

# RAPP

October 2017



## Important Dates

10/3	6th Field Trip to STEM Festival
10/4	MS Field Trip to STEM Festival
10/5	Student Picture Day
10/6	FEC Meeting 8am
10/9-13	Box Top Contest
10/11	Classroom Boundaries Presentations
10/12	5th Grade Field Trip - Museum of Natural Curiosity
10/13	1st Grade Job Fair
10/17	Classroom Boundaries Presentations
10/17	2nd Grade Field Trip - Hare Krishna Temple
10/18	Board Meeting 7pm
10/19-20	Fall Break (NO SCHOOL)
10/23	Professional Development (NO SCHOOL)
10/24-27	Red Ribbon Week
10/26	Kindergarten Field Trip - Hee Haw Farms
10/26	3rd Grade Field Trip - State Capitol
10/27	Halloween Celebrations
10/27	Term 1 Ends
10/30	Term 2 Begins



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Follow Us!



HAPPY  
HALLOWEEN



# Announcements

## Boundaries Presentation

On October 11th and 17th, guest speaker Ms. Jenna Labrum from The Utah Valley Family Support and Treatment Center will be coming to Renaissance to speak with our students about safe boundaries and abuse prevention. The Utah State Office of Education and the school boards in Alpine, Provo and Nebo School Districts have approved these presentations, which are given free of charge at schools. Ms. Labrum regularly presents in schools and classrooms around the valley. Parents are welcome to attend the presentation with their student. Please find our presentation schedule at the conclusion of this email. Most of the presentations will take place in your student's classroom. For those that do not take place in the home classroom, the location is listed below.

The Family Support and Treatment Center is a nonprofit agency whose focus is the prevention and treatment of abuse and traumatic events. For over a decade, the Family Support and Treatment Center has offered insightful presentations meant to educate and empower youth regarding abuse and related issues. The majority of the presentation is a group discussion that helps students identify what they would do in several situations. Below is a brief description of the presentations. Additionally, a short preview of the videos used in each presentation can be found at [playitsafe.org](http://playitsafe.org).

**Mae Shares a Secret (1st-2nd grade):** Students watch a short film about a young girl, Mae, which is spending the summer with Grandpa, and shares her secret about her mom's boyfriend. In this program children are taught to never keep a secret when it's not safe. Students learn about the difference between a good/bad/confusing touch, and the four safety rules to use when they are in trouble (say no, get away, tell someone, yell).

**Chase Steps Up (3rd-4th grade):** Students watch a short film about a young boy, Chase, who loves baseball, but he is tormented by the secret that someone close is abusing him. With the help of his coach, Chase understands he can step up and tell. Students learn that secrets can be good or bad and that telling bad secrets to a caring adult is the right thing to do. Students learn the difference between good/bad/confusing touches, the difference between a good/bad secret, and four safety rules to keep themselves safe (say no, get away, tell someone, yell).

**Aiden's Discovery (5th-6th grade):** Students watch a short film about a young boy writes a paper about sexual abuse in school and begins to suspect that his best friend may be experiencing abuse by her coach and needs help. Students learn the difference between good/bad secrets, how to recognize sexual abuse, and how to be assertive and help if they are concerned about friends. Special emphasis is placed on saying no, telling an adult, and that the victim is never at fault.

Knowing that this is a sensitive subject matter and that some parents may want to choose a different time and set of circumstances to introduce this issue, we are providing an "opt out" option for every family. If you do NOT want your student to participate in their class presentation, please find and complete an 'opt out' form (one for each child) and return it to the teacher. The opt-out form can be found included in our October RAPP. Alternately, please contact your student's teacher by email to excuse them from the presentation. In a discrete and thoughtful manner, the teacher will then arrange for your child to spend the 45 minutes of the presentation with another classroom on the same grade level. If you are interested in finding out more about any of these programs, please contact Jenna Labrum, at (801) 229-1181 or [jlalbrum@utahvalleyfamily-support.org](mailto:jlalbrum@utahvalleyfamily-support.org). Alternatively, contact our school counselor Mrs. Nettie Naumann at [nnaumann@renacademy.org](mailto:nnaumann@renacademy.org) for more information.

Our presentation schedule is as follows:

	Wednesday, October 11th	Tuesday, October 17th
8:00-8:30	Mrs. Ahlstrom - 3rd Grade	Ms. Patel - 3rd Grade
8:30-9:00	Mrs. Dominguez - 2nd Grade	Mrs. Holmgren - AM Kindergarten
9:00-9:30	Mrs. Fondell - AM Kindergarten	Ms. Todd - 1st Grade
9:30-10:00	Mrs. Christiansen - 1st Grade (Dragons)	Mrs. St. Clair - 4th Grade
10:00-10:30	Ms. Harman - 2nd Grade (Tigers)	Mrs. Jones - 5th Grade
10:30-11:00	Mrs. Bartlett - 1st Grade	Ms. Yin - 5th Grade (Bears)
11:00-11:30	Mr. Williamson - 6th Grade	Ms. Zhou - 4th Grade (Horses)
11:30-12:00	Ms. Felton - 2nd Grade	Ms. Zhou - 4th Grade (Oxen)
1:00-1:30	Ms. Hooker - Jr. Academy Kindergarten	Mrs. Fondell - PM Kindergarten
1:30-2:00	Mrs. Ahlstrom - 3rd Grade	Ms. Yin - 5th Grade (Snakes)
2:00-2:30	Mrs. Christiansen - 1st Grade (Pandas)	Mr. Rice - 5th Grade
2:30-3:00	Ms. Harman - 2nd Grade (Monkeys)	Mrs. Jones - 3rd Grade

## Traffic Reminders

Please help us keep our students safe and to keep traffic moving smoothly by remembering and adhering to the following rules and procedures:

- No cell phone use
- Do not park in traffic zone before or at the end of school. Parked cars cause a lot of problems when we are trying to keep cars flowing. If for any reason you need to leave your vehicle, please pull into a parking spot.
- Please wait in the line of traffic unless directed otherwise by those assisting with traffic.
- Please pull forward as much as possible. We have many parents waiting in line, and the more cars that pull forward, the more students can be taken care of and move traffic at a faster rate.
- For the safety of our students, Please use crosswalks. Crosswalks are located by the entrance of our school, and at the exit of the parking lot. Please try to keep our students in the habit of safety by encouraging them to use these crosswalks.
- Stay on sidewalks. Many of our students like to cut across the turn-a-round instead of remaining on the sidewalk. We have many parents who also like to turn their cars around in this circle area as well who may not see the students crossing in the road.
- Please be courteous of our neighbors. Please do not park, drop-off/pick-up or cut through the Learning Dynamics or Dental parking lots next door to us. We have had complaints from some of our business neighbors of cars parked in their lots, students asking to use business phones, business patrons feeling unsafe as cars cut through lots, students throwing decorative rocks, etc. Please help us to be a good business neighbor to others around us.

### Other reminders

- Please only have students exit on north side of vehicle for the safety of students from cars driving past. If your students take a long time at drop off, please pull into a parking spot to help keep the flow of drop-off traffic moving.

## 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](mailto:esimons@renacademy.org) if you would like to confirm if your background check is current.

## 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.

## After School Clubs

We have lots of exciting after school clubs available this year. Activities include...

- Basketball skills
- Ballroom
- Dance Club
- Chess Club
- Middle School Play
- After school care
- Cheer leading



To register for any of these activities, just visit our website at <https://renacademy.org/after-school-clubs>. If you have any questions, please contact Julie Walker at [jwalker@renacademy.org](mailto:jwalker@renacademy.org). We hope to see you there!

## Guitar Class Openings

We have a couple slots open in guitar class (W 3:05-4:05), Kids Dance Club (T 3:10-4:10) and Ballroom (MW 3:10-4:10). Register at <https://renacademy.org/afterschool-clubs>. Email [activities@renacademy.org](mailto:activities@renacademy.org) with questions.

## Student Fees

Please see this attachment (which can be found on our website) for more information on student fees. [https://renacademy.org/dynamic/content/1225/314/fees\\_notice\\_and\\_waiver\\_application.pdf](https://renacademy.org/dynamic/content/1225/314/fees_notice_and_waiver_application.pdf)

## Halloween Celebrations - Friday 10/27

This year we will be celebrating Halloween at Renaissance on Friday 27th October. Students are invited to come to school dressed in their Halloween costumes and be prepared for our elementary Halloween parade and classroom celebrations. Please remember that students are required to wear shoes to school with their costume (no slippers) and that masks or full-face paint are not permitted.

For new families, we typically celebrate Halloween at school the Friday before October 31st to reduce student distraction and maximize instruction on full school days (i.e., Monday-Thursday). Students will be expected to come to school in dress code on Tuesday 31st October.

## Wrestling Clinic

There will be a free wrestling clinic held on Wednesdays, October 11-November 29 at Lehi Junior High.

- K - 2nd grade: 5:30-6:30
- 2nd - 4th grade: 6:30-7:30
- 4th - 6th grade: 4:15-5:15
- 6th - 8th grade: 3:00-4:00
- 9th - 12th grade: 4:15-5:30

If you would like to learn more or sign up, please email Jared Barfuss at [jared.barfuss@gmail.com](mailto:jared.barfuss@gmail.com).

## Red Ribbon Week - October 24-27

I Have The Power To Be Drug Free!

Join us for a week of fun activities at lunch and in the classroom celebrating making healthy choices and remaining drug free!

Tuesday 10/24	Wednesday 10/25	Thursday 10/26	Friday 10/27
Wear red for red ribbon week! 	Hair's to being drug free! 	Be a hero and say no to drugs! 	Scare away drugs! 
Wear red shirts, pants, jackets or socks in red.	Crazy hair or hat day.	Dress up as your favorite superhero.	Wear your Halloween costume.

If students are not dressed according to themed days, please make sure they are in dress code attire. On Halloween, no masks or weapons please.

## Kitchen Aide Position

We have a super opportunity for a Food Service Assistant at Renaissance Academy.

Wage: \$12.00 per hour. Usual hours Monday through Thursday 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday varies.

You would be involved with:

- *Meal Planning and Nutrition:* You will need to get familiar with the NSLP guidelines for the logic, understanding and requirements of the Federal "My Plate" program for students from Kindergarten to 9th grade.
- *Preparation, Serving, Point of Service:* Responsible for the proper preparation, prompt and correct maintenance of the serving area prior to, during and after serving. Must be able to work quickly and efficiently, multitasking at all times. Basic knowledge of computer a must. Must be physically able to stand or sit for fairly long periods of time. Must be physically able to lift up to 50lbs. Must have a current or be able to get a Utah County Food Handlers permit. Must observe confidentiality rules and have excellent public relations skills.
- *Cleaning and Maintenance:* This includes dish washing, cleaning, Sanitizing, and Mopping. Must have basic knowledge of proper chemical and sanitizing products.
- *Proper Inventory Control, Rotation, Ordering, and Food Storage:* Must be willing to take responsibility for proper ordering and stocking to meet the needs each week.
- *Record Keeping:* Must be responsible for tracking recipe and menu items on a day to day basis. Must become familiar with and comply with a daily production record. Assist in counting and claiming process for the State of Utah and for Federal guidelines.
- *Other duties:* Must be proactive in staying current on all nutritional information, kitchen supplies and health codes. May be required to serve as head cook during certain times if necessary. Other duties to be determined.
- Must be able to communicate verbally and in writing in fluent English. Second language a plus. Must have dependable transportation and valid drivers license. Must obtain a background check. Must be willing to comply with all policy of Federal, State and County Government and with the Renaissance Academy Policy, Procedure and Dress Code.

To apply, please send your resume to [saires@renacademy.org](mailto:saires@renacademy.org).

## 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., you as 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.

## Art Competition

With the holiday season swiftly approaching, we are excited to announce this year's *Annual Spiritual & Religious Youth Art Competition*. This exhibition, formerly known as the *Annual Christmas Lamb Art Show exhibition*, sponsored by Ingrid F. Nemelka and the Nemelka family, is open to K-10 students living in Utah Valley. This year, in efforts to make this an interfaith celebration, we are encouraging students to create artwork focused on symbols of the season.

This exhibition will be on view at the Museum in the Ingrid F. Nemelka Gallery from December 2, 2018 through January 6, 2018. The Museum will select a number of works to be included in the exhibition. Of those selected for display, a number will be chosen for cash prizes! Please note: in previous years all works in the exhibition received cash prizes. To allow more art in the show, those selected for awards will receive cash prizes. **Most of the exhibited works will not receive a cash prize.**

This competition is open to K-10 students living within Utah Valley. We ask for your support in announcing and publicizing this upcoming exhibition. Many schools offer this to students along with similar events such as the PTA Reflections Art Contest and allow students to enter one or both at their parents' discretion. Works for this show should be of a spiritual theme and reflect the meaningful symbols of the holiday season. We encourage students to consider the following questions when thinking of the subject matter:

- How do you celebrate?
- What symbols are meaningful to you during this time of the year?
- What are your favorite family traditions during the season?

The works will be juried by the SMA Education staff. **The works are to be original and individually conceived by the students, rather than class projects.** No works will be considered if they contain glitter, candy, glued-on beans, macaroni or similar material that tend to fall off when handled or invite bugs into the Museum.

Teachers and parents may bring entries to the Museum from Wednesday, November 1st through Friday, November 3rd, 2017, 10 am - 4 pm. As a result of the growing popularity of this show, we ask each school to limit their entries to no more than 100. Each student is limited to one entry. **Please be sure to fill out and attach the included entry card (found at the end of this RAPP) with each work - clearly listing the artist's first and last name, home phone number, parent email, grade school, and teacher's name and email. The entry cards may be attached to the back of the work. Works without completed entry cards attached will not be considered for the exhibition.**

A list of accepted works will be posted on smofa.org on November 17, 2017. We will phone each award winner's home to invite them to an award ceremony Saturday, December 2, 2017 at 11:00 am. Students in the exhibition who do not receive awards will receive a personal phone call inviting them to join us for an opening reception the same day from 12-1 pm. You are also invited to visit the Museum during regular hours throughout December to see the selected works on display. Artwork should be picked up by January 31, 2018. Art will not be retained after January 2018.

# Picture Day is Coming

PICTURE DAY IS:

Renaissance Academy  
Thursday, October 05, 2017

Order before Picture Day at [mylifetouch.com](http://mylifetouch.com)



**FREE** digital image with online purchase when you join myFamily Rewards™ program.



**1 VISIT:**  
[mylifetouch.com](http://mylifetouch.com)

**2 ENTER**  
your Picture Day ID:  
**UM337005Q1**

**3 ORDER**  
your perfect package—and don't worry about returning anything on Picture Day!

**Questions? Please call 1-800-736-4753**  
Siblings are invited from 1:00-1:30 /// Make Up Day: November 9th



# Family Engagement Committee (FEC)

## FEC Presidency

President	Mary Mecham	mmecham@gmail.com
VP of Committees	Jessy Feveryear	jessyjensen@yahoo.com
VP of Fundraising	Candace Lierd	candace1112@gmail.com
VP of Classrooms	Kimberlee Skarda	zipchic@gmail.com
Secretary	Amber Guymon	acguymon@gmail.com
Treasurer	Kathy Brooksby	high6@xmission.com

## 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/>

## Message from our FEC President

I just wanted to take a minute to express my sincere appreciation to our FABULOUS Carnival Committee. If you were lucky enough to attend the carnival, I'm sure you feel the same way. Their countless hours, numberless phone calls, and commitment truly paid off in hosting one of Renaissance Academy's finest carnivals. We THANK YOU for your time and talents and look forward to working with all of you again in the future.

For those who are wondering how much was raised at the carnival, and what exactly the funds are used for, we encourage you to join our conversations at our FEC Meetings. They are held the first Friday of each month at 8am. All parents are welcome to attend and I hope we see you there.

In addition, this month we are having our Box Top Contest, Red Ribbon Week and Spirit Night at Chick Fil A. Check the calendar or our Facebook page for more information.

Sincerely,  
Mary Mecham  
FEC President

## Spirit Night - Chick Fil A

Wednesday, October 25th 5-8pm at the **NEW LEHI TRAVERSE LOCATION**

## Box Top Contest

Bring in all those box tops between Oct 9 - Oct 13. Students can put them in a zip-lock bag and bring them to their teachers. Just be sure to put the students name on the bag!

## Battle of the Books

Lists for Battle of the Books 2017-18, as well as updated information about events and registration can be found at the Battle of the Books blog: [renaissance-bob.blogspot.com](http://renaissance-bob.blogspot.com).

If you have any questions not answered by the blog please feel free to email me at [andre-wandlessa@gmail.com](mailto:andre-wandlessa@gmail.com)



# 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!



## Celebrations in October



Dia De Los Muertos (Day of the Dead) is a holiday celebrated in Latin America and Mexico from October 31-November 2. On this holiday, people celebrate and honor their deceased family members. It is celebrated with festivals and parties! Skulls are a typical symbol of this holiday and many people paint their faces like skeletons.



# What's going on at RA?

## Carnival

A big thank you to all those who contributed to make our Fall Carnival a fabulous success! Our heartfelt appreciation must go to all of our wonderful parent volunteers who spent countless hours organizing and preparing for the event, to local businesses who provided fun and creative booths, families and businesses who donated items for the silent auction, and of course to all the students, families, faculty and neighbors who attended, had a blast and helped raise money for our students and school. It was a great success! Thank you all!



## 6th Grade Science

In our 6th Grade Science class, students were trying to solve problems as they study different phenomenon in the world!



## 4th Grade Field Trip to the Museum of Natural Curiosity



## 2nd Graders Explore!

We are busy little learners in 2nd Grade so far! We love to meet new people and try new things. Here we are with our 5th Grade reading buddies, interviewing Mr. Ursic, and learning karate from a guest visitor. Every day there is something new to discover. We can't wait to explore more learning opportunities each day!



# Faculty Spotlight



## Mark Ursic, Executive Director

Mark Ursic, Executive Director of Renaissance Academy, brings 20 years of experience in leadership, management, strategic planning, organizational development and school administration to Renaissance. Mr. Ursic earned a Bachelor of Science in Management from Brigham Young University in 1996. Prior to his present position he spent 15 years working in operational management positions in both corporate and educational environments.

As operations director for the Higher Education Services Division of Marriott International (MMS), Mr. Ursic successfully improved the infrastructure of his client institutions by creating a culture of improvement and excellence. In this role he worked with clients such as the U.S. Olympic Training Center—Colorado Springs, Whittier College and Seton Hall University. Due to his leadership, his accounts were awarded Marriott's Gold Award of Excellence in each of his last four years with the company.

Before accepting the executive director position at Renaissance, Mr. Ursic worked in corporate management at a Caterpillar dealership (CAT) headquartered in Los Angeles, California. After an acquisition in 2006 that doubled the size of the company, Mr. Ursic was hired to provide corporate leadership over the areas of capital renewal, strategic facilities planning, operations budgeting, and regulatory compliance.

Mr. Ursic refers to this position as his “masters in leading organizational change.” Regarding this time in his career he says, “Leading organizational change is exciting. When a leader makes a commitment to continuous improvement—every day becomes a dynamic learning opportunity. However, converting those opportunities into positive growth isn't as simple as changing how people think of their job—it requires them to change how they think about themselves. A difficult task to be sure but it is exceptionally rewarding.”

He is a superb father of 4 children, 3 of which attend Renaissance Academy. He loves coaching their sports teams, and especially working at the school where they attend! He is grateful to work with amazing teachers and awesome students every day! His favorite thing about working at Renaissance is when kids say “Hi” to him and high-five him in the hallways, so don't be shy-- he loves it!”

**Fun fact:** When asked—what can you tell us about Mr. Ursic that most people don't know? His wife replied, “Mark marches to his own beat in life AND in music. He is an excellent drummer and was in his school band as a percussionist. He is a rock star in his own right and plays in our basement “man cave” weekly. Our family loves to listen and dance along.



## Stephanie McCappin Avery, Dean of Students and Families

Stephanie Avery is the Dean of Students and Families here at Renaissance Academy. She is responsible for and involved in all aspects of the school that involve students, parents and families. She also acts as our Director of Assessment. Mrs. Avery started at Renaissance at the beginning of the 2013-14 school year after moving to Utah from Adelaide, Australia. She graduated with a Bachelor of Psychology (Honors) from Flinders University of South Australia in 2007, and then a Master of Psychology (Educational and Developmental) in 2009 from Monash University in Melbourne, Australia.

Following graduation, Ms. Avery was employed as a licensed Psychologist for the Victorian Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) where she worked in a network of approximately fifty elementary, middle and high schools in eastern metropolitan Melbourne, Australia. In this position, Mrs. Avery specialized in student assessment and the identification of specific learning disabilities, emotional, behavioral and developmental concerns and disorders, and gifted and talented education. She also provided individual student and group counseling, worked in collaboration with teachers and administrative teams to implement individualized academic interventions and behavior plans, and provided classroom management support and training to schools and teachers within the region.

Mrs. Avery loves working in education and believes every student deserves to receive the best education possible. She enjoys both getting to know our students and families, and the daily challenges associated with helping run and lead a school. Her goal is to help and support all stakeholders (students, parents and faculty), and encourage every student to be happy, successful, acquire strong academic skills, develop as an individual, and achieve their potential in all areas of school life. Mrs. Avery also strongly supports our World Language focus here at Renaissance, and although she does not speak Arabic, Spanish or Chinese, loved learning German while living in Germany in 2011-2012.

Outside of school, Mrs. Avery loves to spend time with family and friends, travel, watch movies and get outside to bike, hike, ski and climb. She also enjoys meeting new people and learning about new cultures. If you have any questions or concerns about anything here at Renaissance, please contact Mrs. Avery by calling our school office at 801-768-4202 or emailing her directly at [smccappin@renacademy.org](mailto:smccappin@renacademy.org).

**Fun fact:** Her love of adventure and travel led her to take a 'gap' semester at the end of her third year of college to travel the world and live, work and ski for a season at Deer Valley Resort in Park City in 2006. Working here at Renaissance and living in Utah is her latest adventure!



## Shelby Dieters, Dean of Instruction

Shelby Dieters begins her 18th year in education and is currently the Dean of Instruction at Renaissance Academy. She is responsible for evaluating and coaching teachers, planning professional developments, and providing content area expertise on best practices in pedagogy, curriculum, and assessments. With all of her expertise in the field of education, Ms. Dieters has been given the opportunity to join the Administration staff as the Dean of instruction. She loves the field of education and spends all of her energy trying to be a better educator! She is excited to share her knowledge and range of experience with her colleagues at Renaissance Academy.

Outside of school, Ms. Dieters is a mom to 3 boys, Peyton, Hunter, and Brayden who all attend Renaissance Academy. Her boys are very involved in sports so Ms. Dieters can be found cheering them on in football, Rugby, basketball, and baseball! She also loves to spend time outdoors snow skiing, hiking, and on the lake.

**Fun spooky fact:** Before she became a teacher, she used to work in a cemetery digging graves.



## Julie Walker, Director of World Language and Curriculum

Julie Walker serves as the Director of Curriculum Development & World Language at Renaissance Academy. She also runs our after School and Summer Camp Programs. She has a Bachelor's degree in Education from BYU and a Master's Degree in Curriculum & Instruction from UNLV. She has lived all over the world and has taught Spanish, English, Dance, and Health to students grades K-12. She has two children (Gracie & Ryan) who were born while she was living overseas in Bogotá, Colombia and Santiago, Chile. While in Colombia, she taught at the American School and had the President of Colombia's children as her students. Before joining Renaissance Academy, she taught school in Las Vegas and was the Campaign Manager for a Nevada State Senator.

Ms. Walker loves to spend time with her children, go on adventures, wake-surf, dance, hike, and ski. She danced on three teams at BYU and enjoys going swing dancing. Additionally, she enjoys traveling and coordinating big group events.

**Fun fact:** Her favorite pastime is doubles wake-surfing and she likes to flip off of her partner's shoulders.



### Nettie Naumann, School Counselor

Nettie Naumann is the school counselor and this is her third year at Renaissance. Apart from being the school counselor, she is the HOPE Squad adviser, NJHS adviser and also teaches peer leadership. She is originally from Montana but has lived in Utah for the last 11 years.

She is married and has two beautiful children. In her spare time she likes to decorate, host parties, get crafty with her girlfriends, shop and spend time with her family. She loves the opportunity to get to work with each age group at Renaissance and all the amazing teachers.

**Fun fact:** She is a proud cheer mom! Big bow and all! :)



### Patti Davis, Business Manager

Mrs. Davis has been working at Renaissance for the past 10 years. Her Renaissance story began when she stopped by during construction to see what the school was all about. In talking to those first few parents, she could feel their excitement and passion. She started by volunteering in the much overtaxed front office and though she has changed chairs a few times, she has never left.

Utilizing her strong past experience, her responsibilities here at Renaissance include all things financial from budgeting, accounts payable and report preparation for the Board of Directors to employee payroll and benefits management. She is also responsible for many State reports and certifications, managing the facilities, coordinating with various contracted services and overseeing the paraprofessionals here at the school. The passion and devotion of those first parents she met turned into her passion and devotion and she's glad to be an on-going part of the Renaissance Family. She loves the people she works with, especially in the front office. She says, "we all get along so well and have fun together. It really makes a difference in how I look at and feel about my job when the atmosphere is a good one."

Mrs. Davis and her husband have lived in Lehi for the past 20 years. They have twin 23-year old daughters that are both busy with work and college life. She enjoys working in her garden, reading books or spending time in the mountains.

**Fun fact:** She loves watching BBC mystery shows!



### Susi Blakhurst, Enrollment Specialist

Mrs. Blackhurst has been at Renaissance Academy since 2012. She takes care of the enrollment of all students entering RA. She also takes care of Aspire, our Student Information System. Prior to RA she has worked in professional positions that given her a wide variety of skills to perform her duties. Skills ranging from organizational, multi-tasking, accounting, technical, and attention to details to the personal touch and sensitivity needed for working with children. She really loves working at Renaissance Academy and enjoyed her association with staff, students and parents.

She and her husband have 4 children and 2 grandchildren. Her oldest daughter will be getting married in February and will be graduating from Belmont Law in Nashville, Tennessee in the Spring. Her next daughter is a hairstylist whose husband is a nurse at IMC. They have 2 children, a boy and a girl. Her oldest son is in the Army and is currently stationed at Fort Detrick in Maryland, but will be transferring to Landstuhl, Germany in February. Her youngest son is a Senior at Lone Peak High School.

**Fun Fact:** She has done several community theater musicals over the years, all of which she has done with 1 or 2 of her children. This past summer she was in "Beauty and the Beast" with a couple of RA students as well.



### Emily Depallens, Executive Assistant

Miss Emily works in the front office. She facilitates the Phoenix 200 Club program, helps students when they come in, and does the social media for the school. Her favorite thing about working in the office is talking to the students when they come in! She also loves the people she works with.

She is half American, half British and grew up moving all around the world! She has lived in Greece, Saudi Arabia, Venezuela, Belgium, Germany, Israel and Hungary. She graduated from Brigham Young University Idaho in Political Science with a minor in Spanish. She just recently got married over the summer in Manchester, England! She loves Harry Potter and soccer! Her favorite team is Manchester United.

**Fun fact:** She speaks Spanish, Hungarian and a little French.



### Tracy Scott, Reading Specialist

Mrs. Scott is the reading specialist and the ELL Director here at Renaissance Academy. You'll often see her sitting in the halls with students reading with them! She loves the people she works with and says, "they are some of the finest people I know."

She was born and raised in Salt Lake City, Utah. She moved to Utah county to attend college, and never left. (Except for vacations and when she moved to England to perfect my English skills.) She has five children (four girls and one boy), six grandsons and four sons-in-law. Her very handsome and capable son is not yet married. He would be a catch!

**Fun fact:** She lives in a magical house that was built 150 years ago!



### Trudy Messick, Lead Aide/Office Assistant

Mrs. Messick was born in Provo Utah and stayed in Utah most of her life except for a short stay in California. She graduated from Skyline High School and attended BYU and was there when the football team was ranked as National Champions.

Mrs Messick has four children. Three of them are married and the youngest just started her first year in college. Her favorite thing to do, while her children were young, was to make up songs, stories,, and games for her children to help them in their learning and fun.

This love for working with children is what brought Mrs. Messick to Renaissance. She has been here since the school opened along with two of her children. She started out working as a 5th grade aide and is now leading all the aides at the school as well as working in the office and library. Mrs. Messick loves working at Renaissance and loves the variety of learning activities that the students receive.

**Fun Fact:** She just got a new puppy (One of the puppies from their litter that she is keeping). His name is Ash because his mother's name is Ember.

Dear Parents,

The Family Support & Treatment Center is a nonprofit agency whose focus is the prevention and treatment of abuse and traumatic events. For over a decade, the Family Support & Treatment Center has offered insightful presentations meant to educate and empower youth regarding abuse and related issues. The Utah State Office of Education and the school boards in Alpine, Provo and Nebo School Districts have approved these presentations, which are given free of charge at schools. The majority of the presentation is a group discussion that helps students identify what they would do in several situations. Below is a brief description of the presentations. Additionally, a short preview of the videos used in each presentation can be found at [playitsafe.org](http://playitsafe.org).

- **My Body Belongs to Me (Preschool):** Using puppets and games, students learn about body ownership and how to keep themselves safe in various situations. Special emphasis is placed on trusting the "uh-oh" feeling that comes from uncertain touches and people, respecting private parts, and talking to trusted adults
- **Mae Shares a Secret (1st-2nd grade):** Students watch a short film about a young girl, Mae, which is spending the summer with Grandpa, and shares her secret about her mom's boyfriend. In this program children are taught to never keep a secret when it's not safe. Students learn about the difference between a good/bad/confusing touch, and the four safety rules to use when they are in trouble (say no, get away, tell someone, yell).
- **Chase Steps Up (3rd-4th grade):** Students watch a short film about a young boy, Chase, who loves baseball, but he is tormented by the secret that someone close is abusing him. With the help of his coach, Chase understands he can step up and tell. Students learn that secrets can be good or bad and that telling bad secrets to a caring adult is the right thing to do. Students learn the difference between good/bad/confusing touches, the difference between a good/bad secret, and four safety rules to keep themselves safe (say no, get away, tell someone, yell).
- **Aiden's Discovery (5th-6th grade):** Students watch a short film about a young boy writes a paper about sexual abuse in school and begins to suspect that his best friend may be experiencing abuse by her coach and needs help. Students learn the difference between good/bad secrets, how to recognize sexual abuse, and how to be assertive and help if they are concerned about friends. Special emphasis is placed on saying no, telling an adult, and that the victim is never at fault.

Knowing that this is a sensitive subject matter and that some parents may want to choose a different time and set of circumstances to introduce this issue, we are providing an "opt out" option for every family. **Complete the section below (one for each child) and return it to the teacher, if you do NOT want your child to attend the presentation.** In a discrete and thoughtful manner, the teacher will then arrange for your child to spend the 45 minutes of the presentation with another classroom on the same grade level.

If you are interested in finding out more about any of these programs, contact Jenna Labrum, at (801) 229-1181 or [jlalum@utahvalleyfamilysupport.org](mailto:jlalum@utahvalleyfamilysupport.org).

Sincerely,  
Jenna Labrum  
Education Specialist

**I wish to "OPT MY CHILD OUT" of the Abuse Prevention Presentations that will be held in the classroom. I understand that my child will spend the 45 minutes with another classroom on the same grade level.**

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Annual Spiritual & Religious Youth Art Competition

## INFO CARDS

One of these cards should be attached to the back of every work of art. These cards must be filled out completely and attached to the back of the art before it may be submitted for exhibition. Please write neatly. ALTHOUGH THERE ARE SIX INFO CARDS ON THIS PAGE, EACH STUDENT IS ALLOWED ONLY ONE ENTRY INTO THE SHOW.

### 2017 Annual Spiritual & Religious Youth Art Competition (attach to art work)

School \_\_\_\_\_  
Student's name \_\_\_\_\_  
Home telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
Parent email \_\_\_\_\_  
Title \_\_\_\_\_  
Grade \_\_\_\_\_  
Teacher's name \_\_\_\_\_  
Teacher's email \_\_\_\_\_

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# OCTOBER 2017

## Renaissance Academy

Lunch \$2.50  
Reduced \$.40

Monthly \$55  
Monthly \$8.80

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>BISCUIT &amp; SAUSAGE GRAVY</b> 2	<b>PIZZA</b> 3	<b>HOT DOG</b> 4	<b>BAR-B-Q CHICKEN</b> 5	<b>SACK LUNCH</b> 6
<b>BACON &amp; EGGS BAGEL</b> 9	<b>PIZZA</b> 10	<b>CHEESY BAKED CHICKEN</b> 11	<b>CHICKEN EGG ROLL</b> 12	<b>SACK LUNCH</b> 13
<b>CINNAMON ROLL</b> 16	<b>PIZZA</b> 17	<b>MEAT &amp; CHEESE NACHOS</b> 18	<b>NO SCHOOL</b> 19	<b>NO SCHOOL</b> 20
<b>NO SCHOOL</b> 23	<b>PIZZA</b> 24	<b>SWEET &amp; SOUR CHICKEN</b> 25	<b>MAC &amp; CHEESE</b> 26	<b>SACK LUNCH</b> 27
<b>BREAKFAST BURRITO</b> 30	<b>PIZZA</b> 31			

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"