

RENAISSANCE SOLUTIONS

To meet the goals of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), schools are accountable for improvement based on several school quality and student success indicators.

The Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education has identified specific state goals for improvement and Jostens Renaissance has resources and strategies that can help reach these goals.

STATE GOAL	STRATEGIES INCLUDE
<p>Improve Academic Achievement: Long term goal for 81% proficiency in English language arts and math by 2022, while also reducing the proficiency gap for each subgroup by 1/3</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Renaissance Recognition Card Program · Renaissance Rallies · Renaissance Climate and Culture Idea #102: Test Care Packages
<p>Raise Graduation Rate: Evaluated by 4-year cohort with goal of 91% of students graduating by 2020</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Commitment to Graduate - Banners, activities and visual reminders · The Harbor Season 2, Episode 23: Finishing Strong · Commitment to Graduate Idea #105: Sophomores' Keys to Success
<p>Increase Attendance: Identifies chronic absenteeism as a School Quality and Student Success Indicator</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Renaissance Recognition Card Program · Renaissance Climate and Culture Idea #104: Attendance Bucks · On-the-Spot Awards
<p>School Climate and Engagement: Focus on improving subgroup performance, so full staff and student engagement is critical</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · The Pulse – Student Recognition Survey · Renaissance Rallies · Positivity Resources
<p>Ensure 9th Grade On Track: Goal for increased proficiency in core academic courses with a focus in sciences and closing the achievement gap for high-need students</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Renaissance Recognition Card Program · Commitment to Graduate - Banners, activities and visual reminders · The Harbor Season 2, Episode 4: Time Management
<p>Ensure College & Career Ready: Goal is to provide broad challenging course work for high school students and programs to prepare all students for postsecondary and career</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · The Harbor Season 2, Episode 24: Overcoming the Odds · Commitment to Graduate - Idea #189: Senior Acceptance Wall · “Yes, You Really Do Need This Class” Poster

FOR MORE DETAILS AND IDEAS, VISIT JOSTENSRENAISSANCE.COM/ESSA-MA



RENAISSANCE SOLUTION SPOTLIGHT RENAISSANCE CARDS

“Since starting our card program ten years ago, the number of card holders has risen from approximately 40% to a little over 70%. Implementing the 5 R’s of Renaissance into our school has improved our school climate and culture by allowing all students and staff the opportunity to feel special and appreciated.”

-Andrea Henry, Teacher, LaSalle Peru High School, LaSalle, IL

“Platinum is our top card level, and we went from 20 in 2015 to 40 in 2016 to 52 in 2017! Bronze is the lowest level, and we went from 54 in 2016 to 67 in 2017!”

-Tori Boyle, Bureau Valley High School, Manlius, IL

Typically, schools offer a lot of recognition and appreciation for the top 25% of students and a lot of support for the bottom 25%, but the ones in the middle often get taken for granted or left to fend for themselves. Renaissance cards are a great way to recognize the middle 50% as well as motivate them to reach higher. There are a lot of ways to do it, but there are some common elements in most programs:

- Levels of membership, based on achievable academic and/or behavior goals
- A card or sticker identifying each student’s membership level
- No-cost or low-cost rewards, or perks, depending on membership level
- Results that show increased numbers of students qualifying, and decreased discipline, tardy and absence rates

Be sure to include students in setting the goals and benefits. Most of the student body needs to value the levels of membership, so that it becomes “cool” to participate and to feel proud about reaching the next level. It won’t happen overnight, but take it from schools that have seen the results: once you get the card system established, students will go the extra mile to qualify for the next level, and will support their friends in doing so as well.

To learn more about getting started with a Renaissance Card program, contact your Jostens representative.

For more ideas, visit www.JostensRenaissance.com/idea-exchange.