Communication Summary
1. District Accountability Committee – Position Posting
2. K/1 Crew Trips!

Dear RMSEL Parent Community,

Our District Accountability Committee (DAC) is a committed group of passionate volunteers who work in collaboration with the faculty at RMSEL in providing support and resources to fulfill our school mission and vision. Members of DAC provide organization and leadership to community events and fundraising throughout the school year in support of providing supplemental funding and opportunities for students. All fundraising is allocated to supporting students and teachers. In addition to fundraising, DAC members also work closely with crew parents and teachers to support fieldwork opportunities to enhance learning expeditions in the classroom. Finally, DAC works to provide recommendations and guidance to our BOCES board on behalf of the community. RMSEL would not be an outstanding school and community for students without this dedicated team of parents and staff. DAC currently has open positions which are listed below. If you have any questions regarding DAC or the open positions, you can reference the webpage at (http://www.rmsel.org/Governance/District-Accountability-Committee/index.html) or contact the team at dac@rmsel.org.

DAC Openings

The District Accountability Committee (DAC) is soliciting written responses of interest for three open positions. Candidates must submit a letter that outlines their interest in the post, relevant skills, and assurance of availability to attend monthly meetings. Responses must be sent to DAC (dac@rmsel.org) and Chad (cburns@rmsel.org) no later than December 6th at 11:59 p.m. (See the DAC blog for scheduled meetings and times for the current school year.)

Open Positions for Parents

Fieldwork Coordinator: The selected candidate will work with RMSEL crew leaders, specialists, and staff to identify fieldwork opportunities that align with academic and expedition topics. These tasks may include, but are not limited to, meeting with crew leaders, researching fieldwork opportunities, contacting and scheduling fieldwork locations on behalf of crew leaders, and coordinating related communication with crew parents. The accepted candidate will have the support of DAC members in further defining, expanding, and implementing this new role.

Sponsorships and Development Coordinator: The selected candidate will communicate with parents and corporate communities to encourage monetary and in-kind donations to RMSEL. The chosen candidate will promote the RMSEL Annual Fund and Colorado Gives Day initiatives, connect parents with corporate matching fund programs, and publicize and encourage participation in corporate programs (eg., Box Tops for Education, grocery cards, Amazon Smile). Additionally, the selected candidate will identify corporate sponsorship opportunities, work on building a
sponsorship base, pursue corporate donations and grants, and contribute to grant writing initiatives. Goals: raise $50,000 through sponsorships; raise $50,000 through Colorado Gives Day; increase the number of grant prospects identified and pursued by DAC and the school. The selected candidate will have the support of DAC members in building a team of volunteers to assist in these efforts.

As DAC uses a service-led-leadership governing model, submitted letters of interest should describe your family's relationship to RMSEL. Include the year your family joined the RMSEL community. For all parent positions, candidates must have had a student at RMSEL for at least one school year before application to DAC. Also, share your family's service experience at RMSEL. This description could include volunteer, chaperone, classroom, fieldwork, crew trip, fundraising, and RMSEL events, and should detail your family's service hour commitments over the past year.

Open Position for Community At-Large

DAC values and looks forward to continued input from the broader community. The selected candidate must be outside the RMSEL parent community and provide unique perspectives and skills, such as experience in adventure, outdoor education, character excellence, finance, and/or fundraising, or be an alum, RMSEL partner, school neighbor, etc.

Submitted letters of interest should describe how the candidate's skills and capabilities are relevant and can help enhance the RMSEL experience.

K/1 Crew Trips

Our earliest learners are embarking on their respective fall crew trips this week. For our kindergarten students, this is an amazing experience to venture away from home this time and push through challenges from their first hike to a night away from mom or dad. Our crew leaders, adventure team, and parent volunteers nurture and support our children to make this an exceptional experience. For our first grade students, this is the final trip for learning campcraft and expectations before their first tent camping experience in the spring. This is exciting for them as they close one chapter and get prepared to think about the adventures ahead. I appreciate everyone who pulls together as a crew to get our kids out the door and into the field. Author of Last Child in the Woods, Richard Luv, shares, "Given a chance, a child will bring the confusion of the world to the woods, wash it in the creek, and turn it over to see what lives on the unseen side of that confusion... In nature, a child finds freedom, fantasy, and privacy; a place distant from the adult world, a separate peace."

Best,

Chad