

The Renaissance

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

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Charter School

March 26, 2021

Dear Renaissance Families,

I am writing to give you an update on our plans for our limited re-opening, scheduled for Tuesday, April 13, 2021. We will also hold a Parent Townhall on Monday, April 5 (in English), and Tuesday, April 6 (en español); the zoom link is at the end of the letter.

As I explained in my last letter, community health regulations are still in place to follow social distancing, and the small groups of students we bring back will have to be kept separate from each other. These requirements put severe limitations on bringing all students back into the building. Therefore, we have created in-person programs for targeted students only, and the rest of our students will continue to learn remotely. By focusing on these limited student groups, we believe we can provide in-building support to those students who are struggling as well as continue to maintain an academically rigorous remote program through the end of the 2020-2021 school year. Our program also allows for all 6-12 students to have some in-building learning/connections.

Please note that the invitation back to the building is voluntary; parents have a right to keep their children learning remotely, and we are committed to maintaining the same high-quality remote learning we have given your students all year.

Mondays will remain remote learning for the entire school, except for our District 75 inclusion students, who will be in-person Monday-Friday. All 1st – 12th grade teachers will continue to teach remotely on all days they are not scheduled for in-person learning.

1. **Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten** – Our youngest learners will be invited back to in-person classes in socially distanced teams per classroom. They will work with their teachers who will be teaching from the school, while live-streaming the class for their remote learners. Parents have been contacted individually by the teachers, and will be receiving confirmation letters with more complete details soon.
 - In-Person classes will be held Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, starting April 13, 8:20 AM – 3:10 PM.
2. **Renaissance BOOST: Spring Forward!** This program is for small groups of *academically at-risk students* who have been identified through teacher and counselor referral. We will begin inviting those identified 1st, 2nd and 3rd graders immediately, followed by 4th-8th graders if we can expand the program.

The small teams of in-person students will be with 82nd Street Academics instructors to support them as they complete virtual assignments on individual computers with their

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regular school teachers, who will be teaching remotely.

- In-Person classes will be held Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, starting April 13, 8:00 AM – 3:10 PM.
3. **Middle School and High School Advisory Fridays** – All Middle and High School students are invited to come back to the building to establish student-to-student and student-to-advisor connections after a year of remote learning. The Middle School will alternate Fridays with the High School, as we cannot fit everyone in the building and maintain social distance. Students will have 5 Fridays in the building to engage in community building and enrichment activities guided by student interests.

Students will stay in their advisory groups, take their meals together, and work with their advisor during the school day. Groups may not mix together. There will be time built in for outdoor walking trips and other experiential enrichment. Students working remotely will be given comparable assignments to finish at home.

- High School Advisories will meet on the following Fridays: April 16, April 30, May 14, May 28, June 11. 9:34 AM – 2:22 PM.
 - Middle School Advisories will meet on the following Fridays: April 23, May 7, May 21, June 4, and June 18. 9:34AM – 2:22 PM.
4. **12th Grade / Seniors** – The College and Career Office staff is planning various in-person days for small teams of seniors throughout the rest of the school year. Plans will be communicated to you as soon as they are finalized. Additionally, please note we are planning for senior activities, including graduation, and will have more information shortly.

I appreciate your patience and understanding as we work to ensure a safe and high-quality re-opening for our students and entire school community. Please join us at one of the Parent Townhall meetings:

Monday, April 5, 6:00 PM - In English. Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82092559394?pwd=VExTb2I4d0ZWbENVRXpRR3U1TDZsdz09>

Meeting ID: 820 9255 9394

Passcode: 020888

Tuesday, April 6, 6:00 PM - en español. Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82092559394?pwd=VExTb2I4d0ZWbENVRXpRR3U1TDZsdz09>

Meeting ID: 820 9255 9394

Passcode: 020888

See you then,

Stacey

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