

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 Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction 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: Cut achievement gap in half for each subgroup by 2024, meaning higher increases for some subgroups</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: Cut four-year graduation gap in half for each subgroup by 2024, meaning higher increases for some subgroups</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: Identified chronic absenteeism as the 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>Improve School Conditions: Assist districts with anti-bullying policies and education/awareness programs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · The Harbor Season 3, Episode 7: Bullying · Pause Before You Post Resources · "How to Support Your Teen in a Digital World" Brochure



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.