Developing Leaders for the Renaissance of New York

The 2022-23 CSG’s purpose was to reexamine the school’s founding mission through the lens of TRCS as it currently stands in our post-epidemic environment.

The goal was to engage families, teachers, community members, and staff in critical discussions about how we live our mission in everyday ways, in everyday spaces.

Gatherings were small, but discussions were thoughtful and constructive.

Renaissance is based on the conviction that a change in the destiny of a single individual can lead to a change in the destiny of a community, nation, and ultimately humankind.

Our mission as a PK-12 school is to foster educated, responsible, humanistic young leaders who will through their own personal growth spark a renaissance in New York.

Our graduates will be global citizens with an abiding respect for peace, human rights, the environment, and sustainable development.

Renaissance is committed to graduating competent individuals who are powerful thinkers, engaged citizens, and life-long learners who will create the renaissance of New York.
Community Norms

- Listen deeply and learn from others. Challenge yourself. Allow others to learn what you already know.
- Accept one another’s reality. Ask compassionate questions and practice empathy.
- Speak from the “I” perspective/from your own reality.
- Expect and accept non-closure. This is a work in progress; expect to experience discomfort. Take care of yourself.
- Respond with an “ouch” or an equivalent if something said offends or upsets you.
- Respect confidentiality—take the stories, leave the names.
- Build from where we are from a foundation of trust from one another.
2022-2023 CSG Roadmap

Brainstorming
What is leadership?

Define our mission
Brainstorming

Examine our lived experiences

Discuss new ideas
Imagining 2023-2024

Solidify plan

Design road map
Implementation
Education is what remains after one has forgotten what one has learned in school.

*Albert Einstein*

“Education is the passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today.”

*Malcolm X*

“The beautiful thing about learning is that no one can take it away from you.”

*B.B. King*

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has.”

— Margaret Mead

“There is no end to education. It is not that you read a book, pass an examination, and finish with education. The whole of life, from the moment you are born to the moment you die, is a process of learning.”

— Jiddu Krishnamurti

Education is not preparation for life; education is life itself.

— John Dewey —
The Hidden Curriculum

- The hidden curriculum is the "unintended" curriculum.
- It consists of those learning experiences, both negative and positive, that are not part of the explicit curriculum but that result in changes in the attitudes, beliefs, and values of students.
- The teacher must be constantly aware of the hidden curriculum that may be communicated or modeled in his/her classroom.

Aside from the straightforwardly visible curriculum, there is the hidden curriculum. This exists in the wider set of beliefs and values pupils acquire because of the way that a school is run and its teaching organized. It is about the behaviour of the teachers, the textbooks chosen, the school rules.

~ Gary Thomas

https://www.pinterest.com/pin/570479477783656540/
...fostering educated, responsible, humanistic young leaders

**Spaces**
- Advisory, common areas

**Relationships**
- Students-admin-teachers

**Class Content**
- More about passionate delivery; metacognition is key to humanistic awareness
  - Drumming RS - everyone supported each other while trying to do new things together

**Rensizzle**

**Extracurriculars**
- Power of StuCo to affect enduring change
...through [students’] own personal growth [they will] spark a renaissance in New York

Spaces

Loves seeing others learn new things (Kai’s amazing observation)

Relationships

Personal growth can be modeled by older students to younger students

Class Content

Would like to revisit idea of student portfolios to reflect on personal growth

Personal Experiences

Rensizzle

Extracurriculars

Advocacy in the community, gaining first-hand experience engaging with our civic leaders
What, how, and with whom can value lessons occur?

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>What?</th>
<th>How?</th>
<th>With Whom?</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Advisory</td>
<td>• Portfolio-based assessments for increased opportunities for personal reflection</td>
<td>• Student-student in and across grades</td>
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<td>• Common spaces</td>
<td>• Interactive lessons to create opportunities to work with and cheer on classmates</td>
<td>• Student-student across clusters</td>
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<td>• Rensizzle &amp; other enrichment days</td>
<td>• Community-based, experiential learning opportunities</td>
<td>• Teacher-student</td>
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<td>• Class visits</td>
<td>• Learning from our friends</td>
<td>• Teacher-admin</td>
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<td>• Clubs &amp; sports</td>
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<td>• Admin-student</td>
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<td>• Student government</td>
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<td>• Family-school</td>
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<td>• Professional Learning Communities/Critical Friends Group/Learning Rounds</td>
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<td>• Student-community</td>
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Possible Avenues to Explore

**Advisory**
- Time for personal and group reflection
- Space to increase student leadership via representation (instead of Model UN, Advisory could become a Model US...)
- Could be a space for group academic share-outs

**Student Council**
- MS & HS collaboration with each other and with school leadership
- Members members of CSG as part of StuCo
- Serve as co-leaders in developing Town Hall programming

**Rensizzle**
- Portfolio-based assessments for Increased opportunities for personal reflection about value connections
- Student- and teacher-designed lessons to create opportunities to work with and cheer on classmates
- Jackson Heights-based, experiential learning opportunities
- Increase ways to learning collaboratively from fellow students
Proposed Resolution: Communication

❖ Broadening message with *opportunities to respond:*
  ➢ Monthly MS and HS Town Halls to increase student-student and student-administration communications
  ➢ State of the School updates at each CSG meeting to increase 360-degree communications
  ➢ Language translation at all public meetings
  ➢ CSG - “corner” in Daily Digest / HS newsletter - convey to community → remind us about our values on a regular basis
Proposed Resolution: Continuity of CSG Leadership

- 2-year term for CSG coordinators
- CSG steering committee with fair representation from the Board, the PA, PC, MS and HS Student Council Leaders, SMT, and Cluster Co-Coordinator(s).
- 2nd year focused on implementation and expansion of mission-based actions
Proposed Resolution: Community

❖ Fortify local/city partnerships for Rensizzle
❖ Increase number of at-school Events
❖ Political Action Committee
❖ Expand Community Service Day (led by Student Councils?)
❖ Student-driven Social Justice Day theme