

# Parent Crew Foundation

3960 Trail Boss Lane  
Castle Rock, CO 80104

March 4, 2021

Dear Renaissance Community,

Historically, this first weekend in March is when the Parent Crew Foundation (PCF) hosts our annual adults-only fundraiser. Previously known as Life is Art, and most recently as We Are Crew, Too, these adult events are more than just fundraisers - they are meaningful celebrations that build and sustain our community. We gather to celebrate all of the special experiences that are unique to Renaissance...6th grade graduation rituals, voyages, rock climbing, The Beat, plays, musicals, whole school drumming, showcases, and crew building activities...and to raise funds to sustain them. These unique activities are how we are accustomed to knowing that our children are living the Renaissance mission and vision - an annual reminder of why we chose Crew.

It's important to acknowledge that the loss of these traditions, rituals, and opportunities for connection have left many feeling disconnected. And yet that very disconnectedness - staying physically distanced from one another - is exactly how we have lived Crew this year, and kept one another safe. While we parents have not been able to get into the building and see the ways in which our kids are living Crew during COVID times, we know from the resilience our teachers have shown all year that it IS happening.

In the past, thanks to your generous donations, PCF has been able to step up and "fill in the gaps" of our school's operating budget. Those gaps are larger than ever. Per pupil funding in Douglas County decreased almost 6% from 2019-20 to 2020-21. As we listen to conflicting information about future funding and brace for additional cuts, we again want to make sure PCF can step up and "fill in the gaps" in our school's operating budget.

This year we are raising funds to retain an educational assistant and an Adventure Education Coordinator to aid with the clerical/administrative side of Adventure Education. It is our sincere hope that a meaningful PCF contribution can help to mitigate the loss of these positions, as well as absorb any additional potential cuts that may be looming. We also anticipate that Adventure Education transportation is another reality we'll need to be prepared to help fund in 2021-22. In addition to these significant needs, we've worked with staff to identify a multi-year plan to update both our library and technology resources. And of course there will likely be other needs that we can't yet anticipate!

To that end, we are launching a month long Renew the Crew fundraising campaign. We know that the pandemic has impacted our families in different ways. For those of you in the position to give this spring, we've made it easy and simple. You can write a check made payable to Renaissance Educational Alliance (Parent Crew Foundation's legal name) and send it in with your student, or click [here](#) to donate via PayPal. Any and every contribution is meaningful, regardless of the amount; thank you for your donation.

Unfortunately, it seems that the remainder of the 2020-21 school year will look much the same. It's our sincere hope that by the fall of 2021, it will be possible to gather and celebrate. Accordingly, we are excited to share that our annual adults-only fundraiser will shift from the spring to the fall, beginning in the fall of the 2021-22 school year. More details to come, but know that our fundraising crew is already hard at work on what will surely be a welcome return to celebrating our school community in-person.

Yours in crew,  
The Parent Crew Foundation

