

TO: Parents & Guardians

DATE: January 31, 2021

RE: Pertinent Reminders & Updates-Feb. 1-5

Dear Parents & Guardians,

Thank you so much for your contribution to help both students and teachers through a challenging week. Even though they did not complain, last week our teachers had to organize and execute two major activities--the MAP testing and Parent Teacher Conferences. We praise our God who never leaves us nor forsakes us and answers our prayers even before we call. It was a joy to hear the positive reports from teachers and students, alike, at the end of the week. The general consensus was that both activities went well, and it was a good week! To God be the glory!

Parent-Teacher Conference: Once again, thank you for your support and for taking the time to connect with your children's teacher/s at the P-T Conference. I hope for each of you the dialogue was beneficial. This may be the last formal P-T Conference, but I encourage that you are intentional to keep the communication with teachers about your child/ren's progress, ongoing.

The following are a few other items for your attention this week and the near future:

Picture Retake Day - Monday, February 1, 2021: Just another reminder that Monday, February 1 is picture retake day at RMES. If you purchased a picture packet and would like a retake, please bring the packet tomorrow morning. All students who started school after October 29, or were absent on that day, will be photographed for the yearbook. Photos will be taken from 8:30 - 10:00 a.m.

COVID-19 Update: Just to confirm that RMES we continue to do our best to maintaining COVID-19 mitigation protocols at school. We appreciate your support and help to encourage similar health and safety practices at home, including the daily Jupiter Health Questionnaire. It is evident by the low numbers affected by the virus at our school that our plan for the health and safety is working. Thank you for your partnership in the holistic education of the children that God has entrusted in our care.

Winter Clothes Reminder: This is reminder is primarily for our Jr. High students. I would like to take this opportunity to request your help, parents, to ensure your Jr. High student comes to school dressed appropriately and have all that he/she needs for warmth and comfort during this winter season. Please be aware that whereas, the MI Board of Education do not have a policy mandating daily recess, for creating effective learning environments, daily recess or physical activity breaks is strongly recommended for elementary and middle schools. At RMES we try follow those guidelines, including those recommended not to take the students out when weather and wind chill is below the recommended temperature. Let me take this opportunity to thank the parents of the lower school students (Grades K-6) for your diligence in making sure your children come to school dressed appropriately and bring all that they need, every day, to keep warm and well during the winter season. Be assured that the health and safety of all students is our top priority, but we must work together to safeguard their well-being, one child at a time.

Spring Break and COVID-19 Travel: Please be aware that as of now, RMES COVID-19 travel policy remains in effect for **Spring Break, March 22-26, 2021**. We will keep you informed as we receive information from Andrews University (AU) and Berrien County Health Department (BCHD). Please do not hesitate to contact the office at 269-471-3220 if you have questions.

Attendance: Please remember to call the office (269-471-3220) or email Cyndi at caballec@andrews.edu if your student is going to be **absent or tardy** (whether they are remote or in-person). In-person students have the option to attend online (SRL) classes if they cannot make it to school due to **sickness** or other **emergency situations**. However, you must notify the office and their teacher to let us know that your student will attend online that day.

