



Renaissance Middle School

INNOVATIVE EDUCATION:

The Mission of Renaissance Middle School is to create a collaborative community with project-based learning that emphasizes the strengths of all students.

March 20th, 2020

We are living in a very stressful and trying time. Please know that the Renaissance Middle School Staff and the Montclair Public School District are in constant conversation about the best ways to keep our community safe while engaging our students in a meaningful experience. Yesterday, you were informed that a Renaissance Middle School staff member had tested positive for COVID-19. While it is certainly alarming, we need to process this news in perspective to this public health crisis. I understand your concerns, not only as a community member but also as a parent.

Coronavirus
Covid-19


Montclair nurses reached out (via phone) to any family whose student came in direct contact with this staff member. Additional communications continue today for any families that could not be reached yesterday. In response to the CDC's and our local health department, the following has been sent to identified families:

You have been identified as having been exposed to a confirmed case of the COVID-19 virus. As per the CDC and State health department guidelines, you are being asked to self-isolate in your home for 14 days from your last exposure to this person. This has been identified as 3/26/2020. Self-isolation means staying in private room and using a separate bathroom if possible. Practice social distancing with other household members. This means staying at least 6 feet away from another person. Continue with frequent hand washing and proper respiratory hygiene. During these 14 days you are asked to self-monitor for symptoms of the virus (fever 100.4 or greater, cough, shortness of breath and sore throat). If any of these should occur, you should contact your healthcare provider for guidance.

Please contact Betty Strauss (bstrauss@montclair.k12.nj.us) with any questions you may have. Due to HIPAA laws, the name of the staff member will not be shared. If you are symptomatic, please contact your healthcare provider.

If you were not contacted, then your child did not meet the criteria for this level of urgency.

Renaissance Staff will continue to deliver remote learning. While this has been a new process for many, we have received positive feedback about our amazing teaching staff, their organization, and personal touch!

Please be aware that grades are not being posted in Genesis. There will be consideration given to work not submitted on time, with extensions granted to ensure that all our students have an opportunity to access the materials as well as giving sufficient amount of time to seek support if needed. More information will be sent out next week regarding how we can all best support our students.

We are all concerned about the current health crisis but together we will comfort each other and rise above our fears. I can only hope we will all remain calm, model positive coping for our children, and openly communicate our needs and concerns to elicit an effective level of normalcy in our lives.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We all wish you and your families safety and health.

Dr. Joseph A. Putrino Jr.
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