



# Rockford High School

Paul Menard, Principal

Samantha Bloom, Counselor

Daniel Pratt, Activities Director

Jill Gordee, IB Coordinator

7600 County Road 50 | Rockford, MN 55373

Ph. 763-477-5846 | Fax 763-477-6123

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

Greetings RHS Families,

We've concluded our first week of the second quarter. It's been a week of highs and lows. Those of us that attended the fall band concert were treated to the wonderful musicianship of our varsity and concert bands. It was a joy to be gathered together in the gymnasium for the first time in my time here and over two years!

We also experienced the loss of one of our current staff members, Monica Luckett. We were fortunate to know her as a loyal substitute teacher, dedicated part-time staff member, and supporter of Rockford schools. I would like to thank our incredible counseling team from REAMS, RMS-CES, and RHS for their help and support as students processed their grief. It's another example of how our district uses the most of our resources to help enhance the student experience. We continue to hold the Luckett family in our hearts for the coming weeks.

As we continue through the second quarter, please continue to monitor your student's progress. I've been observing classrooms and there are variable levels of student motivation during work time. One of the main benefits of a block schedule (we run a modified block) is the ability to get work done at the end of the class period. Please continue to check Infinite Campus Parent Portal for grading information, be mindful of the workload and study habits of your child/ren and, most importantly, dialogue with your child/ren about their progress in class. We have a number of resources available to assist students: Homework Help every Wednesday after school, Rocket Block for 180 minutes per week, teacher email and Google Classroom correspondence, and before or after school check-ins. With these efforts in place I can confidently say that we are balancing the competing forces of addressing the learning loss due to COVID-19 and helping our students progress through a more normalized cadence to a full school year. Once again, we ask that you softly and clearly reinforce self-advocacy skills with your child/ren to help address their needs with our staff--who cares for them more than any other I've encountered in the seven other institutions I've experienced.

Student Quote: "I'm excited to go out for week 2 of deer hunting. I'm still holding out for that buck, but I know my time is limited so I'm willing to get a doe." —Logan Gusse

Sincerely,  
Paul Menard  
Principal

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## ROCKET BLOCK:

We are exploring the reorganization of Rocket Block in order to add more intentional interventions for students who are struggling in STEM and Humanities courses. Please have your child pay close attention to their schedule. Their rocket block assignment may change.

## 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>

### AROUND CLOUD TUTORS

Free, online tutoring for Rockford area students!

- K-12 tutors are available Monday-Friday for one-on-one online sessions covering reading, math, science, social studies, English/Language arts and Spanish.
- Tutoring is available in several languages, including for students with special needs or those seeking post-secondary education.
- Sign up at [AROUNDCLOUDTUTORS.ORG](http://AROUNDCLOUDTUTORS.ORG) to be matched with a tutor for the semester or use our on-demand tutors to sign up for a 30-minute session when you need it.



Around Cloud Tutors is an initiative of the Greater Rockford Development Corporation in partnership with the United Way of Central Minnesota, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Minnesota, College of St. Benedict/St. John's University, St. Cloud State University, St. Cloud Technical and Community College, and Green Campus Center.



### 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

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instructional minutes as required by the State of Minnesota without having to add days to the end of our calendar year.

## 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.



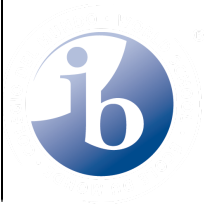
## NYSTROM COPING WITH LOSS:

Click [HERE](#) for information to help parents assist their teens in coping with death. Click [HERE](#) for help with loss, grief, and bereavement.

## 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.

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## 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 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 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

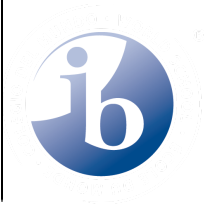
## SOCIAL MEDIA CONTACT:

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.