



RENAISSANCE RAVEN REVIEW September 7, 2018

Dear Parents,

The first week of our 2018-2019 school year is complete. I want to welcome our new families and welcome back our returning families. This week the teachers have seen new friendships form and old friendships renewed. RSAR students are (mostly) awake and ready to begin the day. We have heard stories of summer adventures and of books read. Many of the returning students seem to have grown several inches over the weeks we were apart—was it all the sunshine?

As a staff, we feel that it is imperative to spend time developing norms and teaching our expectations to the students. This fosters strong community and a strong community fosters a learning environment that benefits all students. In Guild we spent several periods reviewing the Renaissance Values and what they look like for students. These are printed on the front page of the syllabus your student received earlier in the week.

In the beginning weeks, and throughout the year, students will be asked to reflect upon their learning. Today, your student is bringing home the first week reflection. All students have been asked to share this with their parent(s) for two reasons. First, it is to give you a glimpse of our week together and learn what your child did the last four days. Second, this is an opportunity to begin a conversation.

Middle schoolers are notorious for one syllable answers. By providing you with an idea of what occurred during the day, you may be able to elicit longer conversations and understand the various activities, projects, and papers we worked on during the week. Look for these types of reflections to come home on Fridays.

As we review RSAR and District policies with students we will also ask that they teach you about these policies. One homework assignment next week will be for your student to show you the handbook and point out different sections. Once this has taken place, please sign the front cover so your student can return it to his/her guild teacher.

We are enforcing the cell phone policy with more diligence this year and we are asking for your help. If your child does not need his/her cell phone at school we ask that it stay home. If it is necessary to bring to RSAR the cell phone must stay in a backpack and not be taken out during school hours. If you should need to reach your child, please do not text or call. Instead contact Mrs. Simmons, our office manager, and she will forward the message.

All of us at RSAR are excited to be back at school working with your children. We know that working together, teachers, parents, and students, we can make this year a powerful year of learning and growing.

Here is to our year together!

Regards,

Karen Amaya

IMPORATNT REMINDERS AND INFORMATION

CAMP INFORMATION:

CAMP MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 18th IS CANCELLED!!!

We will hold a Camp Q & A on September 25th before Curriculum night at 6:15pm in Room 106. This will be an informal meeting to allow parents the opportunity to ask questions or clarify information regarding camp. You may also bring your completed forms, payment, and, medications to this meeting. Attendance is not required.

CAMP IS OCTOBER 15TH – 18TH. We will leave for camp on the 15th at 2pm, so Monday will be a normal school day. We will arrive back at RSAR on the 18th around 1:30pm- please be prepared to pick your student up at that time.

The camp packet, which will include all detailed information and permission slips, will be sent home with students and emailed on Friday, September 14th. The forms and payment will be due on Friday September 28th.

We need volunteers! We are looking for parents to come to camp with us. If you are interested and are able to attend for the entire duration of the camp please fill out the survey located here. <http://aka.ms/camp2018>.

***Please note that completing the survey does not guarantee you a chaperone spot. We have limited number of spots available and will determine the chaperones based on the needs of the school/students. If there is a high number of parents who would like to chaperone we will likely do a lottery to select the parents. ***

STUDENT LAPTOPS

Students were issued a school laptop this week. Please review the LWSD laptop handbook for more information. Students are responsible for the laptop and they need to bring the laptop to school fully charged each day. If students experience any technical issues with their computers they can bring the computer to the office to be sent to tech support for repair or call helpdesk at 425-936-1366.

LWSD LAPTOP HANDBOOK

The Mobile Access for Students program provides each student in grades six through 12 a laptop computer for their educational use both at home and at school. The use of this tool is designed to enrich the learning environment and to assist teachers as they support students in acquiring the skills, knowledge and attributes outlined in the district's Student Profile. The privilege of accessing the school network and computer resources is also an opportunity to learn the responsibility of informed, ethical and responsible computer use. This handbook outlines many of these responsibilities. It provides information and resources for families about these expectations. [LWSD Handbook](#)

Laptop Insurance Options

Families may wish to protect against liability for lost, damaged or stolen property by reviewing their insurance options. Some homeowner's policy may offer coverage and some may offer this coverage if a rider is acquired. In addition, Lake Washington School District has arranged for an insurance option for families wishing to purchase a specific additional insurance to cover their student's laptop. This insurance can be purchased from Worth Insurance Group. The premium is \$63.60 per year and covers accidental damage and theft (police report required). The deductible in this policy is \$0. This insurance can be acquired directly by going to

<https://www.worthavegroup.com/portal/lakewashington>. The company also offers coverage for other personal technology devices. If you chose not to purchase the optional insurance or do not otherwise have coverage, you will be responsible for fees for damaged or lost/stolen equipment as defined above.

YEARBOOK PRE-ORDER

If you have not pre-ordered your students yearbook now is the time to do it!. The cost of the yearbook is \$25 and forms can be found the main office.

STUDENT ABSENT/LATE ARRIVAL/EARLY DISMISSAL:

Absences- An absence may only be excused within 48 hours. Parent/Guardian communication is required for excusing an absence or late arrival. 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.

Late Arrival- If your student is arriving to school late they need to check in at the office **before going to class**. You do not have to sign the student in but if the student does not stop by the office the absence put in by the teacher will NOT be changed into a TARDY and you will likely receive an attendance call.

Early Dismissal – Please come into the office and sign your student out. You do not need to call or email ahead of time. Please just come into the office, sign your student out and your student will be called out of class to leave with you. You must sign your student out in order for them to leave campus.

HEALTHY YOUTH SURVERY

Renaissance School is registered for the 2018 Healthy Youth Survey. The survey will be administered October 8th - 19th. Please see the attached information sheet regarding the Healthy Youth Survey.

SCHOOL PROGRAMS:

- **YEARBOOK**: More information to come later!
- **FRENCH** Fridays 2:10- 3:10 PM Please see attached flyer for more inforamtion on how to sign up.
- **SPANISH** Thursdays 2:10- 3:10 PM Please see attached flyer for more information on how to sign up.

We are continually looking to increase learning and expereineces for our students. Do you have an idea for a club, let us know!

LOST AND FOUND:

Please remind your student to look in the lost and found for any items they may be missing throughout the year. Items left in the lost and found are donated twice a year.

2018/2019 School Calendar

SEPTEMBER 4	FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL
SEPTEMBER 25	CAMP Q & A 6:15-7:00 PM CURRICULM NIGHT 7:00-9:00 PM
SEPTEMBER 28	CAMP FORMS AND PAYMENT DUE
OCTOBER 5	ALL SCHOOL FIELD TRIP
OCTOBER 15-18	OUTDOOR EDUCATION - CAMP ARNOLD
OCTOBER 19	NO SCHOOL- LEAP DAY
OCTOBER 24	PICTURE RETAKES
NOVEMBER 12	NO SCHOOL- VETERNS DAY
NOVEMBER 19	OREGON SHAKESPHERE FESTIVAL @ RSAR
NOVEMBER 21	EARLY RELEASE
NOVEMBER 22-23	NO SCHOOL- THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY
DECEMBER 24- JANUARY 4	NO SCHOOL- WINTER BREAK