



# Rockford High School

Paul Menard, Principal

Samantha Bloom, Counselor

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7600 County Road 50 | Rockford, MN 55373

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[www.rockford.k12.mn.us](http://www.rockford.k12.mn.us)

Greetings RHS Families,

We have reached the midway point of our first semester for the 2021-2022 school year. A vast majority of our efforts thus far have centered on making students feel welcomed, comfortable, and supported in their learning. We have also been working on a variety of intervention strategies to address learning loss due to COVID-19. One of the lingering fallouts of this learning loss is a significant dip in educational stamina. Our students are getting used to the pace of 'regular school', attending five days per week, and simultaneously learning new material and readdressing things they may not have covered in previous courses due to our steadfast commitment to teaching essential curriculum during the peak of the pandemic.

You will find your child/ren's midterm grades posted by the end of the day Monday. Please know that this is a snapshot of their performance in their given courses to date. It provides an accurate data point so you can check in with them regarding their performance, effort, and any issues they may need to address using self-advocacy skills. These grades are not exported or shared with institutions of higher education (IHEs), reported on transcripts, or memorialized externally in any other way. That said, we do encourage you to speak with your child about their learning stamina, discuss current performance, and make a plan to be most successful for the remainder of the semester (as semester grades are reported on their permanent transcript).

While almost all of our fall sports have come to a conclusion, we wish our individual cross country participants the best of luck at the state meet this weekend! Between blowing leaves, bleeding sprinkler lines, and transitioning from Halloween to Thanksgiving decorations I hope you are able to take a moment to relax, enjoy your wonderful high school children, and gear up for a great week over the weekend! Go Rockets!

Student Quote: "I am proud of how I've been able to balance my responsibilities at school and at work and be successful at both." --Maddie Peitz

Sincerely,  
Paul Menard  
Principal

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## STAR TESTS RESULTS:

Our IT team is working on placing each student's STAR test results in the parent portal. They hope to have this completed within a few weeks. For any families who were not able to pick up hard copies of STAR tests results at Fall Conferences, you or your child may stop and pick up results from Ms. Chalupsky in the front office.

## YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN THE CURRICULUM ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAC) MEETING ON NOVEMBER 30: (Click [here](#) for a [SPANISH](#) version of CAC Invite)

The Curriculum Advisory Committee is a volunteer group of parents or guardians, community members, teachers, and administrators that advise the district regarding the implementation of the Minnesota Academic Standards in our schools. The purpose is to provide input, advice, and make recommendations regarding distance learning, local graduation requirements, World's Best Workforce (WBWF), Achievement and Integration (A&I) requirements, K-12 curriculum, and other relevant issues. If you are interested, please email or call Kevin Keller, Director of Teaching and Learning, [Kellerk@Rockford.k12.mn.us](mailto:Kellerk@Rockford.k12.mn.us) or 763-477-9165 x4005, to attend the virtual Curriculum Advisory Committee meeting on November 30th, 6:00-7:00 pm. A meeting link will be provided to those that call, email, or fill out this form by Friday, November 26: <https://forms.gle/6zH7LVyT8S9tBxqL9>

## IB ASSESSMENT REGISTRATION FOR DP BIOLOGY SL & DP ECONOMICS:

Students in the DP Biology SL and DP Economics SL are given the opportunity to take an International Baccalaureate assessment in May 2022. The fees for the test would be covered by the IB grant and the due date to sign up for the exam(s) is Friday November 5, 2021. Click [HERE](#) for more information.

## HOMEWORK HELP:

Homework Help is back for the 21/22 school year! Homework Help is each Wednesday from 3:00pm-4:15pm. This is a great opportunity for students to work on homework and get help from their teachers. Transportation will not be provided at this time and students will need to arrange for transportation at 4:15. Online Tutoring is also now available through [Around Cloud Tutors](#).

## RAS E-LEARNING DAYS:

Please read this [attachment](#) so you and your children understand expectations and are prepared for unexpected inclement weather days. These e-learning days ensure that we can reach our instructional minutes as required by the State of Minnesota without having to add days to the end of our calendar year.

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## QUARANTINE HOMEWORK:

If your child must quarantine, we have drafted procedures to assist them in remaining current with their work. Please [click here](#) for more information.

## SCHOOL ATTENDANCE LINE:

Just a reminder to all RHS families to please try to use the school attendance line for calling students in absent, late or for early release. 763-477-7525

## COVID MESSAGE FROM NURSE:

As we get back into the swing of things and spend more time together, there are going to be cases of COVID, especially with the Delta variant making its way through. In order to not inundate you with emails, we will not be sending a general notification letter to an entire grade level after every positive case of COVID. We will be alerting you if your child is a close contact of a positive case of COVID. *Please be vigilant in monitoring your child for symptoms and keep them home if any present.*

## CHANGE TO CHILL:

As the holiday season approaches, November can be a great time to connect with friends and family members, however this may also be a time that individuals deal with loss or grief with those no longer with us. It's important to reflect on how we are feeling. Change to Chill offers [coping strategies](#) and ways to care for yourself and others during challenging times.

## NYSTROM ANXIETY:

Here is our [monthly newsletter](#) from the School Based team at Nystrom and Associates. Please see the attached form(s). We ask that you share this with your staff and parents as this is a great resource for talking about and combating mental health!

## EVERY MEAL WEEKEND FOOD PROGRAM:

The Every Meal weekend food program is back! This is different from the RAS lunch that is available for students on week days. The Every Meal Program is free for all families, there are no qualifications, and your privacy is protected. Families can enroll at ANY time throughout the school year. You are in the program once you fill out this [FORM \(English\)](#) or [FORM \(Spanish\)](#). Food bags will be available for pick up at your student's school on Thursday and Friday's. Contact Madison Holm at 612-567-0114 or at [holmm@rockford.k12.mn.us](mailto:holmm@rockford.k12.mn.us) with any questions.

## RIVERWORKS FOOD SHELF:

Hello Rockford Families!

Every year we partner with Riverworks Food Shelf to help support our community before the holiday season. Last year we raised over \$800 thanks to all of the generous donations! As we

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plan our upcoming celebrations, we at Rockford Area Schools, are asking that you take the time to think of others who are less fortunate. Please make a donation that works for your family to help relieve the stress of others during this time. If you are able to donate, we are asking all families and staff to donate money on-line directly to Riverworks. With the financial support, they will be able to purchase the food to fill their shelves. Please follow the directions below to donate. Any dollar amount helps! Thank you for supporting our community and partnering with Rockford Area Schools. Happy Holidays!

Here's how to give:

1. Go to [riverworksonline.org](http://riverworksonline.org)
2. Click on the DONATE tab in the upper right hand corner
3. Click on the DONATE ONLINE tab
4. Click on the FUND drop down menu
5. Select ROCKFORD SCHOOL THANKSGIVING FUND DRIVE

## FALL BAND CONCERT:

After a two year absence, the high school band program is proud to once again perform our High School Fall Concert on Thursday, November 11, 7:30pm, in the RHS Gymnasium.

The concert is free and open to all. The performance includes all 3 high school bands and will feature the high school flag team and the high school drumline.

Click [HERE](#) for more information.

## FALL MUSICAL:

The RAS [Fall Musical](#) is coming up soon - November 19-21.

## YEARBOOK COMMITTEE:

Yearbooks are on sale NOW! Please follow this [link](#) to purchase a Yearbook for \$65! SENIORS - use the same [link](#) to upload your senior pictures! SENIOR FAMILIES - use the same link to upload your baby picture and purchase the ad space! Senior pictures are due by November 30.

Access code: rockets

## SOCIAL MEDIA CONTACT:

This is a great school, close-knit community, and we offer a world class IB program. I want so many people to know the wonderful things happening in and out of the classroom. I can no longer contain my excitement. Please consider following me on social media and look for the occasional boast post about our fantastic kids!

Instagram: [@MrPaulMenard883](#)

Twitter: [@MrPaulMenard883](#)

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## **VOLLEYBALL:**

**“This is not an ISD #883 sponsored event”**

Registration is open for Volleyball. Please click [HERE](#) for more information.