

# Crater Renaissance Academy



NEWSLETTER DATE: : FEBRUARY 2008

## WHAT'S GREAT ABOUT RENAISSANCE ACADEMY

### Dear Renaissance Parents:

As we approach the half-year mark, I want to share with you some of what I see as our great successes, as well as some of our challenges. I remain very optimistic about our future, and extremely proud to be the principal of the Renaissance Academy.

During the early part of the design process, we were able to visit many outstanding schools across the country. The best schools I visited were members of the Coalition of Essential Schools (CES), which has a 20 year history of phenomenal success with small high schools. This led our faculty to adopt the 10 common principles of CES as our foundational guidelines.

One of the things we noticed when visiting exemplary schools was a clear air of unanxious expectation. The atmosphere was relaxed, yet included a high level of engagement and accomplishment. With this in mind, both faculty and students participated in selecting one of the CES principles as a focus, and the result was overwhelmingly the 7<sup>th</sup> principle – “**A Tone of Decency and Trust.**” We decided that decency and trust would be the foundation for learning in the classroom.

We held an assembly and focused on what decency, respect and trust looks like at school. Every faculty member lead a moderated discussion around the same issue, in their classrooms, and the results were compiled and shared with staff. Every Renaissance student and teacher will be reminded about developing this atmosphere in our school and in our classrooms.

Recently I spoke with a parent and discovered that they had not thought of the Renaissance Academy as a college prep school. That misconception surprised me and led me to think again about the advantages our school offers, and the first one that comes to mind is the extremely high quality of our faculty in terms of talent, experience, and dedication. As I sat there and added it up in my head, I realized that every English and social studies class, with the exception of one senior English class, is being taught by a teacher who has taught AP (college level “Advanced Placement”) coursework, or has received the training to do so. There are very few other high schools able to make a similar claim. I find myself, once again, very proud to be working with this caliber of teachers.

We realize that we have set the goals for our school very high. In the same way, we expect much of our students. As we move toward our goal of being a beacon school for schools across the country to emulate, it will be crucial for all of us, teachers, parents and students to keep these high expectations in mind. I look forward to the day when anyone can walk into any classroom and see every student using logic and creativity as they learn to use their minds well.

Bob King, Renaissance Academy Principal

## Coalition of Essential School Principles

### The Common Principles (abbrev.)

1. Learning to use one's mind well
2. Less is More, depth over coverage
3. Goals apply to all students
4. Personalization
5. Student-as-worker, teacher-as-coach
6. Demonstration of mastery
7. A tone of decency and trust
8. Commitment to the entire school
9. Resources dedicated to teaching and learning
10. Democracy and equity

## Students of-the-Month

### Academic:

**Jesseca Knorr**

### Creative:

**Matt Robinson**

### Citizenship:

**Maria Tyurina**

### Upward Moving:

**Andy Bryant**

**1st Semester****4.0 GPA Students:****Freshman**

Lacey Haight, Lauren Hornbeck, Bethany Langfield, Katherine Piland, Natasha Schroeder, Isabel Spurlock, Emily Walley, Jessica Worley

**Sophomores**

Kayla Ackerman, Jennette Chisolm, Jesseca Knorr

**Juniors**

Jaime Brown, Alaina Elo, Chelsea Funkhauser, Miyako Inamura, Samantha Reed, Silver Seibert, Hilary Tevis

**Seniors**

Haley Baier, Caitlin Brown, Natika Holm, Alex Miller, Megan Urton, Curtis Yungen

**3.5-3.99****Freshman**

Emily Greb, Beatriz Gutierrez, Hillary Hogue, Marissa Southmayd, Lindsey Stoeckel

**Sophomores**

Stephanie Benston, Kelsey Blackford, Kiani Duenas, Suzie Hyde, Tarren Mitchell, Erica Nelson, Kylie Norton, Gennesis Saenz, Kayleen Walker

**Juniors**

Harlee Case, Amanda Clifton, Adam Crumm, Dylan Elmer, Arianna Gudino, Amanda Huffman, Jennifer Mullane, Rebecca Reddell, Lauren Riggs, Skye Solly, Pia Weiss, Cristal Wahlberg

**Seniors**

Lindsey Copple, Daniel Fish, Christina Larson, Rio Picollo, Alisa Rojas, Walter Schimke, Jesse Smith

**Upcoming Dates**

**2/18 President's Day**

**NO SCHOOL**

**3/3 Inservice Day**

**NO SCHOOL**

**COLLEGE/SAT INFO****SAT Test Dates**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Deadline</u>
<b>3/01/08</b>	01/29/08
<b>5/03/08</b>	04/01/08
<b>6/07/08</b>	05/06/08

**Crater Foundation Applications Due!**

Crater Foundation scholarship applications are due

February 15th. To fill out the application, go to [www.district6.org/cra](http://www.district6.org/cra) and click on the tab, "Senior Info" The link is listed on this page. Applications cannot be handwritten. If you need further assistance, please contact Christine Beck at 494-6316.

**January:**

- Early Decision & Early Application responses arrive this month.

Some colleges include 1st semester grades as part of your application folder. This is called the mid-year grade report. Have your counselor send your grades to colleges that require them.

**February:**

- Contact your colleges & confirm that all necessary application materials have been received.
- Don't get senioritis! Colleges want to see strong second half grades.

**Application Details:**

- Most regular applications are due between January 1 & February 15. Keep copies of everything you send to colleges.
- Have your high school send your transcripts to colleges
- Contact colleges to make sure they've received all application materials.

**Financial Aid: Apply Early. Apply Right.**

- You & your family should save this year's pay stubs to estimate income on aid forms that you'll file early next year.
- Submit your FAFSA as soon after Jan. 1st as possible. Men 18 or older must register for the selective service to receive federal financial aid.
- Many priority financial aid deadlines fall in February. To get the most attractive award package, apply by the priority date.

**Please visit the Crater Renaissance Academy website at [www.district6.org/cra](http://www.district6.org/cra) for academic, college testing dates, club & sports**

## INSIDE STORY HEADLINE

This story can fit 150-200 words.

One benefit of using your newsletter as a promotional tool is that you can reuse content from other marketing materials, such as press releases, market studies, and reports.

While your main goal of distributing a newsletter might be to sell your product or service, the key to a successful newsletter is making it

useful to your readers.

A great way to add useful content to your newsletter is to develop and write your own articles, or include a calendar of upcoming events or a special offer that promotes a new product.

You can also research articles or find “filler” articles by accessing the World Wide Web. You can write about a variety of topics but try to keep your articles short.

Much of the content you put in your newsletter can also be used for your Web site. Microsoft Publisher offers a simple way to convert your newsletter to a Web publication. So, when you’re finished writing your newsletter, convert it to a Web site and post it.



Caption describing picture or graphic.

## INSIDE STORY HEADLINE

This story can fit 100-150 words.

The subject matter that appears in newsletters is virtually endless. You can include stories that focus on current technologies or innovations in your field.

You may also want to note business or economic trends, or make predictions for your customers or clients.

If the newsletter is distributed internally, you might comment upon new procedures or improvements to the business. Sales figures or earnings will show how your business is growing.

Some newsletters include a column that is updated every issue, for instance, an advice column, a book review, a letter from the president, or

an editorial. You can also profile new employees or top customers or vendors.

“TO CATCH THE READER’S ATTENTION, PLACE AN INTERESTING SENTENCE OR QUOTE FROM THE STORY HERE.”

## INSIDE STORY HEADLINE

This story can fit 75-125 words.

Selecting pictures or graphics is an important part of adding content to your newsletter.

Think about your article and ask yourself if the picture supports or enhances the message you’re trying to convey. Avoid selecting images that appear to be out of context.

Microsoft Publisher includes thousands of clip art images from which you can choose and import into your newsletter. There are also several tools you can use to draw shapes and symbols.

Once you have chosen an image, place it close to the article. Be sure to place the caption of the image near the

image.



Caption describing picture or graphic.



## Organization

### CRATER RENAISSANCE ACADEMY

4410 N Rogue Valley Blvd  
Central Point, OR 97502

Phone: (541) 494-6371  
robin.reames@district6.org

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WE'RE ON THE WEB!

EXAMPLE.MICROSOFT.COM

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CRATER HIGH SMALL SCHOOLS

This would be a good place to insert a short paragraph about your organization. It might include the purpose of the organization, its mission, founding date, and a brief history. You could also include a brief list of the types of products, services, or programs your organization offers, the geographic area covered (for example, western U.S. or European markets), and a profile of the types of customers or members served.

It would also be useful to include a contact name for readers who want more information about the organization.

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## BACK PAGE STORY HEADLINE

This story can fit 175-225 words.

If your newsletter is folded and mailed, this story will appear on the back. So, it's a good idea to make it easy to read at a glance.

A question and answer session is a good way to quickly capture the attention of readers. You can either compile questions that you've received since the last edition or you can summarize some generic questions that are frequently asked about your organization.

A listing of names and titles of managers in your organization is a good way to give

your newsletter a personal touch. If your organization is small, you may want to list the names of all employees.

If you have any prices of standard products or services, you can include a listing of those here. You may want to refer your readers to any other forms of communication that you've created for your organization.

You can also use this space to remind readers to mark their calendars for a regular event, such as a breakfast meeting for vendors every third Tuesday of the month, or a biannual charity auction.

If space is available, this is a

good place to insert a clip art image or some other graphic.



Caption describing picture or graphic.