



Renaissance Academy – Edison Charter School

40 Pine Crest Street

Phoenixville, PA 19460

Phone: 610-983-4080 Fax: 610-983-4096

May 23, 2005

Dear Renaissance Academy Staff,

Some of us call our mission in life a “goal.” Some may say it is “setting your sights on the road ahead.” However you may define it, when organization adopts its mission and vision, it is a statement that clearly establishes who we are at present and what we strive to be in the future. Conversely, who we strive to be also defines who we are now.

The Board of Directors and Edison set forth on a mission well over 5 years ago, and we are proud to have seen our dreams become a reality. But our mission is not yet complete, and we cannot rest on our present success. As we move into the next phase of our school’s overall plan, it is critical that every decision we make today is in keeping with what we hope to accomplish for Renaissance Academy tomorrow.

To that end, this past April 28th and 29th, teachers, administrators, board members and senior representatives from Edison Schools held an off-site conference where, in addition to addressing issues related to a growing high school, we crafted a **vision statement** for the entire school:

The *Renaissance Student* arrives:

- Accountable for their own behavior and academic performance.
- Motivated, with high expectations for themselves.
- With respect for self, others and the environment.

The *Renaissance Student* experiences:

- A world-class, academically focused liberal arts education.
- An environment where young people work independently and collaboratively as they learn to set and achieve goals.
- The values of Wisdom, Justice, Courage, Compassion, Hope, Respect, Responsibility, and Integrity.

The *Renaissance Graduate* ventures forth:

- With the social and academic knowledge to thrive in a global community.
- As a life-long learner.

We hope you agree that this is a bold and inspiring vision!

A vision needs dedication. It also needs a leader (and a cheerleader!) who, by daily example of drive and energy, keeps all of us focused on the vision while we go about our duties as parents, students, faculty, and administration. It requires a leader who can commit to our vision with unwavering resolve, and the courage and creativity to make it happen.

With our vision of leadership at the top of the agenda, we must inform you that due to philosophical and professional differences with the Board, Jen MacFarland has decided to resign her position as Principal, and the Board has accepted her resignation. We will release Jen from her obligations as Principal by the end of the year. We expect that our new leader will be familiar with our school and on-board when classes commence in August. The person we seek will be a leader who has a passion for kids, excellent organizational and administrative skills, and the ability to lead our school to even greater heights. Now that Renaissance is an established presence in our region, it is time to refine the programs and the school environment so that we can fulfill our mission of providing a world class liberal arts college preparatory education.

These are exciting times for our school. Our first senior class graduates next month with a college acceptance rate in excess of 90 percent. Best news is that they are being accepted at their "first choice" colleges as well. Our children are learning and progressing at rates well beyond the requirements of No Child Left Behind. Our high school is experiencing double-digit enrollment growth. The Renaissance family of parents, faculty and students- over 1,200 strong- can take great pride in the work and accomplishments of helping our children grow into Renaissance men and women.

We look forward to meeting with you in the upcoming weeks in helping to define our new leader.

Respectfully Submitted,

Renaissance Academy Board of Directors