

Renaissance High School

Family Welcome Packet

August 2025



Verynda Stroughter, Principal

“A School for the Mind, a Mind for the Future”

Greetings!

Welcome to the 2025-2026 school year! Please be sure to read this document in its entirety and reference it when necessary. There is a lot of information to prepare you for the school year. This year we will begin on **Monday, August 25th**! Please note there will be no school on Friday, August 29th and Monday, September 1st for the Labor Day Observance.

We made tremendous progress on the P/SAT assessments in all grades! Congratulations to the staff and students for putting in the work to turn the corner with a 25-point increase in our composite score for the Class of 2026, leading the district and the state! We have the same results on our AP assessments with a 15% increase for the number of students passing their exams! Our plan is continuing this upward trajectory as it is not time to take our foot off the gas. Our continued success on these assessments only helps your students get to the colleges and universities of their dreams. Trust me, they know the product we put out. The recognition our school gets is because of the hard work put in day in and day out. Thank you for being a part of our RISE.

We are a college prep school, and it is imperative that your student become involved in the fabric of the school. It is not just about the academics but the overall student. We have outstanding programs in fine and performing arts, athletics, and clubs and organizations. Once 9th graders feel acclimated, they must select something to join. We have a lot of options, there should be no student who cannot find something to do within the school community. My expectation is that EVERY student is involved outside of the classroom walls.

While we mold the perfect student, we will not forget about the whole child. One of my goals for this year is to ensure all students feel safe in the space, physically and mentally. We will have several workshops, events, and activities based on the concept of social emotional learning. Parents, I encourage you to talk to your child regularly to ensure they are well. If you notice something seems off with them, please find the appropriate help for them. I am committed to ensuring kindness, care, and open communication ring through the halls of Renaissance High School.

Parents, stay tuned for opportunities for you to become actively involved in our school community. We need you to be involved on campus as well. Not only do we expect you at performances and games but also PTSA, SAC, Dad's Club and volunteering. This year, we will host a **Parent Orientation** during student orientation! Bring your child and come in to gain important information for a successful school year, fellowship with other parents, and meet the administration team! See the schedule on the next page for your appropriate timeframe.

Make sure your information is updated at the school to receive weekly announcements. It is imperative that you are on all our school communication avenues, including PowerSchool Parent Portal (for grades and attendance), Blackboard (for announcements), Principal Stroughters' Remind Communication and class sponsors communication. If you have not downloaded the PowerSchool app and gotten your login information, be sure to get that done during parent orientation or in the main office beginning August 18th during regular business hours.

We are proud to be part of your village. At Renaissance High School, we are committed to providing the highest quality educational experience in the state of Michigan. Together, let's challenge your scholar to rise to high expectations and take ownership of their learning and growth. We look forward to another successful and inspiring school year – one marked by partnership, purpose, and excellence.

Educationally,

Verynda Stroughter, Principal

Administration Team

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Grade Level Responsibility</u>
Verynda Stroughter	Principal	
Darrin Flowers	Assistant Principal	9 th Grade
Lewis Grady	Assistant Principal	10 th Grade
Joseph Hunter	Assistant Principal	11 th Grade
Cindy Powell	Assistant Principal	12 th Grade

Welcome New Staff – 2025/2026

Darrin Flowers, Assistant Principal	*Cionne Jones, Counseling	Asia Boyd, Athletic Coord. & PE/Health
Delonte Jones, ELA	Mary Elizabeth Johnson, ELA	Eugene Ruffin, ELA
Faith Padron, Math	Isaiah Burke, Social Studies	Sydonia Farrior, Business

*Promotion

Save The Date

During orientation, students will obtain schedules, receive their textbooks, and take their yearbook picture. Students will receive their school ID within the first few weeks of school. **School ID's will be necessary to enter the building every day, once they are received.** Students can purchase school uniform shirts and school gear, purchase the Homecoming Package, and pay senior dues. **All students MUST have on a collared school shirt to take a yearbook/school ID photo (white or burgundy color).** Only RHS students should be in attendance during orientation; siblings, family members and friends may attend Parent Orientation which will occur during orientation in the Phoenix Café.

August 20	10 th , A – L: 8am – 9:30am 10 th , M – Z: 9:30am – 11am	August 21	9 th , A – L: 8am – 10am 9 th , M – Z: 10am – 12pm
August 20	12 th , A – L: 12pm – 1:30pm 12 th , M – Z: 1:30pm – 3pm	August 21	11 th , A – L: 12pm – 1:30pm 11 th , M – Z: 1:30pm – 3pm

Make Up Day

August 22	9 th & 11 th : 8am – 10am 10 th & 12 th : 10am – 12pm
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New for 2025!

- Boys Wrestling
- AP 3D Art
- AP Human Geography
- IB Film Studies
- New Gym Floor

Counseling Staff ~NEW ASSIGNMENTS~

Counselors are assigned by last name; the assignments are as follows:

A – E: Melissa Jones, melissa.jones@detroitk12.org

F – J: Kelly West, kelly.west@detroitk12.org

K – R: Cionne Jones, cionne.jones@detroitk12.org

S – Z: Wendy Nichols, wendy.nichols@detroitk12.org

Upcoming Dates

August 16: Burgundy & White Game

August 19: Senior Cap & Gown Photos

August 20 – 21: Student Orientation by grade level

August 25: First Day of School

August 28: Varsity Football Game @ GP South, 7pm

August 29: School Closed

September 1: Labor Day Observance, No School

September 3: Freshmen Parent Meeting, 5:30pm

September 4: Varsity Home Football Game, 7pm

September 8: Parent-Student-School Compact Agreement Due

September 10: Senior Parent Meeting, 5:30pm

September 11: Club/Organization Fair, 10am

September 11: Probation Student Meeting, 10am

September 11: Probation Parent Meeting, 5pm

September 12: Varsity Football Game @ Cass, 7pm

September 17: Annual Title I Parent Meeting, 4:30pm

September 17: Parent Night, 5pm

September 18-19: Mobile Dentist

September 18: Varsity Football Game @ Southeastern, 7pm

September 26: Varsity Home Football Game, 7pm

September 27: France Trip Fundraiser (Adults Only)

September 29: No School, Staff PD

October 3: Varsity Home Football Game, 7pm

October 8: Parent Teacher Conference

October 10: Homecoming Football Game, 7pm

October 11: Homecoming Dance

Communication

The main office is open daily. Beginning August 18th, the main office will be open from 8am – 4pm. If your contact information (phone number and address) has changed, we ask that you update your information as many things are sent out from the school and district using this information. All families should have access to PowerSchool to manage attendance and grades. If you do not have PowerSchool login information or need to update your contact information, please come to the main office during regular business hours. You may also gain access during Parent Orientation on August 20th or 21st. Also, Principal Stroughter has a Parent Remind group where information is shared regularly. You may contact the main office for your Remind group information.

Be sure to check our school website regularly as many announcements and information is shared in that space. Go to www.detroitk12.org/renaissance

Lockers

Lockers already have a combination lock on it. A separate lock is not needed. Students should not share lockers nor give their combination to anyone. Renaissance High School is not responsible for lost items. Students should ensure that their personal items are always secured in the locker or with them.

During orientation, ALL students should try to open their locker to ensure that it will open. If there are any concerns, it should be taken care of during orientation.

Seminar Class

Every student will have a seminar period. This course is designed to give students a weekly opportunity to catch up on work, prepare for standardized tests, meet with teachers/counselors, attend Phoenix Focus Workshops (or other schoolwide meetings), and participate in community service. During the first week, students will receive instructions on how to “sign out” of seminar to take care of business within the school. This course is graded as a Pass/Fail course. **A “failed” course negatively impacts students’ overall GPA.**

First Day Bell Schedule

Students will report directly to their first hour for an extended period for a special homeroom on the first day of school.

August 25, 2025 - Bell Schedule ONLY

1 st Hr	8:00 AM	9:10 AM
2 nd Hr	9:15 AM	9:50 AM
3 rd Hr	9:55 AM	10:30 AM
4 th Hr	10:35 AM	12:10 AM
5 th Hr	12:15 AM	12:50 PM
6 th Hr	12:55 PM	1:30 PM
7 th Hr	1:35 PM	2:10 PM
Activity	2:15 PM	3:20 PM

A Lunch: 10:35am – 11:05am; Class 11:10am – 12:10pm

B Lunch: 11:10am – 11:40am; Class 10:35am – 11:05am & 11:45am – 12:10pm

C Lunch: 11:40am – 12:10pm; Class 10:35am – 11:35am

A Lunch: ELA, Math

B Lunch: World Language, Business, F&PFA, All Electives

C Lunch: Science, Social Studies, PE/JROTC

Please Note

The above schedule is only for the first day of school. Lunch is based on 4th hour class.

Lunch Hour

Lunch occurs 4th hour Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday and 5th hour on Wednesday for everyone. There are three lunches designated by departments. Students should only attend one lunch period. See below.

Bell Schedule

The school day is from 8:00am – 3:20pm. On Monday, Tuesday and Friday students attend all courses hours 1 – 7. On Wednesday, students attend odd hours and on Thursday, students attend even hours with a seminar class. See below.

Renaissance Bell Schedule – 2025/2026

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1 st Hr	8:00am – 8:55am	8:00am – 8:55am	<u>First Hour</u> 8:00am – 9:40am	<u>Second Hour</u> 8:00am – 9:40am	8:00am – 8:55am
2 nd Hr	9:00am – 9:53am	9:00am – 9:53am	<u>Third Hour</u> 9:45am – 11:25am	<u>Seminar</u> 9:45am – 11:25am	9:00am – 9:53am
3 rd Hr	9:58am – 10:51am	9:58am – 10:51am	<u>Fifth Hour</u>	<u>Fourth Hour</u>	9:58am – 10:51am
4 th Hr	A Lunch 10:51am – 11:21am Lunch 11:26am – 12:26pm Class B Lunch 10:56am – 11:26am Class 11:26am – 11:56am Lunch 12:01pm – 12:26pm Class C Lunch 10:56am – 11:56am Class 11:56am – 12:26pm Lunch	A Lunch 10:51am – 11:21am Lunch 11:26am – 12:26pm Class B Lunch 10:56am – 11:26am Class 11:26am – 11:56am Lunch 12:01pm – 12:26pm Class C Lunch 10:56am – 11:56am Class 11:56am – 12:26pm Lunch	11:30am – 12:00pm Lunch 12:05pm – 1:40pm Class B Lunch 11:30am – 12:20pm Class 12:20pm – 12:50pm Lunch 12:55pm – 1:40pm Class C Lunch 11:30am – 1:05pm Class 1:10pm – 1:40pm Lunch	A Lunch 11:30am – 12:00pm Lunch 12:05pm – 1:40pm Class B Lunch 11:30am – 12:20pm Class 12:20pm – 12:50pm Lunch 12:55pm – 1:40pm Class C Lunch 11:30am – 1:05pm Class 1:10pm – 1:40pm Lunch	A Lunch 10:51am – 11:21am Lunch 11:26am – 12:26pm Class B Lunch 10:56am – 11:26am Class 11:26am – 11:56am Lunch 12:01pm – 12:26pm Class C Lunch 10:56am – 11:56am Class 11:56am – 12:26pm Lunch
5 th Hr	12:31pm – 1:24pm	12:31pm – 1:24pm	<u>Seventh Hour</u> 1:45pm – 3:20pm	<u>Sixth Hour</u> 1:45pm – 3:20pm	12:31pm – 1:24pm
6 th Hr	1:29pm – 2:22pm	1:29pm – 2:22pm			1:29pm – 2:22pm
7 th Hr	2:27pm – 3:20pm	2:27pm – 3:20pm			2:27pm – 3:20pm

A Lunch: ELA, Math

B Lunch: World Language, Business, F&PFA, All Electives

C Lunch: Science, Social Studies, PE/JROTC

Policies and Procedures...At a Glance!

We follow the DPSCD Student Code of Conduct. Please visit detroitk12.org, download a copy and review for your information.

Arrival

Students are permitted to enter the building at 7:15am. Upon early arrival, students should report to the Phoenix Café until 7:45am, at that time, they may proceed to their first hour class.

Departure

Dismissal is at 3:20pm. Students must leave the building by 3:40pm unless they are participating in a supervised activity with a staff sponsor. It is imperative that parents plan for students to be picked up at the end of the day. Students who have not been picked up by 3:30pm must wait outside of the building. Campus must be cleared by 3:40pm.

Early Dismissal

An early dismissal letter may be submitted to the attendance agent upon arrival to school in the morning if they need to leave early. Once the verification process is completed, your child will receive written permission for early dismissal from class/school. The student must present the early dismissal pass to the teacher and report to the counseling office for pick up. Students will only be released to a parent or legal guardian as indicated on our Student Information System. In emergencies, parents may come to the counseling office to sign their child out early from school and wait for them to be sent to the office. Parents must come into the building and present a valid ID for early dismissal request. **All early dismissal pick-ups must occur by 2:45pm.** Students returning from an appointment must have a note from the doctor to return. Students are not permitted to walk out of the building prior to checking in with the office.

Closed Campus

Renaissance High School is a closed campus. Students are not to leave the building between 7:15am and 3:20pm without a written pass from a counselor or administrator, unless they are enrolled in dual enrollment or an internship program.

Food

Food and beverages brought into the school must be for individual consumption only. Any items brought into the school for mass consumption, distribution, or sale will be confiscated and the student may face disciplinary action. Unauthorized fundraising is prohibited.

Deliveries

Parents, please refrain from sending or delivering items such as flowers, Edible Arrangements, balloons, food deliveries etc. to students during school hours. These items will not be accepted by building security or staff and are strictly prohibited. Helium balloons are strictly prohibited from being brought into the building for any reason.

Students are not allowed to have food delivered by any outside source, this includes but is not limited to Door Dash, Uber Eats, GrubHub, etc.

Dress Code

Students are required to follow the RHS dress code (**Khaki color or burgundy pants, shorts or skirt with a white or burgundy shirt (collared shirt preferred), white or burgundy Renaissance shirt or hooded sweatshirt {hoods and hats may not be worn in the building at any time}, with school ID**) daily. Students out of dress code will not be allowed to attend class. Parents will be required to bring proper attire. Outerwear should be placed in students' lockers. Hats and hoodies are not to be worn in the building. Sweaters and/or layers should also be in school colors. School spirit wear can be worn on Fridays with blue jeans. Friday spirit day is a privilege that can be removed by administration, if necessary.

Cell Phones and Headphones

Cell phone/headphone usage is allowed during lunch time. All devices must be put away in classroom areas. Devices may be used for classroom purposes at the discretion of the teacher. Headphones should not be worn in the classroom or hallways.

Student Absent Reporting

When your student will be absent, you may send an email to all the teachers and the attendance agent AND write a note so that your student can provide to each teacher for signatures and drop the note off in the counseling office to be recorded on PowerSchool. Counselors and attendance agent should also be notified for a student long term absence (more than 3 consecutive days). Absence notes MUST be presented on the day of return. After three days of student return, an absence excuse WILL NOT be accepted.

Renaissance High School Communication Process

Matters Involving:	Academic Progress	Attendance Progress	Behavior Concerns	School Communication	Athletics
Step 1:	Contact ClassroomTeacher	Contact ClassroomTeacher	Contact ClassroomTeacher	Contact Main Office	Contact Coach
Step 2:	Contact School Counselor	Contact Attendance Agent	Contact Dean of Culture		Contact Athletic Director
Step 3:	Assistant Principal				
Step 4:	Principal Stroughter				

Communication Process Practices:

School formal strategies include:

- Blackboard and Remind are used to communicate regularly. All parents should ensure they are enrolled in all communication platforms.
- Monthly school newsletter posted on school website and sent via Blackboard and Remind by the first Monday of each month. A weekly calendar will also be sent each week.
- School website: www.detroitk12.org/renaissance assists with communicating with the immediate and wider community
- Staff email: used for two-way communication with various members of the school staff (see attachment)
- School Social Media: Follow us on:
 - Twitter: @RenaissanceHig3
 - Facebook: renaissancehig3
 - Instagram: rhsphx
- Parent Information Meetings are held at least once per year to communicate expectations and curriculum information.
- PTSA Meetings are held monthly to communicate and address the needs of the school community.
- Title I Parent Workshops are held at least twice per year to share valuable information pertaining to the growth and matriculation of our students.
- Information Sessions for a Specific Purposes: Information sessions are held as needed and will cover a variety of topics including athletics, school performances, extracurricular activities, class meetings and counselor informational sessions.
- Grade Level Assemblies: held during the first week of school to provide expectations for the school year

Professional Communication Practices

When communicating with parents, staff members will:

- Approach discussion in an open, courteous and respectful manner.
- Listen attentively to the concerns of parents, seeking clarification where necessary.
- Present their own or the school's point of view in professional and objective terms.
- Seek support from Administration or colleagues if needed.
- Take into consideration cultural and personal sensitivities and protocols when dealing with the school community.

Parent Meeting Practices

- While some matters may be addressed immediately, it is desirable to arrange meetings to address issues at a time and place that is mutually convenient and is conducive to a positive outcome.
- Unless unusual circumstances apply, staff should arrange meetings with parents in a timely manner.

Dealing with Issues

There may be times, despite ongoing communication, where members of the school community are unsure, disagree or believe there is a problem or issue concerning their child. Parents should not wait for a small issue to grow into a large one:

- If the matter involves your child or is an issue of everyday class operation, parents need to make an appointment to see their classroom teacher, detailing the reasons for the appointment. The classroom teacher should be the first point of contact.
- If the matter involves operations beyond the classroom or concerns that are not easily resolved, an appointment should be made with a member of the school's Administration.

Staff Name	Staff Email	Dept.
Abdun-Noor, Jamil	Jamil.abdunnoor@detroitk12.org	Math
Alster, Adam	Adam.alster@detroitk12.org	Science
Anderson, Alexis	Alexis.anderson@detroitk12.org	Science
Anderson, Paris	Paris.anderson@detroitk12.org	Counseling Center
Baskin, Corey	Corey.baskin@detroitk12.org	Social Studies
Beasley, Darius	Darius.beasley@detroitk12.org	World Language
Bennett, Tanya	Tanya.bennett@detroitk12.org	Performing Arts
Boyd, Asia	Asia.boyd@detroitk12.org	PE & Athletics
Bridges, Cynthia Dr.	Cynthia.bridges@detroitk12.org	Science
Brown, Chandra	Chandra.brown@detroitk12.org	Physical Education
Burke, Isaiah	Isaiah.burke@detroitk12.org	Social Studies
Calvin, Kimberly	Kimberly.calvin@detroitk12.org	Main Office
Campbell, Darlene		JROTC
Carone, Stephanie	Stephanie.carone@detroitk12.org	English
Carter, Flodean	Flodean.carter@detroitk12.org	English
Charles, Bernard	Bernard.charles@detroitk12.org	Social Studies
Colding, Brian	Brian.colding@detroitk12.org	Art
Comer-Abney, Michelle	Michelle.comer-abney@detroitk12.org	Speech Therapist
Crutchfield, Justin	Justin.crutchfield@detroitk12.org	Academic Interventionist
Curtis, Frances Dr.	Frances.curtis@detroitk12.org	Science
DeBose, Patrice	Patrice.debose@detroitk12.org	Performing Arts
deBruin, Duncan	Duncan.debruin@detroitk12.org	Social Studies
Drolshagen, Catherine	Catherine.drolshagen@detroitk12.org	English
Duke Washington, Odette	Odette.dukewashington@detroitk12.org	Art
Farrior, Sydonia	Sydonia.farrior@detroitk12.org	Business
Flowers, Darrin	Darrin.flowers@detroitk12.org	Administration
Gibson, Cordell	Cordell.gibson@detroitk12.org	Math
Gomez, Jean	Jean.gomez@detroitk12.org	School Psychologist
Grady, Lewis	Lewis.grady@detroitk12.org	Administration
Gray, Christopher	Christopher.gray@detroitk12.org	Performing Arts
Hackett, Angel	Angel.hackett@detroitk12.org	Math
Highsaw, Charlene	Charlene.highsaw@detroitk12.org	Social Studies
Hunter, Joseph	Joseph.hunter@detroitk12.org	Administration
Jackson, Nathan	Nathan.jackson@detroitk12.org	Math
Johnson, Kelly	Kelly.johnson@detroitk12.org	English
Johnson, Mary Elizabeth	Maryelizabeth.johnson@detroitk12.org	English
Johnson, Willie	Willie.johnson@detroitk12.org	Social Studies
Jones, Cionne	Cionne.jones@detroitk12.org	Counseling
Jones, Delonte		English
Jones, Melissa	Melissa.jones@detroitk12.org	Counseling
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Kimble, Tiffani	Tiffani.coleman@detroitk12.org	Resource
Ladner, Christine	Christine.ladner@detroitk12.org	Global Language
Leath, Rosalind	Rosalind.leath@detroitk12.org	Performing Arts
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Newell, Develyn	Develyn.newell@detroitk12.org	Science
Nichols, Wendy	Wendy.nichols@detroitk12.org	Counseling
Padron, Faith	Faith.padron@detroitk12.org	Math
Phillips, Emily	Emily.phillips@detroitk12.org	Science
Piscopink, Gregory	Gregory.piscopink@detroitk12.org	Social Studies
Plumridge, Beth	Beth.plumridge@detroitk12.org	Physical Ed.
Powell, Cindy	Cindy.powell@detroitk12.org	Administration
Prudhomme, Danielle	Danielle.baker@detroitk12.org	Math
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Richardson, Audrey	Audrey.richardson@detroitk12.org	Science
Ruffin, Eugene	Eugene.ruffin@detroitk12.org	English
Safah, Rayana	rayana.safah@detroitk12.org	Global Language
Schimler, Parker	Parker.schimler@detroitk12.org	Science
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Vos, Erin	Erin.vos@detroitk12.org	Social Studies
Vowels, Jessica	Jessica.vowels@detroitk12.org	English
Washington, Laura	Laura.washington@detroitk12.org	English
Webb, Jeffres	Jeffres.webb@detroitk12.org	Academic Interventionist
West, Kelly	Kelly.west@detroitk12.org	Counseling
White, John	John.white@detroitk12.org	Counseling
Williams, Regina	Regina.williams02@detroitk12.org	Math
Woodberry-Means, Michael	Michael.woodberry@detroitk12.org	Math
Woods, Jasmine	Jasmine.woods@detroitk12.org	Science
Woods, Reni	Reni.woods@detroitk12.org	English
Woods, Sharla	sharla.woods@detroitk12.org	Academic Interventionist