



# 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.*

September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019

## Renaissance Middle School ...Open for Innovation!

On Thursday, September 5<sup>th</sup> Renaissance Middle School, the Innovative Education Magnet opened its doors to a new school year. We successfully welcomed back our students and provided them with a perfect start to the next chapter in their education!

Over the past two days our students have engaged in learning through true Renaissance interdisciplinary teaching and experiences.

The 8<sup>th</sup> grade class started the year at Tourne Park in Denville. Here they conducted scientific experiments related to nature and then hiked along various trails. All the while team building to strengthen the bonds that have forged over the past two years. Today they culminated their adventurous week by participating in team sports at Woodman Field. I could hear the students sharing stories at dismissal.



Today, Seventh Graders took a trip to the Meadowlands Environmental Center. They were challenged to think about creating and applying mechanisms related to renewable resources. This type of hands on learning is beyond measure! Yesterday they traveled into New York City where they visited the African Burial Grounds and Canal Market. Putting our students front and center with history and culture allows

them to gain rich knowledge and unforgettable experiences. Two days of walking, talking, fishing and touching... That's the Renaissance way!



While I was jealous to not be able to join our upper classman on their trips, I had the fortunate experience of staying back at the school to welcome our newest Renaissance learners! The 6<sup>th</sup> grade class had the opportunity to acclimate to the building and to our procedures while seeing old friends and making new acquaintances. Students took a tour of the building and met our staff. They participated in Restorative Circles, heard about all of the wonderful destinations and topics of learning we have lined up for them this year. I'm sure they will share their stories with you. I, for one, got to hang out with them at lunch and recess where we played soccer, basketball, four square and some serious GaGa!





Most importantly, we saw all our students smiling. Despite the natural anxiety of starting something anew, our kids had a great two days of school. There isn't much more we can ask for.

I want to thank our community for all of your support. Welcome to the 2019-2020 school year!

Feel free to contact me with future topics of interest that you would like to hear me expand upon.



Dr. Joseph A. Putrino Jr.  
Principal  
Renaissance Middle School  
[jputrino@montclair.k12.nj.us](mailto:jputrino@montclair.k12.nj.us)

