



P.O. Box 339
Shelburne, Vermont 05482
802-985-2153

Dear Parents,

We are delighted that you have requested enrollment materials for The Renaissance School. Enclosed you will find our Philosophical Overview, Curriculum Overview, Application for Admission and Tuition Schedule.

Our admissions policy recognizes the small, intimate nature of our school community. Our goal is to provide a classroom environment that maintains a heartfelt exchange between students and teachers while achieving academic excellence in all areas of the curriculum, beginning in Kindergarten and going through Grade Eight.

Children are accepted on a first come first serve basis, so it is important to be timely in returning your application. Many families in our schools receive some tuition assistance. If you wish to apply for tuition assistance, please call the office and we will mail the appropriate forms. An Enrollment Agreement will be mailed once your enrollment can be confirmed.

We also offer preschool programs in Shelburne, Williston and Burlington. Please call 985-2153 for more information on these programs. Thank you for your interest in The Renaissance School. Please call me if you have additional questions or wish to schedule a tour of the school.

Sincerely,

Kelly Libby
Director of Enrollment

Applications are accepted on a first come first serve basis
We do not deny enrollment to any individual based on race, religion, ethnicity or disability

“As we open our hearts to children we embrace them with love, acceptance and without judgment. With every season there is a right time to do and to learn. We help in finding the right season for growth, for optimal learning and enrichment.”

~Louise Piche~

Philosophical Overview

“Honoring the Spirit of Each Child”

The Renaissance School is an independent, coeducational, elementary day school providing a Kindergarten through Sixth Grade program at Shelburne Farms and Shelburne Commons, both located in Shelburne, Vermont. The Renaissance School offers a focus in outcome-based education with an emphasis on personalized programs in mathematics and language arts. The Renaissance School is committed to “Honoring the Spirit of Each Child” both in the classroom and as a part of the overall school community. The school’s mission also fosters intellectual, social, moral, physical, emotional and spiritual growth. The Renaissance School provides outstanding instruction in fundamental skills and helps children build a body of knowledge in all areas of the curriculum.

The school encourages creative self-expression, a life-long love of learning and independent thinking skills. Integrated throughout the curriculum is a commitment to earth stewardship and environmental education. The school has developed a “Peace Begins with Me” program that promotes the development of peaceful and respectful solutions to interpersonal and community relationships. The Renaissance School embraces a love and appreciation for the creative and physical arts as well as providing instruction in foreign language, educational technology and life skills. The Renaissance School maintains a commitment to ethnic, racial, socioeconomic and spiritual diversity. The school prepares children to become world citizens filled with a deep and abiding respect for themselves and all peoples of the earth.

Louise Piche and Diane Rooney
Founders

The Renaissance School at Shelburne Farms

Curriculum Overview

Personalized Academic Excellence

Children learn best when they are both challenged and supported by their teachers, peers and families. At the Renaissance School, we believe that children also learn best when they can do so at their own pace, in ways that work best for them. We call our approach *personalized academic excellence*. Here's what our approach means for your child:

1. *Individualized Learning Plans* – We work closely with each child to identify areas of interest, strength and need. We then create an academic plan that incorporates those factors and allows them the opportunity to learn the way they learn best. Each child's plan is unique, combining what they must learn with what they love while including time and opportunity for in-depth learning and for special projects.
2. *Rich Challenging Curriculum* – At The Renaissance School, we combine a strong focus on basic literacy, mathematics, science and social studies skills with regular instruction in music, theater, art and foreign language (French and Spanish).
3. *Depth and Integration* – We offer our students the chance to take their special interests in each subject area a great distance. They create their own long-term projects and, as a class, they pursue year-long themes. They learn the basics – math, science, literacy – in an integrated way, not only in specialty classes but also in units that enable them to see how the subject areas interrelate.
4. *Small Class Size* – Our classes have approximately 14 children with one classroom teacher. Our small class size makes our personalized approach possible and gives children the opportunity to develop close relationships with their teachers and peers. Another benefit of the small class size, as one of our teachers commented, is that “so much gets done in one day”.
5. *Multi-faceted Learning* – We take advantage of our school setting to offer children the chance for hands-on learning. We combine outdoor experiences, art, music, field trips, cooking projects, classroom work and discussion to ensure that students learn with all their senses engaged.
6. *Freedom to Teach* – When asked what they liked best about teaching at the Renaissance School our teachers noted the freedom to teach and create. Our teachers are able to follow their own skills and talents and the interests of the children to provide a creative, enriching academic experience.
7. *Highest Common Denominator* – We believe that children are capable of far more than is often imagined. We give our students the support and the resources they need to achieve to the maximum of their potential, beyond the baseline of a minimum standard. We help all students to reach toward their highest potential.

Our Warm Spirited Community

The Renaissance School is a truly unique school community that can be best appreciated once it is experienced. Our community is warm, engaging and enthusiastic. When you spend some time at The Renaissance School, here is what you will see:

1. *Family-School Relationship* – Our small size and warm community mean that we get to know not only our students but also their parents, siblings and others who help care for them. This relationship helps children feel welcome and safe. Families partner with the school to support learning experiences both at school and at home.
2. *Living and Teaching Our Values* – Our school was founded upon and continues to share values of peace, kindness and respect – for others and for the environment. We integrate these values into our classroom work and through special classroom discussions and events. We encourage students to participate in community service both on Shelburne Farms and in the local and world community.
3. *Friendship Across Age Levels* – Our small size and personalized approach to learning mean that children get to know students from other classrooms and grade levels. Students offer both friendship and mentoring to one another and have the rare opportunity to build relationships with older and younger children alike.
4. *Life on the Farm* – We make full use of the wonderful Shelburne Farms setting to create a memorable school experience. Renaissance students are part of the Shelburne Farms community, participating in farm chores and learning from and with the animals and natural beauty that surrounds them. Our playground is located in the surrounding fields and trees that the children affectionately refer to as the “enchanted forest”. Our legacy is that our students leave our school with a sense of place in the natural environment and an understanding of how agriculture and forestry contribute to our common life together.
5. *Staff Camaraderie* – Our teachers often mention how much they appreciate and value their close working relationships with one another. They learn from each other, teach each other and share ideas and approaches to learning. “It’s such an open and honest exchange,” commented one teacher. “I look to the future and see us here, working together.”
6. *Rhythm and Tradition* – At The Renaissance School, we value celebration and tradition. We start each day with a circle and end each day with a story. We see holidays, festivals and performances as a special part of the student’s experience and a way to bring the school community together.

RENAISSANCE SCHOOL
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Please attach photograph here.

APPLICATION

Student's Name: _____

Current School: _____

Home Address: _____ Apartment #: _____

Town: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home Telephone: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Parent/Guardian #1

Name: _____

Occupation: _____

Parent/Guardian #2

Name: _____

Occupation: _____

Siblings: Name Age Current School

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Program Desired:

Kindergarten through Grade 6 _____

Kindergarten only _____

Elementary Grade _____

Please circle any days needed for the following

Early Care (7:30-8:20am) M Tu W Th F

After School (3:10-4:00pm) M Tu W Th F

Parent/Guardian #1 Printed Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian #2 Printed Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Office Use Only: Year Applied For _____ Entering Grade: _____

Date Received: _____ Date Deposit Received: _____

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Medical History

Name: _____ **Birthdate:** _____

Physician: _____ **Dentist:** _____

Vision History: (We request an eye exam be completed prior to entering school)

Date of last eye exam: _____ By whom: _____

Glasses? _____ Contact Lenses? _____ Other eye problems? (muscle problem, injury/surgery?) _____

Hearing History: (We request hearing test be completed prior to entering school)

Date of last hearing exam? _____ By Whom? _____

Hearing devises? _____ Eartubes? _____ When inserted? _____

Tubes in place? _____ Other ear problems? (Infection/injury) _____

Other Significant Medical History:

Please circle yes or no. If you answer yes to any of these questions, please describe as needed:

Health problems: Yes No _____

Allergies: Yes No _____

Asthma: Yes No _____

Bronchial/Respiratory Problems: Yes No _____

Chicken Pox: Yes No _____

Diabetes: Yes No _____

Fainting/Blackouts: Yes No _____

Fractures/Sprains: Yes No _____

Heart Condition: Yes No _____

Kidney/Bladder Problems: Yes No _____

Smokers in Household: Yes No _____

Past Hospitalization: Yes No _____

Any Special Classroom needs?: Yes No _____

Birth Weight: _____ Isolate/Incubator? _____

Birth Complications: (Explain) _____

List Medications currently taken: _____

Date of last Physical Exam: _____

Other Illnesses: (Rheumatic Fever, Pneumonia, Scarlet Fever, etc.) _____

Other significant conditions? _____

Has this child experienced any social, emotional or physical problems, which may affect adjustment to school? _____

Is there any significant family history that we should know about? (Diabetes, seizures, heart condition?) _____

Are your child's immunizations up to date? _____

(You will need to supply a copy of your child's immunization records prior to beginning school)

Parent / Guardian

Printed Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

THE RENAISSANCE SCHOOL

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Please respond to the following questions. Feel free to use the reverse side of this form or a separate sheet of paper if additional space is needed. Your answers will assist us in better understanding your child's educational needs at The Renaissance School.

1. Will your child be attending the Renaissance School for the full Kindergarten through Grade 6 program or for Kindergarten only?
2. What are your educational goals for this child? (These may be short or long range, and should include goals for the next academic year.)
3. How do you feel The Renaissance School can assist in meeting these goals?
4. How does your child approach a task or project? Comment briefly on his/her learning style (e.g. self-motivation, creativity, organization, etc.).
5. How does your child spend his/her free time? What are his/her special interests?
6. How does your child respond to adults and other children?
7. Does your child have any special needs (health, behavioral, social, physical, etc.)?
8. Please provide any additional information that would assist us in knowing your child more fully.

The Renaissance School

2010-2011 Enrollment Tuition and Fees

Base Tuition: \$10,700.00

School Calendar: September – June, 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Tuition can be paid in full on or before July 1, 2009, in two equal parts on July 1, 2009 and December 1, 2009, or in ten equal monthly installments beginning July 1, 2009 and ending April 1, 2010. Payments are due on the 1st of the month due. A \$25 late fee will be applied to each monthly payments received after the 10th of the month.

There is a non-refundable \$600.00 deposit due at enrollment.

This deposit is applied to the annual tuition.

Additional Fees:

Annual Enrollment and Supply Fee:	Grades K – 3	\$500.00/year
	Grades 4 – 8	\$750.00/year

Includes textbooks, Flynn Theater, physical education program fees, field trips, etc.

Major class trips (i.e. Montreal's Biodome, Montshire Museum, etc.) may have some additional cost.

Early Care (7:30-8:20 a.m.)	\$8.00/day
Late Care (3:10-4:00 p.m.)	\$8.00/day

Tuition Assistance: Tuition assistance is available for families who qualify. Awards are based on financial need and the availability of scholarship funds. If you are interested in applying for tuition assistance please call the Main Office at 985-2153 or visit our website at www.renaissancevt.com and click on Links under the About Us tab to connect to the Private School Aid Service (PSAS) website. Tuition Assistance applications are accepted after February 1, 2010.