

RAPP



February 2018

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Important Dates

2/6	World Culture Night 6-8pm
2/7	2nd Grade Field Trip (SCERA Theater)
2/12	1st Grade Field Trip (Leonardo Museum)
2/12-16	SEP's (Thursday & Friday out at 12:15)
2/12-16	Book Fair
2/19	President's Day (NO SCHOOL)
2/21	Board Meeting 7pm
2/22	Spelling Bee 7pm
2/26-3/2	Teacher Appreciation Week
2/26-3/2	SAGE Interim Testing
2/28	3rd Grade Field Trip (Museum of Natural Curiosity)



Announcements

2018-19 Enrollment

New Student Enrollment

New student enrollment for the 2017-18 school year is now open on our school website at <https://renacademy.org/schedules-enrollment>. Please remind any friends who may be considering Renaissance Academy to enter their students in the lottery registration system at this time. The lottery is set to be run in March.

Returning Students

Returning student re-enrollment for the 2017-18 school year is now open online at <http://enrollment.renacademy.org/login?enroll>. Please be aware you will need to create a new user profile as we start fresh every year. Please re-enroll your students as soon as possible. We ask that all parents please respond to indicate your plans for your student/s for 2017-18.

Mid-Year Parent/Teacher Conferences (SEPs) - February 12-16

SEP Parent/Teacher Conferences are rapidly approaching next month and are so important for your student and their attainment of academic skills. Please remember to plan ahead to ensure you are available to meet with your students teachers and review their academic progress, goals and to discuss any areas of concern.

***Please remember - All students will be released at 12:15 pm on both Thursday 2/15 and Friday 2/16.**

- SEP conferences will span all of the week February 12-16 and will be by appointment only (to avoid long wait times).
- SEP conferences will be held for all grade levels Monday 2/12 - Wednesday 2/14 after school from 3:10-5:30 pm (by appointment only).
- Due to higher student numbers, Ms. Fondell (Kindergarten), Chinese Immersion and Middle School core subject teachers (i.e., Math, LA, Science and SS) will also hold SEPs on Thursday and Friday from 8:00-12:15 pm.
- SEP appointments will be scheduled in 15-minute increments for students in K-5, with 6th-9th grade subject teachers allocating 10-minutes per student. If you would like to schedule an appointment longer than the allocated 10- or 15-minute increment based on any concerns you may wish to discuss, please let your students teacher know in advance to ensure a longer amount of time is scheduled for your student.
- Special Education Students - If your student receives special education services, both the general education and special education teachers will coordinate to ensure the SPED teacher is also available to attend the SEP appointment. Special education students will be automatically allocated a 20-30 minute SEP appointment to ensure there is enough time to receive feedback from all teachers.
- Parents, please ensure you schedule an appointment with each of your students teachers and arrive on time to ensure all SEP appointments run smoothly and to help teachers remain on schedule.
- Scheduling your students SEP - Please check your email regularly over the next two weeks to sign up for an SEP conference with each of your students teachers. If for some reason you are unable to attend during the above designated times, please coordinate a mutually convenient time to meet with your students teacher. We hope our SEP schedule will improve your SEP experience with slightly longer and more flexible appointment times and options, a set teacher schedule, decreased wait times and reduced teacher fatigue after a 12+ hour Thursday work day. With this SEP schedule, our dedicated and hard-working teachers will also be able to enjoy a much-deserved slightly extended President's Day weekend and finish school by 12:30 pm on Friday! Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns about SEPs by emailing me at smccappin@renacademy.org.

Flu Season Reminder - Please do not send sick students to school

There are some nasty illnesses, flu strains and other viruses going around this time of year. Please help us keep our student and faculty population as healthy as possible by keeping your student home from school if they are sick and demonstrate any flu symptoms (i.e., temperature, vomiting, body aches and chills, significant congestion). Any student who comes to school visibly sick or vomits at school will be sent to the office to call home and be collected by their parents/guardians. Please do not send any student to school who has vomited within the last 24-hours. If you are worried your student will miss class due to sickness, please email your students teacher directly to coordinate for them to catch up on any missed work or assignments.

World Culture Night

We will be having a World Culture Night on Tuesday, February 6 from 6-8pm. Parent volunteers are needed and greatly appreciated! If you would like to volunteer, please email Brittany Beebe at bbeebe@renacademy.org.



Emergency Procedures

ALL SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS AND VISITORS MUST SIGN IN AT THE OFFICE WHEN ON CAMPUS

Parents/guardians and other school volunteers and visitors, please remember you are required to sign in at the office and wear a 'volunteer/visitor' badge when you are on school premises. This requirement is for your own safety as well as the safety of our students. We need to know who is on campus at all times. In case of emergency, if you have not signed in at the school office as required, we do not know you are in the building and will not be looking to account for your whereabouts and safety (i.e., in case of fire or lock down). Please remember, all volunteers must also have a current background check to volunteer at school. Please contact Emily Depallens at esimons@renacademy.org if you would like to confirm if your background check is current.

Art Announcements

- Doodle4Google contest has been changed from January 8 to March 2, 2018. The theme is "What Inspires Me" done in ANY material or medium. To enter for a \$30,000 scholarship chance go to doodle4google.com. Entries must be in jpeg or ping format and the application is online.
- The Utah Arbor Day Poster Contest must be submitted by February 26, 2018. Go to www.arbor-day.utah.gov for details. Posters must be delivered by March 19, 2018 to Mrs. Trottier.

Parking

Please do not park your cars in the parking lots of local businesses surrounding our school. Business owners have repeatedly asked us as a school community (i.e. teachers, staff and parents) not to park in their parking lots. We as an administration, also request that you respect our neighbors and do not park in the parking lots other than our own school lot. Please be advised, if you continue to park in any of the surrounding parking lots not belonging to Renaissance, you risk receiving a pricey parking ticket if reported to police by the local business owner.

After School Procedures

Please coordinate with your students and carpools before school where and when you will be meeting for after-school pickup. The overhead speaker is only to be used in case of an emergency. For your information, students are not permitted to use the office phone until 3:15 pm after school.

Family Engagement Committee (FEC)

FEC Presidency

MARY MECHAM *President*
mmecham@gmail.com

JESSY FEVEYEAR *VP of Committees*
jessyjensen@yahoo.com

CANDACE LIERD *VP of Fundraising*
candace1112@gmail.com

KIMBERLEE SKARDA *VP of Classrooms*
zipchic@gmail.com

AMBER GUYMON *Secretary*
acguymon@gmail.com

KATHY BROOKSBY *Treasurer*
high6@xmission.com

Spelling Bee



Class Spelling Bees will begin after the new year. For students anxious to get a head start, grade level lists are posted below, on the FEC Facebook page and on our website at <https://renacademy.org/spelling-bee-2018>. More study help can be found at www.spellingbee.com/word-club.

[1st Grade Spelling List](#)
[2nd Grade Spelling List](#)
[3rd Grade Spelling List](#)
[4th Grade Spelling List](#)
[5th Grade Spelling List](#)
[6th Grade Spelling List](#)
[7th Grade Spelling List](#)
[8th Grade Spelling List](#)

FEC Meeting

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/>.

Inspirations Winners

LITERATURE

Grades K-2

- 1 - Grace Hauley
- 2 - Claire Mecham
- 2 - Mary Flint

Grades 3-5

- 1 - Jackson Hauley
- 2 - Italia Barlow
- 3 - Acacia Barlow

PHOTOGRAPHY

Grades K-1

- 1 - Grace Hauley
- 2 - Thomas Feveryear
- 3 - Eden Mecham

Grades 2-5

- 1 - Raya Petersen
- 2 - Audrey Hauley
- 3 - Jackson Hauley

3-2 ART

Grades K-1

- 1 - Grace Hauley
- 2 - Mary Flint
- 3 - Thomas Feveryear

Grades 2-4

- 1 - Marina Allen
- 2 - Audrey Hauley
- 3 - Juni Rich

Grades 5-7

- 1 - Katelyn Ashton
- 2 - Stephen Cross

VISUAL ARTS

Grades K-1

- 1 - Raydon Lim
- 2 - Brickley Larsen
- 2 - Grace Hauley
- 3 - Eden Mecham

Grades 2-3

- 1 - Ella Hutchings
- 2 - Reann Lim
- 3 - Libby Ludlow

Grades 4-5

- 1 - Nadia Peterson
- 2 - Lehman McKinney
- 3 - Savannah Hutchings

Grades 6-8

- 1 - Katelyn Ashton
- 2 - Deja Holladay
- 3 - Jane Goebel

What's going on at Renaissance?

Chinese Guest Students

Our school was recently given another opportunity to host several students from China. Our Chinese guest students attended classes with our students during the day and participated in a variety of activities with their host families in the evening. Our students were able to practice their Chinese, make new friends, and learn firsthand about another culture. There were several invaluable lessons learned that cannot be taught in the traditional classroom. At the end of the week we held a farewell assembly with cultural performances we had prepared for each other, singing songs in each others languages, learning each others dances and martial arts traditions.



Phoenix 200 Club

Congratulations to our latest group of Phoenix 200 Club Winners! The following students are invited to enjoy a field trip to see the new movie ‘Peter Rabbit’ this coming Friday, February 9th at Thanksgiving Point Megaplex. We plan to leave the school at 10:15 am and to return at 12:30 pm. Students should wear regular spirit dress to school on Friday 2/9. Please email me at smccappin@renacademy.org to give permission for your student to attend this field trip. Students will be transported to and from Thanksgiving Point in cars driven by faculty and chaperones who have passed driving safety requirements. Please also email to indicate if you would like to help out as a field trip chaperone.

- Lydia Turley (1st)
- Maggie Anderson (2nd)
- Davi Prumucena (2nd)
- Jordan Dorius (3rd)
- Brockton Ursic (3rd)
- Sam Ashton (4th)
- Lehman McKinney (4th)
- Shanelle Hunt (4th)
- Ryan White (5th)
- Gracie Borunda (5th)
- Miriana Sakamoto (5th)
- Charles Wonnacott (5th)



The Phoenix 200 Club is our school wide positive behavior program whereby teachers look to present tickets to students demonstrating good behavior, going above and beyond, and following our school expectations of Be Successful, Be Respectful, Be Responsible, Be Honest, Be Kind & Be Safe. Once a teacher gives a good behavior ticket to a student, the student then brings the ticket into the office. They get to sign their name in the “Celebrity Book” and then the pick a random number out of a box. Whatever number they get, they write their name on the Phoenix 200 Club board on the corresponding number. Once there is a row of at least ten students, those specific students are the winners of the “Mystery Motivator” for that round. The “Mystery Motivator” could be things such as a field trip, a gift card, a special lunch, etc. Once we get a winning group, we erase the board and start again allowing all students the opportunity to continue to receive good behavior tickets and the chance to be winners of the mystery motivator.

Culture Moment

At Renaissance Academy, each student has the unique opportunity to learn a new world language! The languages we teach here are Spanish, Arabic or Chinese. We love to celebrate different cultures and learn about other customs from around the world!



Let’s Learn a New Phrase!

English	“One act of kindness can change the world.”
Arabic	لا عمل خير إلا بمك اللطف واحد (‘amal waahed min al-latf yimkin an yughayir al-’aalam)
Chinese	一个善意的举动就能改变世界 (yī gè shàn yì dí jǔ dòng jiù néng gǎi biàn shì jiè)
Spanish	“Un acto de amabilidad puede cambiar el mundo.”

Reading Moment, Reading Corner

The new year is a great time to form new family habits around reading. There are a couple of things that can be done around mealtimes. It has been proven in study after study that family mealtime is helpful to children and parents alike. The following ideas are from Scholastic...

Nourishing the Meal Time:

Have your children read recipes aloud to you while you’re cooking dinner. From ingredient lists to cooking directions, this kind of family reading will help build vocabulary, fluency...and dessert.

Guess Who’s Coming to Dinner:

While your family is eating together, discuss what your favorite characters would have for dinner--- Harry Potter might like pumpkin juice and chocolate frogs while Geronimo Siltan could crave some cheese! Incorporating characters of favorite stories into your eating routine is a delicious way to promote deep thinking about character traits and motivation.



6th Grade



Peggy Taylor, 6th Grade Teacher

I have been teaching at Renaissance Academy for four years now. I am teaching Science to 6th graders and doing Reading Interventions with 1st through 6th graders. The variety in my schedule and the time I get to spend with many students of every grade level every day is exciting and enlightening. That's the best and my favorite part of teaching, being surrounded by hard-working students.

My husband and I live in Eagle Mountain with our little Yorkie, Max. We like to find fun things to do around Utah such as hiking, biking and golfing (mostly Mr. Taylor likes to do the golfing, I like to drive the cart). In my spare time, I am learning new science skills by taking a BYU STEM science class where I am learning more about science and engineering activities to use in my classroom. I am originally from California where I raised six children. We followed five of our children out to Utah five years ago and love hanging out with the ten grandchildren that live in the surrounding area. I also have one son, an ophthalmologist, who lives in Medford, Oregon with six children of his own. I love every excuse I can think of to travel to Oregon and visit those little grandies, and study big trees, oceanography, and volcanoes on the side.

Fun fact: If you want to find me during the summer, I am hiking the Timpanogos Trail where I volunteer for the National Park Service doing trailside walk and talks, or working in the Visitor Center where I plan great hikes for out-of-towners. I plan on one day doing tours in the caves, on a volunteer basis, because my priority is Renaissance Academy and all my students.



DJ Scheerer, 6th Grade Teacher

I grew up in Bozeman, Montana. I have one brother and two sisters. I am currently earning my Master's Degree in Secondary Education. My class motto is "He who has a why to live for can bear almost any how." - Friedrich Nietzsche. I love to make sure my students know why they are being asked to do what they do so that they can persist when things get difficult. My favorite thing about teaching is that no day is ever the same. Students and reactions are always interesting in the classroom and that unpredictability makes it great. In my writing class, we are learning all about fiction and writing short stories. This is my favorite unit of the year!

Fun fact: I played in the Cougar Marching Band during my freshman year at BYU.



Victor Williamson, 6th Grade Teacher

I had my first teaching experience when I was 14 years old. My mom had to teach Primary in church and was very busy so I did a lot of substituting for her. I liked teaching and enjoyed seeing kids learn. I discovered a talent I didn't know I had. I'm happy to finish my educational career in the classroom once again, working with a small group of students teaching my favorite grade level. Of course, the space simulator is the icing on the cake. Now I get the best of all worlds. I'm in the classroom and running the same program I created at the Christa McAuliffe Space Education Center but on a much smaller scale. It's a lot of work, but satisfying and rewarding.

Fun fact: I founded the Christa McAuliffe Space Education Center at Central School in 1990 and served as its administrator for 23 of my 30 years in the district. Over 350,000 students participated in the field trips, camps, and public programs during my time as director.



Vivian Liu, 6th Grade Chinese Immersion Teacher

I was a Mandarin teacher at Terra Verde Discovery School in Norman, Oklahoma before coming to Renaissance Academy. During my teaching at Terra Verde, I practiced responsive classroom strategies and implemented differentiated instruction to meet individual learning goals for Kindergarteners, first and second graders. I graduated from National Taiwan Normal University with a B.A. degree in Applied Chinese Language and Literature. I also spent a year in Colorado as an exchange student in my senior year of college.

Living in different places overseas from home has taught me invaluable lessons about different cultures and the importance of communication. I am fascinated by my past language learning experiences and I look forward to sharing them with my students at Renaissance Academy.

Fun fact: Outside of school, I like to explore different cultures and exotic cuisines, so I travel to different parts of the world whenever I get a chance

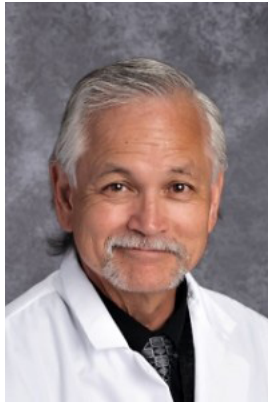


Amalie Moss, 6th Grade Aide

I was born and raised in San Diego. I have been involved with the Renaissance community since the first year when the doors opened with 4 of my 5 kids attending as students. I have also worked as an aide for the last 8 years, and in 6th-grade for the last 6 years. It has been fun watching many students grow up. We have a great 6th-grade team and I really enjoy coming to work.

Fun fact: I come from a family of 12 kids.

Middle School



Larry Vidinha, Middle School Science Teacher

I am the Middle School Science teacher here at Renaissance Academy. I am originally from Honolulu, Hawaii. I grew up biculturally (Japanese/English; Catholicism/Shintoism; Japan/USA). My beautiful wife Marci and I have been married for 36 1/2 years and we have 4 kids and 6 grandkids. We previously lived in Central America for 7 1/2 years. My classroom motto is, "the best way to learn is to teach!" My favorite thing about teaching is seeing the "lightbulb" moments that happen in the classroom.

Fun fact: I am a huge Houston Astros/Texans/Rockets fan!



Stefani Knaupp, CTE Teacher

I was reared in Utah and have always enjoyed each season that Utah has to offer. As a student, CTE classes were my favorite including business, computer programming, health sciences, and agriculture. I graduated with a Business/Marketing Education degree from Utah State University.

CTE courses should be an integral part of everyone's education. One of the best parts about CTE classes is that the skills, techniques, and curriculum are always updating to include new technologies and trends in education and career training. I enjoy teaching the CTE classes at Renaissance and count myself lucky to be among quality staff, students, and families that strive for excellence in education.

Fun fact: I have always loved sports: Volleyball is at the top of the list.



Travis Story, Middle School PE and Health Teacher

I am the Middle School P.E. and Health teacher. I am also our MS boys basketball coach. As a student, I won back to back State Championships in basketball at North Sevier High School. I then went on to coach there from 2006-2015. I love spending time with my four kids, coaching Renaissance Basketball team, golfing, and watching/playing Basketball, Baseball, Football. I love North Carolina Basketball and Utes Football/Basketball.

Fun fact: I also enjoy building websites and anything techy.



Laurie Dukes, Middle School Language Arts Teacher

I am the Language Arts teacher for grades 7-9. I truly enjoy working with our bright, fun, and creative Middle School students! My favorite part of being a teacher is watching students grow throughout the year as they read, write, think, discuss, challenge themselves, and share their learning journey together. I have a BA in History from BYU, and a Master's Degree in Literacy (Curriculum and Instruction) from UT Arlington. I also have a graduate certificate in Educational Technology. I am passionate about literacy and hope to inspire a lifelong love of learning in each student.

My family recently settled in Utah after 9 years overseas in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. We loved life living in the Middle East, but it's wonderful to be back in the US to enjoy more time with family and friends here. My favorite hobby is getting out to walk, hike, and just enjoy the beauties of nature. I also enjoy reading and writing (no surprises there), making my own cards, organizing things, and doing home improvement projects.

Fun fact: I love to travel. In addition to Saudi Arabia, I have lived in China and Japan, and I have visited 14 other countries. I hope to experience many more!



Camden Robinson, Middle School History Teacher

I am the Middle School History teacher here at Renaissance Academy. I was born in Ithaca, New York about 4 hours Northwest of Manhattan. I moved to American Fork, Utah when I was 7 and then to Moroni, Utah for high school (which was a minor culture shock). My favorite thing about teaching is getting to share my passion for History. I love it when students come into my class and they don't seem excited about being at school or learning history and then after a week or so they all come around. Seeing students get excited about history and school for the first time is the best part. It doesn't have to be history either, it can be anything. I really like trying new strategies to try to bring students out of their comfort zone with

learning and get them to think about what we are discussing in class. My classroom motto is "Embrace the Struggle" and "People don't hate History, they hate their history teacher."

Fun fact: Mr. Dawson (our Middle School math teacher) was my 7th grade Algebra teacher, which is a surreal experience.

Pete Dawson, Middle School Math Teacher

I was born in Medford, Massachusetts and raised in Somerville and Wakefield. My first teaching job was at BYU's Motor Learning Laboratory with Dr. Larry Hall. This is my second time teaching in Lehi. The first was at the old Lehi Junior High School (in 1982) that was east of where the Legacy Center now sits. I have also taught at Utah Valley State College, American Fork Junior, Lakeridge Junior, American Leadership Academy, and Spectrum Academy. I have coached and competed in many sports. I am a BYU graduate. I have been married to Barbara since 1979 and reside in Orem. Barbara works at Timpanogos High. We have three adult children: Brian, Ashley, and Aaron. We also have six grandchildren.

Fun fact: My endorsements include: State Examiner Driver Education, Physical Education, Mathematics, Health Education, Gifted and Talented, and Driver and Safety Education.



FEBRUARY 2018

Renaissance Academy

Lunch \$2.50
Reduced \$.40

Monthly \$55
Monthly \$8.80

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Biscuit
Sausage &
Gravy

5

Pizza

6

Country
Beef
Patty

7

White Bean
Chili

1

Sack Lunch

2

Funnel
Cake

12

Pizza

13

Chicken
Bowl

14

Chili
Cheese
Fries

15

Sack Lunch

16

No School

19

Pizza

20

Chicken
Sandwich

21

Baked
Potato
Bar

22

Sack Lunch

23

Grand
Scramble
Sandwich

26

Pizza

27

Chicken
Alfredo

28

Served M-Th

PB&J Melted Cheese Sandwich
Fruit/Salad Bar
Milk

Online Payments

<https://secureinstantpayments.com/sip/?ID=21717>

"Menu items are subject to change"

