

# RAPP



## Information for New Families 2016-2017

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**Aug 8** Elementary class lists posted  
Middle School student schedules available (with payment of Middle School Fees)

**Aug 11** Kindergarten Orientation 5-6pm  
1st Grade Chinese Immersion Orientation 5-6pm  
FEC New Family Welcome 5:30-6pm  
Back to School Night 6-8pm

**Aug 16** School starts (grades 1-9)

**Aug 16-17** Kindergarten Assessments

**Aug 19** Kindergarten class lists posted

**Aug 22** Kindergarten students start

**Aug 27** FEC Picnic & Pool Party 5-9pm @ Lehi Pool

**K-3 Vision Screening** will be conducted the first week of school from Wed-Fri, Aug 17-19. Please ensure your student brings their glasses to school and is aware of this screen. If your student does need/wear glasses, please ensure they bring them to school daily to maximize their learning and prevent further damage.

The Renaissance Academy Printing Press



# Welcome to Renaissance Academy!

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bienvenido

欢迎

bienvenue

καλωσόρισμα

Добро пожаловат

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willkommen

We are excited to have you join our wonderful community of students, families and faculty for the 2016-17 school year. Here at Renaissance we are passionate about offering our students and families the very best education and experience possible. Our goal is to inspire and help students excel as learners, develop as unique individuals, and realize their potential to influence the world around them. This is made possible by excellent teachers, support staff, parent volunteers and an administration committed to helping each student achieve their best across all subjects and extracurricular activities and programs. We are also grateful to enjoy a dedicated Family Engagement Committee (FEC) and parent volunteers who tirelessly donate time, energy and money to support our community and facilitate many programs, fundraisers and other events throughout the year.



At the heart of our school is a strong sense of community and belonging. We continually aim to strengthen relationships between students, families, faculty and the community. This is an even greater priority in 2016-17 as we commence and celebrate our 11th year as a school. Our school vision at Renaissance is to “build the future by empowering [each] individual to realize their unique potential to influence the world around them.” To do this, we use innovative, individualized, and experiential learning methods in World Language and classical education. Our focus on creating a positive and engaging learning atmosphere will increase in 2016-17 with the continued implementation of Kagan engagement structures in our classrooms, more technology in every classroom with the addition of more portable iPad and chromebook labs and six chromebooks per classroom in grades 2-6 and iPads in lower grades, and continuing the popular Phoenix 200 Club positive behavior incentive program.

We encourage our students to see strengths in each other, and teach them to foster good relationships. Programs such as our school counselor led social skills classes, appropriate boundaries education and lunch groups in the lower elementary grades, middle school student government and leadership elective courses, the MS HOPE squad and National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) facilitate the development of stronger individual character, resilience, positive self-concept and social interactions. In 2016-17, school counselor Mrs. Nettie Naumann plans to also introduce a ‘College Week’ initiative at Renaissance to provide more opportunities to expose, educate and prepare Renaissance students for their future.

In addition to core content areas, each day Renaissance students also increase their knowledge of world culture with daily foreign language instruction in Arabic, Spanish or Chinese. Beginning in first grade, students also have the opportunity to elect to learn from our native speaking Chinese teachers and participate in our Chinese Dual Language Immersion program. Students have the opportunity to become fluent in a foreign language, extending their scope of influence as a world citizen.

Teachers and students are also encouraged to Experience Education through regular hands-on classroom and Wonder Day enrichment activities, and field trips directly related to grade-level curriculum. Field trips allow students to expand upon classroom concepts and relate them to real-world situations and career or life opportunities. Field trips are encouraged and required for all students at Renaissance to enhance student learning beyond the classroom. In 2015-16, a group of our Middle School students had the privilege to experience, learn about and tour Washington DC, Philadelphia and New York City. In 2016-17, we will be offering World Language field trip opportunities to students studying Spanish, Arabic and Chinese.



As an administration and faculty we are always looking for ways to improve and maximize the learning experience of our students at Renaissance. We continually review current programs and curriculum, introduce new programs and ideas, and increase extracurricular and character development opportunities offered to students. In 2016-17 Ms. Shelby Dieters, an extremely experienced and successful teacher of 15-years will act as our Associate Dean of Instruction. In her new position Ms. Dieters will provide full-time instructional support and coaching to our talented team of teachers to help them further develop their pedagogical skills, increase in creativity, expand ideas and possibilities in the classroom, and most importantly promote increased student engagement and achievement.



Some other exciting new programs you will see in 2016-17 include the opening of our much anticipated Voyager Simulator, the continued development and implementation of our Gifted and Talented Education (GATE) program to increase individualized student instruction, incorporation MS Leadership course opportunities and College Week, and World Language Trip experiences. We will also continue to offer a wide range of after-school programs and summer camps.

Our 11th year in 2016-17 is a great time to join our school community and is going to be a year full of exciting development, growth, academic and community-building events. I look forward to meeting and getting to know each of you joining us this year. I have no doubt it is going to be another great year full of enrichment and learning at our school. If you have any questions about the school, our programs or how we do things and help our students Experience Education at Renaissance please do not hesitate to contact me at [smccappin@renacademy.org](mailto:smccappin@renacademy.org).

Stephanie McCappin  
Dean of Students and Families



# About Renaissance Academy

## *Vision*

We build the future by empowering individuals to realize their unique potential to influence the world around them.

## *Mission*

Inspiring students to excel by applying innovative, individualized, and experiential learning methods in World Language and classical education.



## *World Language*

Renaissance Academy prides itself in a focus on language studies that is “exemplary among foreign language programs” (Renaissance Academy Charter). All students at RA are enrolled in daily World Language classes that focus on interpersonal communication. We believe that students must be given the opportunity to practice communicating regularly in a second language, and a large percentage of the time spent in World Language class is dedicated to speaking with others. This ties in with our emphasis on Experience Education.



## *Experience Education*

We believe that the best education comes through experience. Whether it's on field trips, through in-class experiments, presentations and projects, doing local service projects, visiting college campuses, or during after school programs, students at Renaissance are constantly learning via dynamic experiences that enrich the curriculum and give a variety of opportunities for growth and success.

## School Contact Information

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### Facebook

[www.facebook.com/RenAcademy.org](http://www.facebook.com/RenAcademy.org)

# RENAISSANCE ACADEMY

## SPACESHIP SIMULATOR

### What is a Spaceship Simulator?

The Renaissance spaceship is the USS Voyager. It is an experiential education classroom with flexible use for the school, but designed specifically with the needs of Project Voyager in mind. Renaissance Academy students have first priority and primary access to Project Voyager and the simulator.

### What is Project Voyager?

Project voyager is a club for 5th through 12th grade that uses the love of science fiction to enrich studies of science, technology, engineering and math. Project Voyager club members call themselves "Cadets." Voyager Cadets specialize in different aspects of working on the simulator to create and participate in missions on the spaceship.

### Why does Renaissance Academy have the USS Voyager?

The educational experiences that are possible in a spaceship simulator align with the Renaissance Academy mission of empowering individuals to realize their unique potential and to influence the world around them.

### How is the spaceship simulator used at the school?

The USS Voyager is the primary platform for running Long Duration Missions (LDMs). Teams of cadets solve challenges and real-life problems within the simulated universe as part of serial missions lasting months at a time. As part of these LDMs, students work through engineering and math problems, learn about healthcare and disease prevention and practice teamwork, decision making and leadership.

**Victor Williamson**, founder and former director of Alpine School District's Christa McAuliffe Space Education Center at Central School, Pleasant Grove, started the first Voyager Club in the mid 1990's. Mr. Williamson retired from the Alpine District in 2013 to start Farpoint at Renaissance and to direct the construction of the simulator here.

Learn more about the program:  
<http://farpointstation.weebly.com>

Victor Williamson's blog:  
<http://voyagerslog.blogspot.com/>



# Dress Code



## *Philosophy*

The use of a dress code is an important part of a distinctive Renaissance Academy education. These standards and guidelines for dress and grooming are purposefully employed to create a learning environment that encourages serious study and fosters the development of self esteem.

The dress code accomplishes this by:

- Decreasing distractions created by modern fashion and socioeconomic differences
- Instilling students with discipline and self-respect
- Eliminating social distinctions
- Maintaining a healthy and positive school image
- Providing a visible and public symbol of commitment to high academic standards

## *Clothing Color Scheme*

The Renaissance Academy student dress code color scheme is as follows;

- a) Tops, Shirts & Dresses - red, navy blue, light blue, light yellow or white
- b) Pants - khaki or navy blue.
- c) Renaissance Plaid (available through 'French Toast')
- d) Sweaters, sweater vests, cardigans, blazers - may be worn in any approved top color.
- e) Hoodies - Navy blue or red only (zip-up and pullover styles are both accepted).

## *General Guidelines*

1. Students are required to adhere to the standards of the dress code during school hours and when participating in any on-campus or other school sponsored activities, unless stated otherwise by school administration.
2. Students must present a modest, clean and neat appearance at all times.
3. Clothing must be clean, in good repair and worn properly.
4. Clothing that is baggy, low-rise, over/undersized or low cut is not permitted.
5. Clothing items may not have visible brand names, logos or words of any kind (except school logo). Lace, sequins or decorative embroidery is not permitted.
6. Clothing must be an approved solid color (see above 'clothing color scheme' section). No contrasting color stitching, exposed zippers, lace, sequins or decorative embroidery is permitted.
7. Renaissance Plaid is permitted for some articles of clothing (where specifically stated). Renaissance Plaid is ("Blue/Red" in the French toast catalog). No other plaid is permitted.
8. Hair must be neat, groomed and clean cut. No extreme hairstyles or unnatural colors (i.e., mohawks, faux hawks etc.) Student who present with extreme hairstyles and colors will be sent home until the situation is rectified.
9. Sunglasses are not permitted inside the school building.
10. Visible tattoos are not allowed.



## *Tops, Shirts & Dresses*

1. Approved styles-girls: shirts (polo and oxford), collared blouses, polo dresses
2. Polo dresses may be worn in any top color and may not be shorter than 2" above the knee
3. Approved styles-boys: shirts (polo and oxford)
4. Tops may be long or short sleeved.
5. Tops must be an approved colors i.e., red, navy blue, light blue, light yellow or white
6. Undershirts in approved colors may be worn under an approved dress code top, which must be buttoned up. Jumpers may only be worn with an approved dress code top.

## *Bottoms*

1. Approved styles for girls: pants, shorts, skorts, skirts, capris, jumpers
2. Approved styles for boys: pants or shorts.
3. Must be an approved solid color for bottoms: khaki or navy
4. Skirts and jumpers may also be Renaissance Plaid.
5. Skirts and jumpers may be no shorter than 2" above the knee. Shorts may be worn under these items for modesty; however, they must not show.
6. Shorts may be no shorter than 4" above the knee.
7. Pants may be cargo style, cuffed or straight legged. Knit pants, athletic pants and sweat pants are not acceptable.



## *Outerwear*

Some types of outerwear may be worn in the building for personal comfort over a dress code compliant collared shirt. Sweaters, sweater vests, cardigans, blazers may be worn in any approved top color. Students may also wear a solid color (zip-up or pullover style hoodie) in navy or red. Hoods on sweaters or sweatshirts may not be worn in the school building. An Official RA logo hoodie will be available for purchase at 'Back-to-School Night' Jackets/coats worn to and from school, and during outside recess are not considered part of the dress code. These items may not be worn in the building. Students will be asked to remove all non-dress code winter/outerwear items when in the school building.



## Shoes

1. Shoes must have a closed toe, back or back strap that allows for daily school activity.
2. Shoes should be conservative in style, and basic (black, brown or white) or coordinating in color (coordinating is defined as any dress code approved color) .
3. Athletic shoes worn to school must also be conservative in style, and basic or coordinating in color as defined above.
4. The following types of shoes are not permitted: with wheels, predominantly fluorescent in color, flashing lights, electronics, character logos, heels greater than 2”.
5. Flip-flops and slippers are not permitted.
6. Athletic shoes may be required in Middle School for P.E.

## Other

1. Belts are optional. They must be a solid color brown, black or navy blue. Buckles must be small with no graphics or logos.
2. Socks must be matching and solid unadorned white, black, or navy blue.
3. Girls may wear smooth, opaque or cable knit tights in approved top or bottom colors. Tights may not be worn as pants or shorts.
4. Ties may be worn in solid navy or Renaissance Plaid
5. Hats, beanies and scarves are not to be worn in the building-except for special events.
6. A minimum amount of jewelry is acceptable. Girls may wear one pair of earrings no larger than a quarter. Boys may not wear earrings. Pierced jewelry in other body parts is not allowed.
7. Make-up is permitted for girls. It should look natural and be non-distracting. Boys may not wear make-up unless sanctioned by a faculty member or administrator for a specific school activity.
8. Hair accessories are acceptable for girls. They should be conservative and may be any matching dress code color.



## Dress Code Standards

There are three dress code standards at Renaissance Academy: daily dress, performance dress and spirit dress. The Dress Code General Guidelines and shoe guidelines apply for all standards.

### Daily Dress

Daily Dress is the standard guideline for school attendance Monday-Friday. Students may wear any approved clothing outlined in the policy.

### Friday Dress

Spirit Dress and Jeans are permitted and may be worn on Fridays. Spirit shirts are available for order from our FEC (Family Engagement Committee) at 'Back to School Night' and other events throughout the year.

## Performance Dress

Performance Dress is a higher standard of dress reserved for field trips and special events. School-wide events that require performance dress will be announced by administration. Any faculty member may designate performance dress for a classroom or grade level special event. Performance dress standards are as follows:

### Girls

- Top-white collared blouse or navy polo dress. May be long or short sleeved.
- Bottom-navy or RA Plaid skirt, skort, shorts, pants, capris, jumper
- Socks/Tights-navy or white socks
- Tie/cross-navy or RA plaid (optional but encouraged)
- Outerwear - in approved colors. See above.

### Boys

- Top-white collared polo or oxford shirt
- Pants/Shorts-navy
- Socks-navy or black
- Tie-navy or RA Plaid (optional but encouraged)
- Outerwear - In approved colors. See above

## Spirit Dress

Daily dress as described above may be worn. Students may also choose to wear a Renaissance Academy logo t-shirt, sweatshirt or hoodie. This includes shirts worn for Renaissance approved clubs, activities or performances. Students may also wear blue denim bottoms on these days. Socks may be any color. Spirit dress days do not occur at a regular interval. When school administration designates a Spirit Dress Day it will be announced in advance to the campus community.

## *Students who arrive at school NOT in dress code clothing*

1. Students in grades 1 - 9 who arrive at school dressed in clothing items other than those included in the dress code will be instructed by faculty members to go to the office and call home to request appropriate dress code attire be brought to school.
2. Once a student has contacted their parents to have appropriate dress code clothing brought to them at school they will be sent back to class with a sticker/stamp indicating to other faculty members that the dress code issue has been addressed.
3. When the dress code items arrive at school students will be called to the office and asked to change.
4. Kindergarten students - Rather than kindergarten students being sent to the office to call home if they are 'out-of-dress code', kindergarten teachers or office staff will contact the parents directly regarding 'out-of-dress code' incidents.
5. If a student is identified as a repeat offender (i.e., required to call home on numerous occasions for different clothes) who continually disregards the student dress code the following will occur;
  - a. A warning will be given, parents will be emailed indicating that the next infraction will result in an after school detention
  - b. Students may receive a maximum of 3 after school detentions for dress code violations
  - c. Upon receipt of a 4th dress code detention more serious behavioral consequences will be considered.



# 2016-17 Calendar

## Renaissance Academy 2016-2017 Calendar

August/September				
M	T	W	T	F
	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30	31	1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30

October				
M	T	W	T	F
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28
31				

November				
M	T	W	T	F
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30		

1st Term  
August 16 - October 19  
45 Days

2nd Term  
October 25 - January 13  
47 Days

3rd Term  
January 17 - March 17  
42 Days

4th Term  
March 20 - May 26  
46 Days

1st Semester SEP  
September 29 & 30

2nd Semester SEP  
February 16 & 17

December				
M	T	W	T	F
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30

January				
M	T	W	T	F
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27
30	31			

February				
M	T	W	T	F
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
27	28			

March				
M	T	W	T	F
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	30	31

April				
M	T	W	T	F
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28

May				
M	T	W	T	F
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30	31		

August 16 - First Day of School  
September 5 - Labor Day  
October 20-21 - Fall Break  
October 24 - Professional Development  
November 23 - Teacher Comp. Day

November 24-25 - Thanksgiving Break  
December 19 - January 2 - Christmas Break  
January 16 - Martin Luther King Day  
February 20 - Washington-Lincoln Day  
March 6 - Professional Development

April 3 - Snow Make-up Day  
April 4 - Teacher Comp Day  
April 5-7 - Spring Break  
May 26 - Last Day of School  
May 29 - Memorial Day



# Getting Involved at Renaissance Academy

## Board of Directors

**CAROLYN BAYLY** *Board Chair*  
cbayly@renacademy.org

**JARED BARFUSS** *Board Vice Chair*  
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**RYAN HUNTER** *Board Treasurer*  
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**JENNIFER ORTEN** *Board Member*  
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**CHRIS WAREHAM** *Board Member*  
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**MONICA WONNACOTT** *Board Member*  
mwonnacott@renacademy.org

**MIKE BENTLEY** *Board Member*  
mbentley@renacademy.org

## Board Meetings

Renaissance Academy Board Meetings are held on the third Wednesday of every month (July and December meetings are held on an as-needed basis). Board Meeting Agendas and Minutes can be found on the school website at [renacademy.org/board\\_meetings](http://renacademy.org/board_meetings).



## FEC Meetings

The FEC meets on the first Friday of each month at 8:00 am in the teacher lounge at the school. Every parent at Renaissance Academy is a member of the FEC and we would love to have your input, your ideas and your help. Feel free to join our meetings any time.

Get involved by joining our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/renaissancefec/>

## FEC Presidency

**ALISON HARPER** *President*  
alysue23@gmail.com

**MARY MECHAM** *Vice President*  
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**MANDI LEI** *VP Classroom Coordinator*  
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**SARAH CHRISTENSEN** *Secretary*  
misssarah26@gmail.com

**KATIE BRODERICK** *Treasurer*  
katiebroderick851@gmail.com

## Message from the FEC President

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the Renaissance Academy Community! We are happy to have you here and look forward to getting to know you and your family better. My name is Alyson Harper, and I am the Family Engagement Committee (FEC) President for the 2016-2017 school year. The FEC is a parent-run volunteer group that organizes and coordinates a variety of events for our students, the staff and RA Families. We are excited about the activities we have in the works for our upcoming school year. A few of the events we are working on are:

- Back to School Pool Party
- Red Ribbon Week
- Fall School Carnival
- Inspirations Art Contest
- White Ribbon Week
- Teacher Appreciation Week
- Mother/Son Date Night
- Classic Skate Nights
- Battle of the Books



We also engage in ongoing fundraising to benefit the school and to sponsor events we are coordinating. Our biggest fundraiser is our Fall Carnival, but we also have Spirit Nights at Chick-Fil-A, collect Box Tops, and work with other businesses such as Smith's, Macey's and Amazon. Look for more info to link your accounts with these businesses at Back to School Night.



The FEC meets on the first Friday of each month at 8:00 am in the teacher lounge at the school. Every parent at Renaissance Academy is a member of the FEC and we would love to have your input, your ideas and your help. Feel free to join our meetings any time. You can also get involved by joining our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/renaissancefec/>.

One of the things that I love about Renaissance Academy is that there are so many ways to get involved and to help shape the experiences of our children. Whether you have lots of time and want to jump in head first or only a few minutes here and there, you can make a difference, and we would love to have your help. If you would like to find out about the specific ways you can get involved, please contact me for up-to-date information. Our Presidency is looking forward to a fabulous school year and we are excited to be a part of Renaissance Academy!

Best Regards,  
Alyson Harper  
FEC President 2016-2017  
Alysue23@gmail.com  
801-244-4087

# Important Websites

[Renaissance Academy Website](#)

[Renaissance Academy Facebook Page](#)

[The Official Renaissance Academy FEC Facebook Group](#)

[Grade Level School Supply Lists](#)

[Farpoint Station Website](#)

[Renaissance Academy Summer Camps](#)

