Dear Parents & Guardians,

Trusting you had a pleasant and productive long weekend! On behalf of the teachers of K-Grade 5, I would like to thank you for coming out last Thursday to Parent-night to begin collaboration with your homeroom teachers to ensure a successful school year your student/s. The following are pertinent reminders and updates for this week, as well as this first quarter. Please take a moment to read and mark your calendar.

**Lunch & Student ID Cards:** We have noticed that some of the students forget their ID cards at home. If your child/ren will be eating school lunch, please check to make sure they have their ID cards and are on a meal plan. To set up a meal plan parents need to submit an application for reduced or free meals and receive the decision letter. Please contact Nereida Martinez at Dining Services Nereida.Martinez@cafebonappetit.com if you have questions.

**RMES Family Vesper Concert & Prayer Walk:** You are cordially invited to RMES Vesper Concert and Prayer Walk on this Friday, September 9, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. Please bring your family and join our school families in worship and prayer together. We will be outdoors on the lawn, so please bring your lawn chairs, blankets, insect repellent, etc. for a comfortable experience. I would also like to invite you to be a participant in the concert by submitting your musical, scripture, poetry item to Mrs. Horton, by Wednesday, 9/7/22. Once again, we are requesting parents who are pastors and/or professors of our school to lead one of the groups on the Prayer Walk at the door of each for our 13 classrooms (K-8, Art, Music, Gym, Extend Ed) and the main office.

**Vision & Hearing Screening:** Grades K, 1, 3, 5, and 7 will have their vision and/or hearing screened on Thursday, September 8. Please respond when you receive the consent form and let us know if your wishes for your child. If you have questions or concerns, please contact Cyndi at 269.471-3225.

**MAP Testing:** RMES start of school MAP Growth Testing is scheduled for September 12-23. As usual, all grades (K-8) will participate in this online assessment. K-2 will be tested in Reading and Math, while the other grades (3-8) will also be tested in science. To help your child to focus and perform at his and her best, please have them sleep and eat well during the testing period.

**AU Alumni Homecoming Parade**—Once again we will continue the RMES tradition of participating in the Andrews University Alumni Weekend activities. This is an opportunity for faculty, staff, students, parents and supporters to demonstrate their RMES school spirit. Friday, September 23 is the AU Homecoming Parade and as customary, we would like all students to have their RMES shirt to wear for this occasion. We also plan to wear School Shirts for all special class or school events.
**Order Your School T-Shirt Today:** Please note that we are taking orders now for RMES T-shirts (short and/or long sleeves) and hoodies. Kindly complete the Order Form that was sent via Jupiter or pick one up in the office and return it by September 8 with your payment. Thank you for your school-spirit and positive response. If you have questions, please contact the school office.

**Parents - Home & School Needs You!**

**Bike-a-Thon / Walk-a-Thon** -- Home & School will be hosting a Bike-a-Thon / Walk-a-Thon on Sunday, October 23, from 9:00 a.m. to noon at the RMES Track. We invite all RMES families to attend this fun event. We are encouraging each RMES student to aim to raise at least $100 in sponsors. Sponsors can be friends, family, church members, etc. The grade that raises the most will receive a pizza party from Home & School. More detailed information forthcoming this week.

**RMES Multicultural Celebration:** Mark your calendar and save the date, **Sunday, November 13** for our Multicultural Celebration event. Many of you have asked if/when we will resume this spectacular, favorite event of the year. We are excited and feel blessed that we can do it again this year. As usual, we cannot pull this off without your help. We need individuals to take the lead in organizing the cultures that we would like to showcase. The following are some of the cultures: Asian (e.g., Korean, Filipino, Indian, etc.), African, USA & Canada, Latin America & Mexico, European (French, Polish), Caribbean. Our aim this first, post-Covid year, is to keep things simple and safe. It is our prayer that everyone will buy-in and help to make this a beautiful day that will increase our knowledge and appreciation each other and the rich diversity that we bring to RMES. Please respond to the invitation below from the Home & School leader.

- **Multi-Cultural Fair Organizing Committee** – If you are willing to serve on the organizing committee for the multi-cultural fair, please email [RMESHomeAndSchool@gmail.com](mailto:RMESHomeAndSchool@gmail.com) or contact Kimberly Westfall at 410-948-9424.

**Visitors & Volunteers Protocol:** This a reminder of the safety protocol at RMES. First, regarding Visitors--We require that all visitors stop at the office to sign-in and receive a Visitor Badge before going to any other part of the building. Next, regarding Volunteers (including tutors, interns, and substitutes, etc.). These individuals are required to have the appropriate background check before starting service. They must take the [Sterling Volunteers](http://www.sterlingvolunteers.org) online Child Protection Training if they anyone who will be working with or interacting with the students for an extended time. Please contact office personnel or the teacher that you will be working with for detailed guidelines about this and other safety requirements at RMES. We will appreciate the cooperation of all visitors and volunteers to help maintain a safe and secure school.

**Partnersing for Eternity (PFE):** RMES is happy to offer this unique service and tuition-scholarship opportunity to our students, for the eighth year. The PFE program encourages young people to build relationships with older adults (age 65 and up) and helps them develop strong work ethic. This year we have space for 35 students to participate. Currently there are still spots available. Please contact Mrs. Giddings or me if you would like your child to participate. Keep in mind that faithful participants can help reduce his/her tuition cost by over $1,000.

**Tuition Payment:** This a reminder that tuition payments are due on the 25th of each month. Payments can be made in person at the front office or online at Touch Net.
RMES Grow Group: We invite you to join our Grow Group to pray for RMES. This Thursday, September 8, at 8:15-8:45AM will be our first meeting for the 2022-2023 school year. We will meet in the Extend Ed classroom. Looking forward to seeing you there.

Thank you for your prayers and support. May the Lord keep you safe and bless you real good this week.

School Text: He has shown you Oh man what is good and what does the Lord require of you, to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God. Micah 6:8

Join us in “Walking with Jesus” this 2022-2023 School Year!

In His service,

Dr. Savory