



# RENSELAEER CENTRAL SCHOOLS CORPORATION

**Mr. Curtis D. Craig**  
Superintendent

July 23, 2020

Dear Rensselaer School Community:

Summer is coming to an end and we are ready to begin the 2020-2021 school year. It will be a year like no other but we want to keep things as normal as possible for our students. School is a time for students to learn but also to interact with fellow students and have fun.

**Registration will begin online on August 3 and end August 6.** Students new to the corporation should contact the building their student will attend and schedule a meeting to register. RCSC will offer both in-person and online options for instruction. Additional information on registration will follow. For parents wishing to have online instruction, please follow this link [www.rensselaerschools.org](http://www.rensselaerschools.org) to express your interest and a school official will contact you. The link to request the online option will be open from **Monday July 27 to Sunday, August 2.**

We strongly recommend students attend in-person instruction. We understand there are inconveniences but we have made efforts to reduce risk while keeping the school environment as close to normal as possible.

Some of the benefits from in-person instruction include:

- Students engage in a structured environment, interact with friends and meet new people.
- RCSC has large playgrounds and new equipment for students to enjoy.
- Our teachers are excited to have students return. They worked hard on Distance Learning but it's not the same as interacting with students.
- RCSC will assess students' skills to determine where they have deficits. Caring teachers and aides will work with students to get them caught up.
- RCSC has teachers trained in high-ability instruction and will help academic-oriented students stay at an advanced level.

For parents interested in online instruction please note:

- The decision to do online instruction requires a one (1) semester commitment.
- Students will still be responsible for state testing. For most students, the amount of learning decreases when done online.
- Parents indicated on the RCSC survey their children's relationships with friends and feelings of confidence and self-worth were better when in school.
- The state requires five hours per day of schooling for elementary students and six hours per day for middle and high school students.
- Students will still be accountable to state attendance law and will be required to be available during the school day to work with a teacher.

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[www.rensselaerschools.org](http://www.rensselaerschools.org)