



# Rockford Middle School

## Center for Environmental Studies

Paul Warzecha, Principal  
6051 Ash Street | Rockford, MN 55373  
Phone 763-477-5831 | Fax 763-477-5832  
[www.rockford.k12.mn.us](http://www.rockford.k12.mn.us)

**November 4th, 2022**

Dear RMS-CES families,

First and foremost, I want to express gratitude for all you have done to support your child's learning during the first quarter. This quarter has shown students adjusting to a school year, building connections with peers and teachers and growing as a person and a learner. In addition, this quarter has provided students with the opportunity to go on at least one environmentally focused outdoor field trip.

I would encourage all parents to take advantage of the transition between first and second quarter to help coach and guide your child to reflect on the strengths and weaknesses of the first quarter and help them set goals for themselves for what the next quarter looks like. We know that accomplishing any goal first starts with seeing the result you want in your mind, and being able to strategically plan ways to accomplish your goal. Although adolescents might not readily admit it, goal setting and motivation are things that they might not fully understand how to do. I would encourage you to ask your child "what is your goal for quarter two?", And see what they share with you. We appreciate the partnership in working together to support students, creating and accomplishing their goals.

Knockout November: As I learn about potential trends among adolescent social media use I try to proactively communicate that information to parents for your awareness. One thing that's trending on TikTok is called knockout November where students are encouraged to fight each other and have it filmed and posted on TikTok. Please know that this communication is not a response to any incident at school.

Since coming to Rockford I've met the supportive and generous parents of this community. As a school, we benefit daily from donations that come to us from the Rockford Education Foundation. I would encourage you to check out their [website](#) and potentially consider giving as this work has a direct and immediate impact on our students.

Shout out to counselor Molly Wirth, who on Wednesday of this week, accepted the 2022-2023 LEEA Award from Resource Training & Solutions in St. Cloud, Minnesota. We appreciate all Mrs. Wirth does for our school community.

Bus loop: Our bus loop will start on November 8th. Here are a few quick notes.

- If you are doing parent pick-up/ drop off there will be no change and you will still continue to use Door Four
- All Northwest Suburban vans and the activity bus will pick up and drop off along the curb outside Door One near the district office
- All Rockford area school buses will begin to use the bus loop for drop off and pickup

*Please know that we will be training students to successfully do this process and provide adequate time and support so everybody feels comfortable transitioning to their new bus location. Also, please know that fifth graders will be using a separate exit to leave the building to get to the bus to reduce congestion and create a positive experience.*

Have a great day!

Paul Warzecha, Principal

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

### DATES TO CHECK OUT:

Friday, November 4th, 2022-End of 1st Quarter

Friday, November 4th, 2022-Lockdown Drill at RMS

Monday, November 7th, 2022-**No School**/Staff Development Day

Tuesday, November 8th, 2022- Rockford Community Center is host to the elections at the RCC

Wednesday, November 23rd, 2022-Friday, November 25th, 2022-**No School-Fall Break**

Friday, December 23rd, 2022 through January 2nd, 2023-**No School-Winter Break**

## NEWS AND NOTES

### ButterBraid Fundraiser

Sales have started! Parents received a link via email to register their student for the online fundraiser. Students will receive \$6 of every sale they make.

**Sale Dates: October 28- November 21**

**Delivery Date to RMS-CES: December 8**

Any questions, please contact Mrs. Russell at [russellb@rockford.k12.mn.us](mailto:russellb@rockford.k12.mn.us)

**Registration for WINTER activities** is now open for Rockford Area Schools students in grades 7-12!



Please [click here](#) to register your student for an activity. Reminder: Families are invited to join us for the Winter Sports meeting on Monday, November 7th at 6pm in the RHS Auditorium.

For information on participation requirements of winter activities offered at RAS, please go to the [Activities Registration](#) page of the district website.

### EVERY MEAL SIGN UP

This is a completely FREE program for the district and families of the district. Anyone has the opportunity to receive a bag of nonperishable food every week that is delivered to your child's school and can be picked up by the student or delivered to the class depending on the age or what is preferred.

Click on the following link for the English version: <https://forms.gle/Q6SSZrJi5VHnPRhHA>

Click on the following link for the Spanish version: <https://forms.gle/AggGauqyGoLw5jrs7>

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If you have any further questions about the Every Meal program in general, the website is listed below

<https://www.everymeal.org/>

### RAS FALL MUSICAL "The Wizard of Oz"



RMS-CES RAS Fall Musical "The Wizard of Oz"

The participation fee for middle school students is \$90. The fee will be assigned a few days after auditions have ended. [Please click HERE for the Calendar](#)



Please click [HERE](#) for more information about becoming a substitute in RAS!

### JOSTENS SCHOOL PICTURES



[\*\*VIEW AND ORDER PHOTOS HERE\*\*](#)

### FREE & REDUCED LUNCH FORMS:

If you haven't already done so, please take a moment to fill out this [FORM](#). Students who qualify may be eligible for **Pandemic-Electronic Benefit Transfer (P-EBT)** to purchase food for days they are not in the school building. Our school also receives state funding for technology based on qualifying families! For more information or a Spanish version, click [HERE](#).

### LOST & FOUND

There are LOTS and LOTS of Lost & Found items. Please have your child look for any items they may be missing!



### MENTAL HEALTH-Exercise & Mental Health

Here is our [monthly newsletter](#) from the School Based team at Nystrom & Associates.

### YEARBOOK'S FOR SALE



The 2022-2023 yearbooks are on SALE now!

*Please click [HERE](#) to order!*

Cost is \$20

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### RMS-CES ATTENDANCE LINE



Please use our [ATTENDANCE LINE at 763-477-7525](tel:763-477-7525) to call your child in absent.



### ROCKET BOOSTER'S INFORMATION

Please click [HERE](#) for **School Store Hours!**



Please click [HERE](#) for information about our 2022-2023 Meal Rates Return for Nutritious School Meal

### INFINITE CAMPUS ANNUAL UPDATE:



#### **Be sure to complete your Annual Update!**

It is very important to ensure the school district has current household and contact information for all students. Before school starts, be sure to log in to your Parent Portal account to complete the Annual Update. This online update will replace the emergency forms you have received in the past. Keeping household information updated will help families stay connected and be informed of upcoming events, and will ensure you receive information regarding any important announcements.

[To complete the annual update, log in to your Parent Portal Account and select "More". From there, select "Online Registration", then select "22-23 School Year Annual Update for Existing Students".](#) The

information that is in our system will auto-populate for parents to review or update. Please be sure to submit your annual update as soon as possible.

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

## ROCKFORD EDUCATION FOUNDATION



Please click [HERE](#) to view the RMS-CES WISH LISTS...

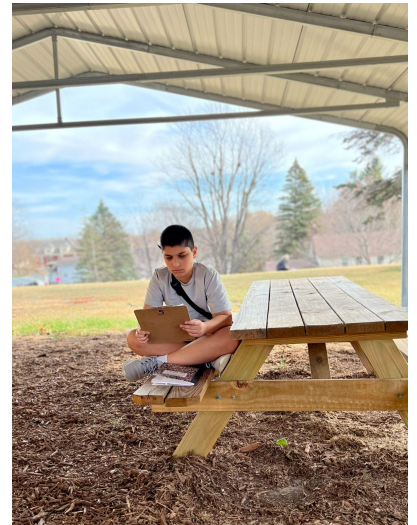
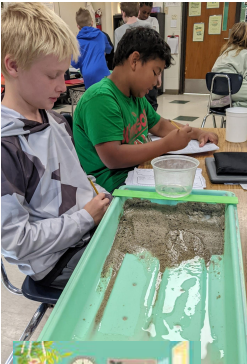
Donations can be dropped off at the school's front desk with the teacher's name attached or sent to class with your child. Thanks for your support!

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## CLASSROOM HIGHLIGHTS

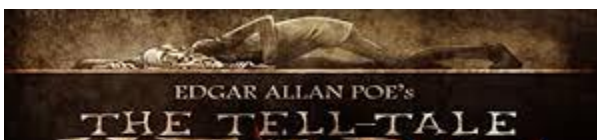
### 6TH GRADE LANGUAGE ARTS-MS. KORZENDORFER



This week sixth graders continued making inferences and supporting their responses with evidence from the **short story All Summer in a Day by Ray Bradbury**. The science fiction story is set on the planet Venus in a world where it continually rains for seven years followed by two hours of sunlight for protagonist, Margo, and her classmates. Students explored themes of jealousy, bullying, and isolation. They were able to sneak in a couple more outdoor learning days where they could live in the sunshine and feel the warmth of the sun as sunlight diminishes and temperatures begin to fall this time of year.

Up next is the middle grade novel **Front Desk** by Kelly Yang. Themes of immigration, family, racism, the American dream, and the power of the written word will be explored through the eyes of ten year old protagonist Mia Tang. This is the first in a series of four books: **Front Desk**, **Three Keys**, **Room to Dream**, and **Key Player**.

### 8TH GRADE LANGUAGE ARTS-MS. HENDRICKSON



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This week, we wrapped our study of Edgar Allan Poe, the “master of the macabre”, and his short story, “*The Tell-Tale Heart*”. Prior to reading the story, we focused on Poe’s background and completed a jigsaw activity to put some of his life pieces together. Throughout our journey, LA8 readers analyzed Poe’s use of Dramatic Irony, Mood & Tone, and his three Suspense Techniques to determine whether or not the narrator was trustworthy.

As a final tribute to Poe, different “marketing” teams created movie posters that ooze suspense, mood, and tone and that will bring people into the theater!



### 5TH GRADE LANGUAGE ARTS-MS. MATEYKA

*Fifth grade Language Arts students have been busy with getting outside in the warm weather to create nature bookmarks. Students gathered items found around the school campus to decorate an original*

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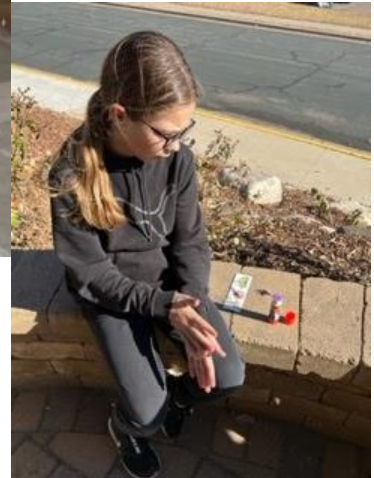
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bookmark. No two look alike and each was made with creativity. Some students have been discussing change and brainstormed examples of change and non-change. Next week, students will be making generalizations about change. Other

and learned 6 new play "Active Match" quiz. Terms learned stories during clamor, pandemonium, tattered, towering, reassure and memento.



students began vocabulary words. They learned how to and concluded the week with a centered around recently read instruction time. They were



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