Dear RMSEL Students and Parent Community,

At this point of the school year, we are in the heart of our annual fall crew trip season. I want to extend a special thank you to the parents of each crew. To offer this unique experience to students requires additional volunteers and support from the families of each student. Volunteer service goes beyond the time away from the classroom, but extends to providing meals for chaperones and staff, assisting with gear checkout, shopping for crew food, and any other detail that may arise. We appreciate the overwhelming support of students and crew leaders as they travel each year. We could not offer our unique and world-class program without your help. If you have never attended a crew trip, it is an amazing experience. One parent who was out last week with 2nd/3rd grade described her experience as such: "I was extremely fortunate to be a chaperone on Jenny’s crew trip to Florissant. After being at RMSEL for over 6 yrs., I finally took the leap and decided to get over my silly fear of crew trips, and I will tell you it was one of the most amazing journeys I have ever taken. Your children are amazing - happy, fearless, daring, loving, honest, kind, brave, generous, and sooo much more!"

Last Friday was the first day of "Pizza Friday!" Thank you to our parents who organize and host Pizza Friday, providing our students with this opportunity. Pizza Friday was a huge success; we look forward to this on Fridays, as I am sure the students do as well.

Mark your calendars for a few important dates. On Tuesday, September 23, 2014, we will be conducting a lockdown drill at school. This is an announced drill and crew leaders will be with their students during the drill. Prior to the drill, crew leaders are meeting with their crew regarding the importance of the drill as well as answering any questions students may have about practicing. By answering questions and planning for the drill, we will have the opportunity to decrease any anxiety among students. We wanted to notify parents of this, as well, so we also have the opportunity to answer any questions.

Student Led Conferences will begin on Thursday, September 25th at 12:30 p.m. and from 7:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. on Friday, September 26th. This will be the first opportunity for you to see the amazing expedition work and academic progress of your son or daughter. Crew Leaders will be reaching out to families to schedule conferences over the course of the next two weeks.

Finally, we request that all students who are not participating in after-school athletics, enrichments, or YMCA care, are picked-up from campus no later than 3:30 p.m. At 3:30, teachers and staff begin after-school meetings and/or professional development and are unable to provide additional supervision to students. Any student remaining on campus after 3:30 p.m. will be escorted to the Main Office to contact a family member to pick them up.

Sincerely,

Chad