

The Renaissance

35-59 81st Street, Jackson Heights, NY 11372

www.renaissancecharter.org • 718-803-0060 • 718-803-3785 (fax) Charter School

September 15, 2020

Dear Renaissance Families,

I hope this email finds you and your loved ones well. As you are aware, Renaissance will continue remote learning for the beginning of the school year, and will continue to monitor the health and safety concerns as we move through the phases of re-opening. The first day of remote learning will be tomorrow, September 16, 2020!

We are sending you our Annual Parent Information Letter (the Big APIL), attached in this email, which is specifically written to address Remote Learning. We have also attached the Attendance and Remote Learning Policies, which are school-wide and apply to all students Pre-K to 12.

Our policies were designed to –

- 1) Keep our academic expectations high** - We expect our students to attend class, do their work and always try their best. Our teachers are teaching all the core standards for their subjects to ensure that students are fully prepared to meet grade standards. We believe the biggest injustice we could do would be for us to lower our bar. That is not the Renaissance you chose to send your child to and that is not what is best for our students now or in the long run. We will continue to provide a high-quality education both in and outside of our building.
- 2) Support our students and families** – We know that this is not what we are used to. We know these are not normal times. We know this situation has challenged us all in so many ways. Parents and guardians have been asked to take on responsibilities that previously were part of the school day. Students have had to adjust to learning from home isolated from their classmates. We understand that some families have experienced hardship, including job loss and illness, as well as issues related to technology and access to resources. We also understand the emotional toll of living through a pandemic. We have and will continue to do our best to support you by providing you with the technology and materials, food, medical assistance

“Developing Leaders for the Renaissance of New York”

and counseling. We will provide high quality special education and English Language Learner programs. Additionally, our Advisory, Targeted Reading Program and College Bound Program have successfully transitioned to remote programs and will continue this coming year.

- 3) Live our Mission** – To develop leaders. Leaders persevere through difficult times. Leaders take on challenges that some might think are insurmountable and achieve their goals. Our community is comprised of leaders: students, parents, faculty and staff. And, together through our combined efforts, we will work to keep our promise to provide every student with a high quality and humanistic education.

Please look for notices about our Parent Association meetings to answer any questions you have about these policies. Please also feel free to submit other questions ahead of time to peggyheeney@rencharter.org (English meeting) or pierinaarias@rencharter.org (Spanish meeting). You will also be able to use the chat feature to submit questions during the meetings.

If you have any specific questions regarding your child and his or her academic standing or school attendance, please also reach out to us.

All the best,

Stacey