

### February 2022



100 days



#### **IMPORTANT DATES**

January 31 - February 4 - FEC Friendship Week

February 1 – FEC Spirit Night (Panda Express)

February 4 - BOB Mock Battles 12:00-1:30 pm

February 7 - RA Read Aloud Day

February 9 – 1st grade field trip (SCERA Theater)

February 9 - Board Meeting 7:00 pm

February 14 - Valentines Day

February 14-18 - Book Fair

February 14-18 - Virtual SEPs

February 21 - Washington/Lincoln Day (NO SCHOOL)

February 21 – FEC Spirit Day (Kneaders)

February 22 – 4th grade field trip (Museum of Utah)

February 24 - FEC Spelling BEE 7:00 pm (3rd-9th grade only)

February 28 - March 4 - Teacher Appreciation Week

#### 2022—23 Enrollment Information

#### 1. Returning Student Enrollment (2022-23 School Year)

The re-enrollment and lottery process for the 2022-2023 school year is now underway and will be coming to an end soon. In order for us to determine how many positions will be available in the upcoming lottery, all current Renaissance Academy students are required to confirm their enrollment for the next school year by completing the online re-enrollment process. We also ask that students who will not be returning to Renaissance complete this process, as this helps give us a more accurate student count to anticipate new enrollment and staffing needs.

New User profiles will need to be created during this process, as all information (including user profiles) from previous years has been purged. This is also where you will enter any incoming siblings for next year. Please complete this process as quickly as you can. Re-enrollment of your student will ensure that their spot is not released and offered to a new applicant through the lottery that will be held on March 4th, 2022. Please visit <a href="http://enrollment.renacademy.org/login?/enroll">http://enrollment.renacademy.org/login?/enroll</a> to access the re-enrollment tool and confirm your students position next year, the process is simple and should take less than 5 minutes. Thank you!

#### 2. New Student Lottery - Friday, March 4th (2022-23 School Year)

Our new student lottery for the 2022-23 school year will be run on Friday, March 4th 2022. All returning students should have registered as 'returning' in the lottery portal so as not to lose their seat (see info above). All new incoming students/families will start to receive offers to our school from this date. 2022-23 Lottery Information

#### 3. Jr. Academy (Full-day Kindergarten – 2022/23 School Year)

Jr. Academy is our tuition-based full-day kindergarten program currently taught by Mrs. Keri Holmgren. Before you are able to register your student for Jr. Academy in 2022-23, you must first receive an offer through the lottery for your child and complete all kindergarten registration requirements. Jr. Academy program and registration information can be found online.

Jr. Academy 2022-23

#### Substitute Teacher & Volunteer Help Needed! Register <u>HERE</u> with ESS

RA parents/guardians, if you are looking for a new way to both earn money AND support our school, we need your help! We invite you to register as a substitute teacher with ESS and substitute teach at our school. Like many schools in the state, we are struggling daily to find enough substitute teachers to fill absences when our teachers are out sick or completing state-required professional development training. We typically have anywhere from 1-7 teachers absent on any given day - this is very stressful. Our paraprofessionals on-campus are troopers and helping in any way they can, but if they substitute teach, they are unable to fulfill their regularly assigned schedule and intervention/support responsibilities throughout the school. We need more people willing and available to help our teachers and students! All help is appreciated!

#### Paid & Unpaid Options:

- 1. Register as a substitute teacher with ESS Complete sub registration and training procedures and then get on the Renaissance Academy sub list. Choose your schedule and pick up as many substitute teaching days as works for your life! Register here: ESS
- 2. Apply for a paraprofessional/aide position at Renaissance Academy (maximum 28 hrs/week) Email Patti Davis (pdavis@renacademy.org)
- 3. Volunteer in your student/s classroom help us bridge learning gaps with struggling students! Contact teachers directly and help us bridge learning gaps with struggling students!

\*Important - A current background check and visitor badge is required for any volunteer/substitute/individual on-campus at any time. Contact the office to make sure your background check is current and/or to get it updated/current. (Email Serene Bean at <a href="mailto:sbean@renacademy.org">sbean@renacademy.org</a>)

# SEPS (Parent/Teacher Conferences) - February 14-18 (Online only)

Winter SEPS are rapidly approaching in two weeks. All teachers will be sending out electronic sign-ups very soon. Please sign-up to meet with your child's teacher/s to review their progress at school this term.

- 1.
- All appointments will be virtual/online using GoogleMeet
- 2. Teachers will report middle-of-year (MOY) test results for DIBELS (K-6 reading assessment) & Acadience Math (K-3 new state math fluency assessment) & i-ready reports (MOY diagnostics & growth since Fall SEPS)
- 3. Teachers will also report any important information about how your student is doing at school in class (current grade, missing work, strengths, behavior/social/emotional concerns etc.)
- 4. Important Students will be released at 11:30 am on Thursday 2/17 4 Friday 2/18

#### How to check your students' grades 4 missing work regularly on Aspire?

To create a login for your student:

- 1. Click on the link https://renaissance.usoe-dcs.org/Login.aspx
- 2. Click on 'Request a Username'
- 3. Enter your student ID number (same as their lunch number and can be obtained from their classroom teacher), date of birth and then create an account
- 4. Check your students grades and missing work regularly

#### Valentines Day Dress - Monday, February 14th

Teachers/classes may be celebrating Valentine's Day on either Friday, February 11th or Monday, February 14th. All students are invited to wear Valentines colors/dress to school on Monday, February 14th. Students may wear dress code bottoms or jeans.

#### Field Trips Update

Based on the amount of parent donations received this school year, we have several field trips remaining for students in K-9. Thank you to all parents who have generously donated to make off-campus learning and field trips a reality for our students this year!

Kindergarten - TBD

1st grade - Scera Theater (February 9th) & Hogle Zoo (April 20th)

2nd grade - None remaining

3rd grade - Discovery Gateway Museum (March) & Hogle Zoo (TBD)

4th grade - Museum of Utah (February 22nd) & 'This is the Place' (May)

5th grade - BizTown (March 28th)

6th grade - TBD

7th-9th - Hale Centre Theatre 'School of Rock' (May 11) & Lagoon/Momentum Climbing Gym (May)

#### Dress Code Reminder – Coats needed every day!

Please take a moment to review and remind yourself of our RA dress code. Please remember to send your child/children to school in appropriate winter clothing including coats and boots for outdoor recess. Students have 3x recess breaks per day, and we plan to send them outside weather permitting. We have a lot of students coming to school who are not dressed appropriately to go outside during recess. Please help and dress them appropriately for winter!

\*Please also keep in mind, in any emergency evacuations any children without appropriate winter clothing may need to be outside for an extended period of time. Please help keep our students warm and comfortable!

Renaissance Academy Dress Code

#### Upcoming FEC Events & Updates

- 1. FEC February Newsletter LINK
- 2. Friendship Week Lunchtime Activities THIS WEEK Jan 31- Feb 4

Our FEC and school goal during Friendship Week is to help kids build even better friendships in school, and to fill the school and your homes with as much kindness as possible. We want each child to feel like they belong, and that RA is a safe place for them! Kindness and friendship go hand in hand!

#### Wonderful Wednesday!

Each child will be given a paper hand. The younger kids will be asked to draw or write what makes them a good friend and the older kids can write 5 things (or more) that make a good friend. We will then arrange the hands in a rainbow with the quote: Be a rainbow in someone else's cloud!

#### Thoughtful Thursday!

We will have an Appreciation Station with paper and crayons for kids to write thank you cards or nice notes for their classmates, friends, janitors, teachers, administration, staff members, or family members. We will then encourage kids to hand them out!

#### Friendly Friday!

Bookmarks with the F.R.I.E.N.D.S acronym will be handed out to the teachers to give out to the kids before the end of the day. Also the last day to turn in papers for the Kindness Challenge. We will then count the jar and announce the winner the following Monday! Administration can decide on what day works best for them for free dress for the winning grade.

3. Book Fair - February 14-18 (Library)

February Book Fair Info

#### 4. RA Spelling Bee - Thursday, February 24th

#### Spelling Bee Info

Please note the following important RA Spelling Bee Information:

- \*Our RA School Spelling Bee will be held on Thursday, February 24th at 7pm at the school.
- \*Qualification in class/grade spelling bee will no longer be required to participate.
- \*Students must be in 3rd-8th grade to enter the school-wide spelling bee.
- \*Students MUST be registered to participate by February 1st. <u>CLICK HERE TO REGISTER</u>.

The top TWO winners of our School Spelling Bee will be invited to compete at the Regional Spelling Bee on March 26th. The winner of the Regional Spelling Bee will move on to represent Utah at the National Scripps Spelling Bee in Washington D.C.

#### Where can I find the study words?

The complete list of words can be found <u>HERE</u>. Words will be selected from the full study list.

Please contact Mary Mecham for more information.

Email: mmecham@gmail.com

Call/text: 801.910.1054

#### 5. Inspirations - March 10th

**Inspirations** 2022

#### 6. STEAM Festival - Canceled/Postponed until 2022-23

Due to uncertain/rising COVID numbers and to reduce stress on our already overwhelmed school staff, the decision has been made to cancel/postpone the STFAM festival until 2022-23.

#### RA Covid Update

#### **COVTD Case Count**

The number of reported employees/students who have tested positive within the last two weeks from January 19th - February 2nd (total school population is approximately 830):

Students - 17

Staff - 2

#### COVID Reporting Protocol

Please report any possible COVID-19 cases on our website. Our RA COVID reporting link can be found below. Thank you for helping us track cases and possible COVID-19 exposures at our school.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdP0xO-05zszkzkyg5HLLUW6J-VDM07wpgLfsgKLVpnb9io3Q/viewform

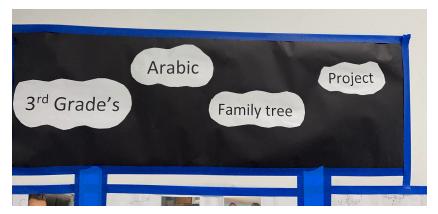
#### **COVID Quarantine Guidelines - Updated December 2021**

https://coronavirus-download.utah.gov/Health/Updated-Guidance-on-Isolation-and-Quarantine-for-the-General-Population-12-28.pdf

"Menu items are subject to change"

# What's going on at RA?

Congratulations to our 3rd grade Arabic students who completed their Arabic project for this term. All grade students turned in their family tree project and presented a verbal and written explanation in Arabic. They all received certificates and winning trophies! Woohoooooo. We are so proud of them.





An original by our Middle School Arabic students!





# What's going on at RA?





Ms. Chen's 1<sup>st</sup> grade class did some Chinese calligraphy to celebrate Chinese New Year!













## Reading Gorner

Middle of Year Reading Outcomes

We have finished our DIBELS Testing for the middle of the year. The outcomes are concerning. COVID has had a big impact on student learning. The faculty and staff at Renaissance Academy are doing all we can to help the students with their learning and trying our best to help them catch up.

There are things that can be done at home to help your student improve their reading skills. Twenty minutes a day will make all the difference.

- Have your student read to you aloud every day for ten minutes. After they
  are done reading, have them tell you all about what they just read...first,
  second, third and last. Then you read to them for ten minutes...and they tell
  you about everything you read. This will help with fluency and
  comprehension.
- Teachers can send home fluency passages upon request. These are
  passages that are read for one minute. Then the student tells you
  everything they remember about the story on the first read. These
  passages can be read for three nights, to see if students can improve their
  time and accuracy.

Parents and older students can be role models to younger students by spending time every day reading. If reading is seen as a fun and useful activity, it will be a valuable skill to obtain. If we all work together, we can help the students to catch up from this time of COVID and have them reading on grade level again.



### School Gontact Information

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#### FEC Presidency

Nanette Jones FEC President
Brittany Taylor VP of Committees
Mica Hauley VP of Fundraising
Jenny Buck VP of Classrooms
Melissa Despain Treasurer
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