



**Renaissance @ Rand Middle School**  
**176 North Fullerton Ave**  
**Principal: Ms. Maria Francisco**

# Our Mission

The mission of the Renaissance Middle School at Rand is to inspire individuals to think critically, responsibly, and empathically. At the heart of our school are students, faculty and staff who continually investigate ideas, become deeply immersed in subjects, and develop a passion for learning. We believe that all students can learn. We put appropriate programs in place to support learning.



# RMS- Magnet School of Innovative Education

*A unique, all inclusive approach to instruction.*

## Components of our program:

- Small School (200-300 students)
  - Teacher Student Ratios 21-22 (1:17)
- Non Tracking (all students can take all classes)
  - We raise the bar high for **every** student to strive to reach that level. We believe **EVERY** child can meet the high standards we set. Our teachers provide differentiated instruction to cater to a child's educational needs whether that child is academically advanced in the class or falling a little behind.
- Collaboration (within school and community)
  - The 4 core teachers meet every day to discuss the needs of the students. The Related Arts teachers also meet.
- Restorative Justice school



# **RMS- Magnet School of Innovative Education**

*A unique, all inclusive approach to instruction.*

## **Components of our program:**

- Project Based Learning
- Hands on Learning + Field experiences
- Community Service
- \*Inclusive environment (students with various educational needs are included in the general education setting)



## Social Emotional Support Services

Students have support ready and available and can reach out for support to our: School Counselor & Student Assistance Counselor (Ms. Gibbs), School Social Worker (Ms. Fossella), and our Restorative Justice Teacher on Special Assignment (TOSA, Ms. Pastor). Students partake in school wide observance such as *The Week of Respect* (as occurring) and advisories where Restorative Circles take place (daily).



# Social Emotional Support Continued

## *Morning Advisories*

- 20 minute class that starts every students day
- Serves as Social Emotional Check in
- Guided check in provided by Teacher on Assignment
  - (Ms. Pastor)
- Shared daily on morning announcements
- Usually based on monthly themes
  - Samples provided on our school's website



# Restorative Justice

RJ seeks to facilitate learning communities that nurture the capacity of people to engage with one another and their environment in a manner that supports and respects the inherent dignity and worth of all.

- It is a philosophy focused on HOW we do things. RJ looks to develop community and relationships among both staff and students. RJ believes that if we are in relationship with each other we are less likely to harm each other. While also maintaining that if we do harm one another the strength of our relationships allow us to repair it easier and with more intention.



# Restorative Justice

## What does RJ teach?

- Social Emotional Learning such as empathy, communication skills, self-control, listening skills, social skills, conflict-resolution
- Cultural competency by creating just and equitable learning environments and listening to others experiences and collaborative decision making.
- Accountability, responsibility and understanding impact of actions
- How to nurture the well-being of self, others and healthy relationships
- How to repairing harm and transforming conflict





# Restorative Justice

## How does RJ work at Renaissance?

- Morning Minutes - Circle element of Checking-In
- RJ Elective Classes
- Circles for students in conflict including agreements and adult follow up
- Hallway conferences and check-ins with students
- Available for students to access if they need assistance with a conflict or difficulty
- Staff circles and Professional Development



## School Hours and Schedule Structure



# School Hours 2022-2023

## School Hours

**Monday-Thursday: 8:20-3:15**

**Friday: 8:20-2:30**

**Abbreviated Days: 8:20-1:25**



## Student Information System (Genesis and Google Classroom)

Every teacher uses **Genesis**, the student information system database to enter assignments and grades for students. Students have access to their schedule, grades, report cards, etc. Teachers also use **Google Classroom**, to post assignments, tests, quizzes, and projects. Google classroom is also synced to each students Montclair Public School district provided email address.

# Core Class Schedule Structure

- 4 core teachers
  - ELA: Ms. Jordan
  - Math: Mr. Gazzillo
  - Social Studies: Ms. Dunn
  - Science: Mr. Smith
- 80 minute blocks 2x p/w Monday-Thursday (Currently)
  - Block scheduling allows students to spend extended periods of time concentrating and working on specific activities.

The image shows a screenshot of a class schedule grid. The grid has columns for days of the week (Monday Jan 13, Tuesday Jan 14, Wednesday Jan 15, Thursday Jan 16, Friday Jan 17, Saturday Jan 18, Sunday Jan 19) and rows for time slots (00AM, 00AM, 00AM, 1:00AM, 2:00PM, 1:00PM, 2:00PM, 3:00PM, 4:00PM, 5:00PM, 6:00PM). The schedule is as follows:

Time	Monday Jan 13	Tuesday Jan 14	Wednesday Jan 15	Thursday Jan 16	Friday Jan 17	Saturday Jan 18	Sunday Jan 19
00AM							
00AM							
00AM	ANATOMY 403 - 001 Lecture 10:00AM - 12:00PM R116 HSC2	SPANISH 438 - 001 Lecture 11:30AM - 1:00PM R103 HLB	ANATOMY 403 - 001 Lecture 10:00AM - 12:00PM R116 HSC2	SPANISH 438 - 001 Lecture 11:30AM - 1:00PM R103 HLB	ANATOMY 403 - 001 Lecture 10:00AM - 12:00PM R116 HSC2		
1:00AM							
2:00PM							
1:00PM			ANTHRO 472 - 001 Seminar 1:00PM - 3:00PM R136 LGA				
2:00PM		SPANISH 488 - 001 Recitation 2:30PM - 4:00PM S451 H41		SPANISH 488 - 001 Recitation 2:30PM - 4:00PM S451 H41			
3:00PM							
4:00PM		SPANISH 308 - 001 Lecture 4:00PM - 5:00PM T202 HLB		SPANISH 308 - 001 Lecture 4:00PM - 5:00PM T202 HLB			
5:00PM							
6:00PM							

Meeting information not available

Class	Course Title	Instructor	Start Date	End Date
PHYS201_306_027 (Independen	Physics		01/08/2014	04/22/2014

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# Core Class Schedule Structure

- Extra 40 minutes p/day of content not scheduled for that day
  - i.e., Monday & Wednesday 80 Minutes of Math
- + 40 Minutes of ELA
- 40 minutes each class on Fridays
- 280 minutes of ELA + Math p/w

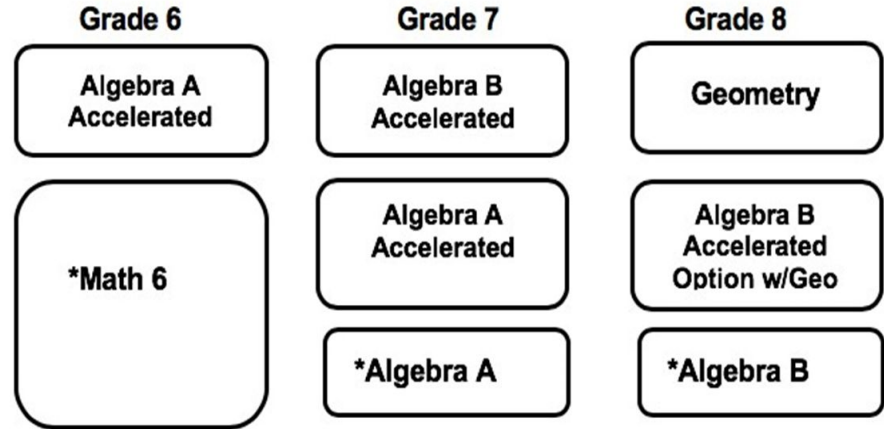
	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6
7:30	朝礼	朝礼	朝礼	朝礼	朝礼	朝礼
8:00						英語科
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# Renaissance's Math Model

## Renaissance Middle School

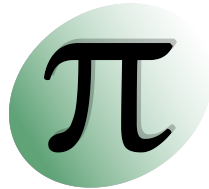
- In 2018 began to offer Accelerated Algebra A in Grade 6
- Only offers the Accelerated level of Algebra A/B
- Staff differentiate to meet students' needs.

## Middle School Math Course Sequence



## Accelerated Opportunities for ALL

While Renaissance holds true to its “non tracking” philosophy-we still provide accelerated courses. This is a big difference between the middle schools as we are the only middle school that provides the opportunity for ANY of our students to be exposed to the accelerated curriculums.



i.e., all incoming 6th graders take Math 6th. In addition to Math 6, some students will be recommended by their elementary school teachers to take Algebra A in 6th Grade as an additional math class. Students can take Algebra A without using results of placement tests or teacher recommendations. Parents/guardians are welcomed to discuss these options with the school counselor. We will review parent requests.



# Response to Intervention Courses

- Read 180-Intensive Reading Support
- Math Lab-Math Support
- \*Study Skills- used to frontload or expand upon concepts that students work on in the general education setting.

*(for students who receive special education services)*



## **Additional Classes + Electives**



# Physical Education

- State Mandated- All students participate in 150 minutes p/w, scheduled in blocks throughout the week
- Class takes place @ Rand Field, RMS Gym, MHS Weight Room, Fortunato Field, Woodman Field



# World Languages

Every student is enrolled in a World Language course. Below are the options for students in their respective grades for the 2022-2023 School Year.

Grade 6: Novice French I & Novice Spanish I

Grade 7: Novice French II & Novice Spanish II

Grade 8: Novice French III, Novice Spanish III & Latin 8

\*Student must stay with the same World Language for all 3 years.



*\*86% of students who took the NSE received honorable mention or higher 2022*

# Technology Course

All students take a technology elective each year.

Each student is assigned a chromebook that will remain with them for the 3 years they are with us



# The Arts

*Band, Chorus, Dance, Drama, Visual Arts*

- All 6th Graders must take either band or chorus, dance, and drama
- All students must take an art class each year
- 7th + 8th Grade can participate in Rock Band
- All grades participate in Dance Company



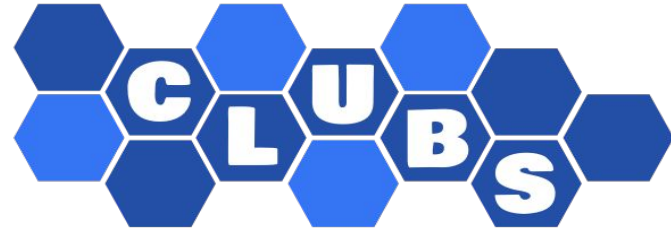
# Electives

- Electives are offered Monday through Friday
- Students select up to 8 electives per year (periods 9, 10, 11)
- Some electives are taken for a quarter and others for a semester
- The Friday schedule is a special approach that allows students to expand the work they do in the classroom through field trips, topic exploration, and community service. Sample of classes included: Drama, Art, It's Time To Move, Survivor, Tech 8, Restorative Justice, Let's Recap, and more!



## After School Clubs + Programs

- Student Council
- GSA (Gay Straight Alliance)
- Model Congress
- Model UN
- National Junior Honor Society
- Robotics
- Dungeons and Dragons
- Yearbook
- After-School Program (academic support 2-3 days per week)





# Trips, Trips and More Trips

- Turtle Back Zoo
- Yogi Berra Museum
- Meadowlands Environmental Center
- Great Falls National Park
- Fairview Lake YWCA
- Chelsea Art Galleries
- High Line



- Tierney's
- Manhattan Scavenger Hunt
- Crane House
- Gateway National Recreation Center
- Museum of The American Revolution
- Medieval Times



## **Trips, Trips and More Trips continued...**

### **Monthly field trips traditionally include:**

Camp Mason

Romeo and Juliet

Sleepy Hollow

Castle Shakespeare

Phillipsburg Manor/Sleepy Hollow

Poetry Café

(Pax Amicus) for Life

Jewish Heritage Museum

Great Swamp

Times of Edgar Allen Poe

Harlem Renaissance

Metropolitan Opera

Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture (Harlem Renaissance)

Metropolitan Opera,

Philadelphia (overnight)



*That's all Folks!*