Weekly Parent Bulletin

6051 Ash Street Rockford, MN 5537

Phone 763-477-5831 Fax 763-477-5832

February 25th, 2022

ROCKFORD MIDDLE SCHOOL CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES





Center for Environmental Studies ROCKFORD MIDDLE SCHOOL

A NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL Bobbi A. Anderson-Hume, Ph.D.

We have Family/Teacher Conferences beginning next week, Tuesday, March 1st for Grades 5 and 6 from 3:20-6:20 PM at RMS-CES. Parents will receive communication via email with details.

7th grade conferences are Tuesday, March 15th and 8th grade is Tuesday, March 22nd, also 3:20-6:20 PM.



Bobbi Anderson-Hume, Ph.D Principal, RMS-CES



Contact Christa Larson in our District Office

Registration for the 2022 summer RAAA youth fastpitch softball season is now open at click <u>HERE</u> to register! *Registration Deadlines*

- 8U Travel, 10U and 12U registration closes on Feb. 28
- 6U and 8U House registration closes on March 31
- All late registrations will incur a late fee added to their registration





SCHOOL STORE LOCATED AT ROCKFORD H IGH SCHOOL ase click <u>HERE</u> for the School Store Hours

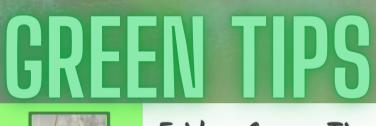
Hello Rockford families,

RAS was able to obtain more at-home, rapid COVID tests from the state for K-12 students. We will have these tests on hand for if/when your student develops COVID symptoms and you'd like to test. These tests are available for your convenience, even if you've already gotten a test. If your student becomes ill at school, we can send a test kit home with them at your request. If your student is at home and you'd like to come pick up a test, reach out to the building health office to set up a plan. Thanks! Rockford Area School Nurses

Reminders & Opportunities:

Publicity Photographs

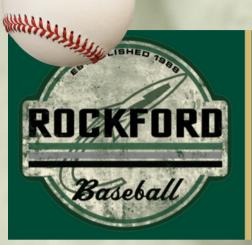
Throughout the year, photographs and videos are taken in classrooms and at school activities. Some of these may be published in local newspapers, on the local cable station or in Rockford Area Schools' publications and websites. Parents may request that their child's photograph and identifying their name not be published in district productions or websites. The request must be made in writing and sent to the **Rockford Area Schools District Office**, at **6051 Ash Street**, **Rockford**, **MN 55373**. (This does not apply to pictures of school events taken by the news media.)



Friday Green Tips

Use plastic water bottles as hanging herb gardens (Pinterest has lots of tips)







Reminders & Opportunities:

THE 2022 RAAA BASEBALL SEASON IS ALMOST HERE 8-14 YEAR-OLDS = REGISTRATION IS JAN 31 - MARCH 1 5-7 YEAR-OLDS = REGISTRATION IS FEB 28 - APRIL 4

REGISTER NOW: HTTPS://WWW.RAAASPORTS.COM/RAAA-BASEBALL

Please contact us at raaabaseball@raaasports.com if you have questions.



Don't forget to order your softball apparel ORDER <u>HERE</u>



2022 Spring Sports Registration at RAS

is now open to students in grades 7-12! The spring season includes opportunities to participate in Baseball, Golf, Lacrosse (co-op with Delano High School), Softball, Boys Tennis, Track & Field and Trap Shooting. Register today! <u>https://www.rockford.k12.mn.us/activities/registration</u>

SAVE THE DATE:

Spring Sports Meeting Monday, March 7, 2022 @ 6:00pm RHS Auditorium Families of students in grades 7-12 are invited to attend!

Reminders & Opportunities:



Click <u>HERE</u> for a link to our website page regarding all things Food Service related (menus, EBT benefits for families, lunch acct info and links to applications)



Wright 2 School

Excused vs. Unexcused Absences <u>Excused Absences:</u> Family emergency Illness/Medical or mental health appointments (documentation may be required) Religious holidays

> <u>Unexcused Absences:</u> Babysitting Working Needed at home Child is not immunized Car trouble Missing the bus Oversleeping Weather

Habitual truant means a child under the age of 17 years who is absent from attendance at school without lawful excuse for seven full school days. If the child is in elementary school for one or more class periods on seven school days. If the child is in middle school, junior high school, or high school, or the child is 17 years old and has not lawfully withdrawn from school. Truancy and Educational Neglect Intervention Program

Reminders & Opportunities:

ANNUAL STUDENT/REGISTRATION UPDATE

This year, Rockford Area Schools has implemented an Annual Update which <u>can be found in the Parent Portal in Infinite Campus.</u>

Keeping this information up-to-date will help families stay connected and be informed on upcoming plans and other important announcements.

> This online update will replace the emergency medical form you have received in the past. Most of the information will auto-populate from data already entered in Infinite Campus. Required fields are marked with a red asterisk(*) and information highlighted in yellow needs to be updated. There are also fields required by the Minnesota Department of Education such as technology access and ethnicity.

Once you are logged in to your Parent Portal:

• Click More

Campus

Click here

- Followed by Online Registration, and a new window will open.
- Follow the prompts by clicking the Annual Update button to begin.

We are asking all families to complete this year's update AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. Going forward, the Annual Update will take place yearly in August.

If you have any questions, please contact Christa Larson at larsonchrista@rockford.k12.mn.us or (763) 477-9165.





"Trauma creates change you don't choose. Healing is about creating change you do choose." ~Michelle Rosenthal

Trauma is an event or situation that is experienced as threatening to one's life, bodily integrity, and overwhelms one's ability to cope with the intense negative feelings experienced at the time.

Some common examples of traumatic events include physical, emotional or sexual abuse, severe neglect, death of a parent, severe bullying, witnessing domestic violence, and experiencing a natural disaster.

The "Flight, Fight, or Freeze" response- When exposed to a traumatic event, our bodies naturally react physically, resulting in changes in hormones, blood flow, muscles, heart, bladder, gastrointestinal tract, eyes and skin. This natural physical reaction is known as the "flight, fight, or freeze" response and increases our chance of survival by priming the body to fight off an aggressor, to run away, or freeze and block out negative thoughts and feelings.

<u>How to support a child who has experienced trauma-</u> As a parent, caregiver, educator, or other supportive adult, you have the ability to positively support and impact a child who has experienced trauma. Healing can only occur once a child is no longer in danger. Providing a physically and emotionally safe environment is therefore vital for healing and recovery. Providing a child with structure and predictability is important and expectations for a child should be age

appropriate, while consequences should be non-physical. It may also be helpful to develop a safety plan with a child who has experienced trauma so that they can feel empowered and knowledgeable about what to do if they are feeling frustrated or scared. Deciding who safe adults are and ways to contact them when needed may be helpful. Safety plans can be written with the child or illustrated through drawings to fit the child's developmental level. Teaching children about emotions and enhancing their emotional vocabulary is also helpful. With increased knowledge of emotions, children will gain more insight into their feelings and learn healthy ways to express and cope with negative feelings. (Helping children learn grounding and deep breathing techniques or other ways of relaxing and modeling and practicing these skills with them can be helpful). Trauma has several different effects on children; hyperarousal, distraction and lack of focus, increased anxiety, avoidance, nightmares and flashbacks, and their selfimage.

Repeated or prolonged trauma- Trauma that is repeated over an extended period of time or occurs more than once, is often referred to as "complex trauma." Repeated or prolonged exposure places an individual at increased risk for trauma symptoms and can negatively impact overall well-being and development. Trauma perpetrated by a parent or caregiver can impact child attachment and trust in others and life in general. The world may seem scary and unpredictable and offer little respite or joy.



Crisis Text Line: 741741

In a life-threatening emergency call 911



School-Based Mental Health Services 😒

https://www.nystromcounseling.com/our-services/school-based-mental-health-services/

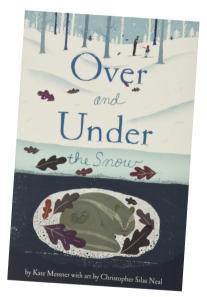
ART with Mrs. Gunderson

sth graders are half way through their quarter of Art. We have been busy creating beautiful creations. Our latest project is a mixed media artwork inspired by African American artist, Romare Bearden and the children's book "Over and Under the Snow". We drew woodland animals, painted our

landscape with a foreground, middleground, and background. Students then collaged their animals and paper trees onto the composition. Each artwork is so creative and unique!



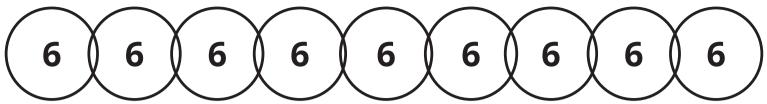








Our next unit will be clay. We will study masks from around the world and create vibrant three-dimensional artworks.



Phy Ed with Mrs. Lingo

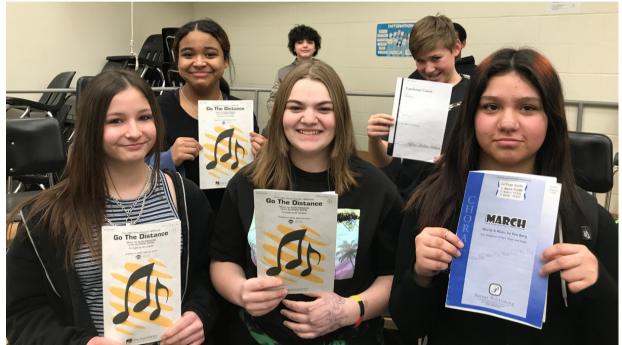
oth grade Phy Ed students participating in circuit warm-ups before their team games







CHOIR with Mrs. Augsburger



7th and 8th grade choir students are working on five songs each as we prepare for our final two concerts!

Upcoming Events

We look forward to seeing you on April 28th at Arts and Academics, and on May 20th at 7:30 at the high school for the 7th-12th grade choir concert.

Mark your calendars for some great music!



DIGITAL SKILLS with Mrs. Russell

8th grade Digital Skills students used an online drawing website to create digital portraits of influential people. Students used multiple layers within the program for drawing and blending colors into their artwork. Look closely, some of the drawings look like photographs!

Featured here are the following students: Zach W, Emily R, Ismael M, Mya D, Max T, Elizabeth M, Anna F, Isabelle F, Brittany O, and TJ B. All student digital artwork will be displayed at the STEM Showcase on April 28th.



THERE IS ALWAYS ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT BUT THE JUDGES ARE LOOKING FOR BIG **AIRS AND STYLISH TRICKS -**

Shaun White

"All adventures. especially into **new** territory, are scary."

-Sally Ride

Emily Rice

Emily Rice



Zach Walters

"Knowing how to think empowers you far beyond those who know what to think"

- Neil deGrasse Tyson

Thomas Barrows

Thomas Barrows



DIGITAL SKILLS with Mrs. Russell

"Do Not Pray For An Easy Life Pray For The <mark>Strength</mark> To Endure A <mark>Difficult</mark> One" -Bruce Lee



Ishmael Martinez

I'm not afraid of total failure because I don't think that will happen.



Maxwell Thornton

"I'd rather regret the risks that didn't work out than the chances I didn't take at all." -Simone Biles





"If this year has taught me anything, it's that grief can destroy a person." — Rachael Lippincott, Five Feet Apart

Mya Denis



"In spite of everything, I still believe that people are really good at heart."

Anne Frank

By: Elizabeth Millen

Elizabeth Millen

"You must never be fearful about what you are doing when it is <u>right</u>." *-Rosa Parks*



Isabelle Fortin