



## Renner Elementary School

7401 NW Barry Road, Kansas City, MO 64153

816.359.4350

Dr. Melissa Hensley, Principal

Mrs. Sasha Kalis, Assistant Principal

August 3, 2018

Dear Renner Families,

Welcome to the 2018-2019 school year! A feeling of belonging, acceptance and high expectations are a few things you can look forward to at Renner. When you walk in the door, we want you to know our staff is focused on providing your student with a great school experience and education. Our wonderful staff, coupled with our partnership with you, is what makes a successful learning environment for our students.

### **New Items For the 18-19 School Year**

*(You will find important new information on the following topics in this newsletter.)*

- New Security Measures
- Raptor (scanning system to check in and out guests and students)
- Student Badges
- AVID (Achievement via Individual Determination)
- Bus Information

You will find several ways to stay up to date on school activities throughout the year on the Renner home page, Facebook, Twitter and weekly newsletters from your child's teacher. You will also occasionally get an automated message sent to you by the school with important information and reminders. We always want to be accessible to our parents, so please feel free to call or stop by the school with any questions you may have regarding your child's education.

This will be my fifth year as principal at Renner, and each year continues to bring the excitement of a new start. To our returning families and new families, I look forward to seeing you at Back to School Night and supporting your child's educational journey.

Sincerely,

Dr. Melissa Hensley  
Renner Elementary Principal

## Important Dates in August

5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Technology	August 13 <sup>th</sup>	5:00 to 5:30 pm
Back to School Night Open House	August 13 <sup>th</sup>	5:30 pm to 7:00 pm
First Day of School	August 15 <sup>th</sup>	8:35 am First Bell
Grade Level Orientation for Parents	August 23 <sup>rd</sup>	5:30 to 6:30 pm

## Important Information

### Back to School Night

**Back to School Night** will take place on **August 13<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm**. This a time for you and your student to meet the teacher, drop off supplies and receive important information. Food services, PTA and others community partners will be available in the cafeteria. This is an open house style format, so you can come anytime from 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm

### Special 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Technology Information August 13<sup>th</sup> 5:00 pm to 5:30 pm

Fifth Grade Orientation is a session for all 5<sup>th</sup> grade families and students. It will take place in the gym starting at 5:00 pm the evening of our Back to School Night, August 13<sup>th</sup>. This session will provide you with information from the 5<sup>th</sup> grade teachers regarding expectations, insurance, digital citizenship and forms to be completed for the school year.

### Parent Orientation

**Parent Orientation** is August 23<sup>rd</sup> from 5:30 to 6:30 pm. This night is specifically for parents to have time with the teacher, get to know what the expectations are for your child's classroom and learning for the year. The teacher will provide information on the specific grade level standards and how the teacher plans to communicate with you throughout the year.

### New Security Measures

This summer Park Hill has worked to upgrade school security around the district. The first thing you will notice is a camera at the front entrance of the building along with an entry request system. All visitors will use this system to identify themselves and show that they have identification. Visitors will be 'buzzed' in the front door and door to the office. After signing in through our visitor system and gaining approval, visitors will then be let into the main building. **ALL visitors must present their license to enter the building without an escort.**

### Raptor- Scan Your License

All licenses must be rescanned for the 18-19 school year. Park Hill has a new contract with our visitor security system, and a part of that contract will roll over parent or guardian information from one year to the next. This will prevent you from having to scan your license each year **after** this year. We would encourage you to stop by the school at your convenience to re-scan your license to alleviate having to wait in line during school events.

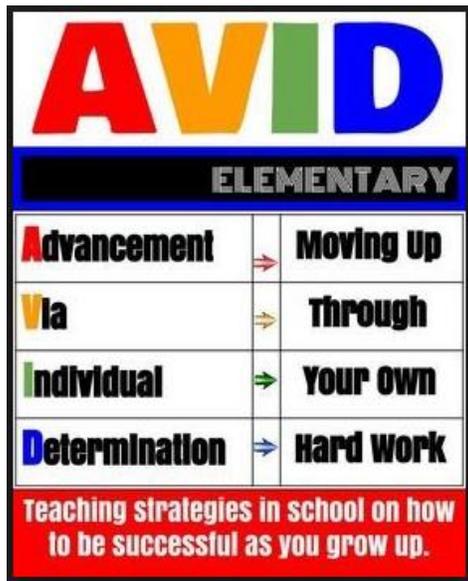
### Student Badges

This year every child will be issued a student badge. Students will use the school issued lanyard for their badge. This badge will be used to scan students on the bus, lunch, checking out books and student printing. The school will replace lost badges one time and after that it is a \$5.00 fee for replacement.

## New: Renner is an AVID Elementary

Three Park Hill elementary schools, English Landing, Prairie Point, and Renner, are piloting AVID during the 2018-2019 school year. AVID focuses on teaching and reinforcing academic behaviors and higher-level thinking. AVID provides educators a structure for teaching students the academic habits they need to be more successful in middle school, high school, and college or career, in an age-appropriate and challenging way. College and careers are no longer foreign concepts, and teachers provide the academic foundation students need to be on a path for college and career success. AVID Elementary closes the opportunity gap before it begins.

The strong college-bound culture will be visible to encourage elementary students to begin thinking about their future while embedding these AVID skills of Writing, Inquiry, Collaboration, Organization, and Reading into grade level curriculum. Throughout this first school year of AVID, families will see K-5 classrooms adopt age-appropriate Organization systems to develop greater independence for ALL students including the use of daily visual schedules, student academic binders, and grade level planners.



Advancement via Individual  
Determination

### Early Release Dates- Mark Your Calendar!

All elementary schools will have an early release once a month for our teachers to receive professional development focused on increasing student success. **On the following days school will be released at 1:30 pm.**

October 4  
February 7

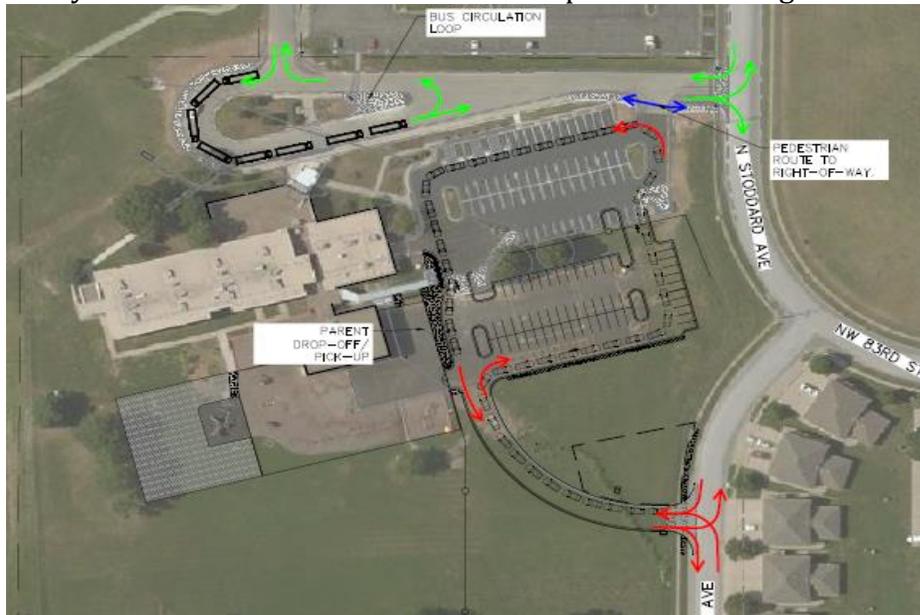
November 8  
March 7

December 13  
April 11

January 10  
May 9

## Arrival and Dismissal Traffic Flow

Car riders will enter from Stoddard, circle around the parking lot, drop their students off at the awning and exit out to Stoddard. This will alleviate the backup of traffic to Barry and safety traffic concerns. Please see the map below showing the traffic circulation loop.



Green Arrows  
Indicate Bus

Red Arrows  
Indicate Car

Blue Arrow  
Indicates Blocked  
Off Area

## Daily School Schedule

Breakfast	8:20 am
First Bell	8:35 am
School Starts	8:40 am
Day Ends	3:30 pm

## Arrival and Dismissal Procedures

### Arrival

- As soon as buses arrive to the building in the morning, students are released to enter the building in order to eat breakfast and/or be under teacher supervision.
- Staff will begin assisting students in the car rider line at 8:20am.
- **PLEASE DO NOT SEND YOUR STUDENT INTO THE BUILDING PRIOR TO 8:20AM AS THERE IS NO SUPERVISION PRIOR TO 8:20AM.**

### Dismissal

- End of the day announcements begin at 3:22 pm.
- Bus Riders, Adventure Club and Car Riders are dismissed at approximately 3:24 pm.
- **Please remember, the first several days of school dismissal takes longer, because students are just learning their buses, and we double check all bus rosters and car placards for car riders.**

## **Transportation**

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All Renner students are provided bus transportation at no cost. **This year, families will receive a communication from Nicole Kirby, Park Hill's Director of Communication Services, detailing how to access your child's bus transportation information.** Please check your contact information in the parent portal (Infinite Campus), to ensure your contact information is up to date. ***If you have questions or concerns regarding bus issues, please contact First Student at 816.741.4023.*** On the afternoon of the first day of school, each student is issued a colored wrist band with the bus number for the students to wear on the right wrist. Wristbands will be applied in the classroom. This is an important safety feature to ensure that students get on the correct bus at the end of the school day. **Students are encouraged to keep their wrist band and wear it each day of school for the first week.**

### **Car Riders**

Everyday car riders will be dismissed to the east parking lot where staff members help children into their cars. All parent will be given a placard at Back to School Night. The placard **MUST** be displayed in the front window of the vehicle so staff can identify the parent or guardian. Parents without a placard will have to check their child out in the office.

### **Need to change your child's transportation?**

If your student is going to have different transportation, **a note or phone call from the parent must accompany the request.** Bus changes will only be issued for changes in daycare or for the safety of the student. If an alternative person is checking out your student, the person must have their ID scanned.

## **Residency Verification**

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All Park Hill families must provide residency verification every year. You will need to provide a copy of your lease or mortgage statement and one current utility bill. This information must be completed for your student to start school. Please contact our office if you have not provided this information.

## **Volunteers**

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All volunteers in the Park Hill School District who will be alone with students must complete a background screening. You may download a screening packet at [www.parkhill.k12.mo.us](http://www.parkhill.k12.mo.us) or ask for one at the school office.

## **Emergency Procedures**

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Renner has a building crisis team that reviews emergency procedures on a regular basis and modifies emergency plans based on feedback from local emergency agencies and community feedback. This school year we will conduct fire drills, tornado drills, intruder drills, an earthquake drill, bus safety/evacuation drills, and a secondary rally point evacuation. Our staff goes through professional development sessions with local law enforcement to learn how to handle crisis situations. Staff will be discussing emergency procedures of all drills in the classroom with students. We want you to know that each teacher will approach their class discussions with care and consideration of the students.

Additional safety measures at Renner include security monitoring systems on the interior of the building and exterior of the building. These cameras are monitored during school hours by our District Security Department. Renner also has an electronic entry system.

## **Attendance**

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Attendance is an important factor in academic success. Please help us in ensuring your child is at school on time every day. Please schedule doctor, dentist and other appointments after school hours or non-attendance days, so your child will not miss out on valuable instruction.

### **Attendance Procedures**

- Call the office prior to 9 am to report your student as absent at 816-359-4350.
- In the event that a parent/guardian does not call the school to report an absence, we will call the contact number given to verify the absence.
- Letters will be sent home for students who have missed 10, 15 and 20 days of school. Tardy letters will also be sent for students who show a regular pattern of arriving to school late.

Please note, to ensure the safety of our students it is important for us to know when your child will be absent. If a student has excessive absences, you will receive a letter from the office.

## **Student Immunizations**

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Park Hill Policy JHCB states that the parents or guardians of each student entering the school district shall furnish satisfactory proof that the student has been adequately immunized or that the immunization process has begun. **Failure to comply with this legal requirement will result in the delayed enrollment of your student until proof of compliance has been presented to the district.** If you have questions about whether or not your student's immunizations are up to date, please contact your family physician or the Platte County Health Department. In addition, questions about whether or not the appropriate proof is on file for your student can be directed to Renner's Health Room Nurse, Janel Brown.

## **Student Medications**

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Renner provides a Health room should your child become ill or injured at school. Our Health Room is staffed by Janel Brown, a registered nurse. At times your child may need to take medications at school. All non-prescription, over the counter medications must be sent in the original container with a written request by the parent or physician. If, for any reason your child is on medication, before it can be administered, the medication **MUST** be in a prescription labeled bottle accompanied by a doctor's note. The medication is locked in the Health Room. **The Medication Authorization Form MUST be completed and signed by the parent or guardian for all medications given at school.** It is recommended that medication NOT be sent to school with students. Parents should bring the medication to the Health room to discuss with Nurse Brown.

## **Student Image and Contact Information Opt-Out**

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Throughout the school year, the district or school might take pictures or videos of special events or programs to be covered by the newspaper or television stations including Park Hill TV—Channel 18. Images and pictures may also be posted on the Park Hill or Renner web or Facebook pages. If you **do not** want your child's image or information used for these purposes, please request and fill out an "opt out" form with the school office. In addition, Renner's PTA publishes a school directory. If you **do not** want your child's or family's contact information included in the student directory, fill out this form to opt-out of the publication. If you have any questions, please contact the school office.

## **Delivering Items to Students**

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If your child forgets an item from home, please bring the item to the office and the item will be delivered to your student or the student will be called to the office to pick it up. Parents/Guardians

will not be allowed to deliver items to the classroom to avoid classroom disruptions. Birthday treats should be brought by the student in the morning to the office. Parents/Guardians will not be allowed to deliver birthday treats to the classroom.

Please **DO NOT** send flowers or balloons to students on special occasions such as Birthdays, Valentine's Day, etc. Flowers will be kept in the office until the end of the day and then students will pick these up. Balloons should also not be brought to school for Birthday's, etc. as we have students that have latex allergies and these items are not permitted on the bus for safety reasons.

## **Classroom Treats**

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To protect the health and safety of our students, students may bring pre-packaged treats to school to share with classmates in recognition of birthdays and other celebrations. **Homemade treats will not be distributed to students.** Due to allergies and other food intolerances, please consult with your classroom teacher or nurse before the pre-packaged treats are brought to school.

## **Allergies**

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**We have students in our building with severe allergies.** Allergic reactions can be very dangerous to the health of a child. Those reactions can be from ingestion, contact or air born. Teachers will provide you with information about allergies in your child's classroom. Please be extra careful when sending food items to your child's classroom that it meets the requirement as described by the classroom teacher.

## **Student T-Shirts**

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Renner Elementary and the Renner PTA will be providing a T-shirt for every student this year. We will ask students to wear these shirts on assembly days, field trips and other activities throughout the year.

## **Breakfast and Lunch**

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Breakfast and lunch are served daily. Breakfast starts at 8:20 am. Please refer to the monthly menu for specific meal selections. August menus will be available in classrooms at Back to School Night. Menus are also available on the Park Hill School District website: [www.parkhill.k12.mo.us](http://www.parkhill.k12.mo.us).

Park Hill offers automated prepayments to a child's meal account via telephone or internet. Money can be applied to a child's food services account so children will not need to carry cash to school. If you do not have your child's meal pay number, please call 816-359-4090. Adults using this system may also view a child's purchases, account activity and set up e-mail notifications for low account balances. Please note: A \$2 service fee is charged per transaction regardless of the amount being added to an account. However, money can be applied to multiple student accounts for a single transaction fee. Alternately, payment envelopes are available in the cafeteria.

An application for free/reduced meal pricing is available in the school office. We encourage everyone who qualifies to complete an application.

Student Breakfast	\$1.25
Student Lunch	\$2.40
Milk	\$.50
Juice	\$.40
Adult Breakfast	\$2.00
Adult Lunch	\$3.50

## **Join PTA!**

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PTA is a major contributor to student field trips and cultural arts activities. PTA is a great opportunity for families to get to know more about our school and provide support to students. Be sure to stop by our table at Back to School Night. Below is Renner PTA information.

[RennerElementaryPTA.weebly.com](http://RennerElementaryPTA.weebly.com)  
[beepbeeppta@gmail.com](mailto:beepbeeppta@gmail.com)

## **Renner Elementary Focus**

### **Vision**

*Developing leaders, innovators and creators for a successful future.*

### **Mission**

*Through high expectations and a caring and respectful environment, Renner is committed to developing student leaders to reach their full potential.*

### **PRIDE Pledge**

*I pledge to be Positive,  
Respectful, In-Control, and  
Determined Every Day.  
I will show my Renner PRIDE!*

### **School Colors**

*Red and Blue*

### **School Mascot**

*Roadrunner*

### **RENNER PRIDE**

You will hear 'Renner PRIDE' throughout the year. PRIDE stands for Positive, Respectful, In-control, Determined and Every day. We use Renner PRIDE to define our behavior expectations and encourage students to do their best every day.

### **Curriculum**

*You can find each grade's curriculum online by going to the following-*

- [www.parkhill.k12.mo.us, Teaching and Learning](http://www.parkhill.k12.mo.us/Teaching%20and%20Learning)
- *Elementary Curriculum*
- *Select the grade and content area*

**Who is my teacher?**  
*A colored sheet with teacher placement information is included  
in this email.*

**New Renner Staff**

<b>Lauren Herbert</b>	<b>Kindergarten</b>
<b>Maddie Dobbie</b>	<b>Kindergarten</b>
<b>Marena Coonrod</b>	<b>Special Education</b>
<b>Amanda Hartegan</b>	<b>Counselor</b>
<b>Tara Davis</b>	<b>Social Worker</b>
<b>Janel Brown</b>	<b>Nurse</b>
<b>Tiffany Thompson</b>	<b>Teacher Assistant Special Education</b>
<b>Katie Bonkowski</b>	<b>Teacher Assistant Special Education</b>
<b>Heather Kirchmeyer</b>	<b>Teacher Assistant Special Education</b>
<b>Michelle Smith</b>	<b>Teacher Assistant Special Education</b>
<b>Stevie Padgett</b>	<b>Teacher Assistant Special Education</b>
<b>Lauren Davis</b>	<b>Teacher Assistant Special Education</b>
<b>Amy Aydogan</b>	<b>Recess Supervisor</b>
<b>Carolyn Steenrod</b>	<b>Recess Supervisor</b>

**Need More Information or Have Questions?**



**816-359-4350**  
"Like" Us on Facebook  
*Renner Elementary*  
"Follow" Us on Twitter  
*parkhillrenner*



<http://www.parkhill.k12.mo.us/RennerElementary/Pages/RennerElementary.aspx>

**Debbie Rich**, Executive Administrative Assistant to the Principal  
**Melissa Wiehe**, Administrative Assistant for Attendance

Office Hours  
8:00 am to 4:00 am

Visit the Park Hill School District website to sign up for **First Hand News** and **Text Alerts**. Text Alerts notify the community of school closings, emergency situations, or early dismissals. Sign up today at [www.parkhill.k12.mo.us](http://www.parkhill.k12.mo.us).