and phone. Leave a message at 425-747-4937, ext 2719. Enter the extension anytime during the greeting. Be sure to leave your name and phone number, and I will get back to you within 24 hours on weekdays.



RSAR Remote Learning Bell Schedule Fall 2020

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Period 1 9:00 – 10:00	Period 2 9:00 – 10:00	Asynchronous Learning Support 9:00-12:00	Period 1 9:00 – 10:00	Period 2 9:00 – 10:00
Period 3 10:10-11:10	Period 4 10:10-11:10		Period 3 10:10-11:10	Period 4 10:10-11:10
Lunch 11:15 – 11:45	Lunch 11:15 – 11:45	Lunch 12:00-12:30	Lunch 11:15 – 11:45	Lunch 11:15 – 11:45
Period 5 11:50-12:50	Period 6 11:50-12:50		Period 5 11:50-12:50	Period 6 11:50-12:50
Guild 1:00-2:00	Raven Time 1:00-2:00		Guild 1:00-2:00	Raven Time 1:00-2:00
Asynchronous Learning Support 2:00-4:00	Asynchronous Learning Support 2:00-4:00		Asynchronous Learning Support 2:00-4:00	Asynchronous Learning Support 2:00-4:00

2020/2021 School Calendar

OCTOBER 6	VIRTUAL CURRICULUM NIGHT
OCTOBER 16	NO SCHOOL- LEAP DAY
NOVEMBER 11	NO SCHOOL- VETERANS DAY
NOVEMBER 18	PICTURE RETAKE
NOVEMBER 25	EARLY RELEASE @ 10:30 AM
NOVEMBER 26- 27	NO SCHOOL- THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY
DECEMBER 21 - JANUARY 1	NO SCHOOL- WINTER BREAK