



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

December 2nd, 2022

Dear RMS-CES families,

On Tuesday of this week I got the chance to enjoy the light falling snow while doing bus supervision. I'm incredibly grateful for all the people who step in and support. From our buildings and grounds crew clearing snow from the sidewalks and parking lots to so many snow plow drivers that pave the way for all of our drivers to bring kids home safely. Often times it is easy to have these people go unnoticed, and I ask that on future inclement weather days you join me and be grateful for those men and women who do so much to ensure kids can safely get to school and get home.



The RMS-CES 6th-8th band students sounded fantastic at Thursday night's concert. When I first came to Rockford this summer I appreciated the sounds of 5th grade band lessons filling the hallway. Those beginning notes, even with squeaks, are a testament to the courage that it takes to learn something new even though you know you will have many failures and setbacks along the way. It is those setbacks and failures that allow us to continually improve our skills both

as an individual and a group. While the eighth grade band was performing last night I was impressed by their sounds and technical skill, but then Ms. Bauer informed the audience that it was this eighth grade class that were fifth graders during March of 2020 when we went into distance learning. Hearing the sounds symbolic to our students overcoming adversity reminded me that learning has been and always will be about a process. I'm grateful for this staff who, no matter the content or grade level, spend so much time intentionally supporting students in the process of learning.



I wanted to reach out and remind you to save the date for January 12th during Winter Conferences at RMS-CES from 3:30 pm to 7pm. It is an open format where any parent can attend during the time and meet with the teachers of their choosing. We encourage that conferences be used if you have concern about your child. This will be an open format where lines will be formed outside of teacher's rooms and teachers will be able to meet with parents on a first come first serve basis. We will be sending out communication regarding this event in the near future, but I wanted to make you aware of the date and format.

Have a great day!

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UPCOMING EVENTS

DATES TO CHECK OUT:

Thursday, January 12th from 3:30-7:00 pm-Winter Conferences

Monday, January 16th, 2023-No School-Staff Development Day

Friday, January 20th, 2023-End of Quarter 2

Monday, January 29th-No School-Staff Development Day

Tuesday, January 24th-Start of Quarter 3

ROCKFORD EDUCATION FOUNDATION



RMS-CES WISH LISTS

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!

RMS-CES - MEDIA CENTER RENOVATION

Please click [HERE](#) for information on a **FUND-A NEEDS**

***These are not ISD883 sponsored events**

NEWS AND NOTES



November 29th, 2022

I just wanted to send out a huge "shout out" to our very own Paul and Mulbah! While most of you were driving home with white knuckles yesterday, these two were here making sure students were getting home safe....and changing a flat tire!!!! Is there anything they can't do?!?!?! We, and our families, are very fortunate to have them both!

Thank you Paul and Mulbah!--**Molly Wirth, School Counselor**



With snow and cold season upon us and in the event of school cancellation due to inclement weather, please be reminded that

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Rockford Area Schools will use e-learning days to support student learning during school cancellations.

Please find information, expectations, and an FAQ regarding our use of e-learning days under the "Resources" tab on the district's [website](#). A direct link to our e-learning days webpage is [here](#).

8th Grade Students, Parents and Guardians Save the Date: Tuesday, December 13th , 4:00-7:00 p.m.



You are invited to attend the upcoming Rockford High School Curriculum Fair on December 13th. The evening will consist of:

Curriculum Fair by Department - 4:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Teachers from all departments will be available to provide information and answer questions about classes and academics at RHS.

Incoming 9th Grade Welcome - 4:45-5:15 p.m. OR 6:00-6:30 p.m. in the Auditorium

Presented by Mr. Paul Menard, Principal, and Ms. KellyAnn Lockrem, Counselor (grades 9-10)

Tours of RHS will be hourly, and the School Store will be open if you need to stock up on Rocket Gear (makes great gifts)!

We look forward to seeing you on Tuesday, December 13th!



Need ideas for getting outside w/the kids this WINTER ?

[Explore Minnesota](#)

Whether it's flip-flop weather or snow boot season, Minnesota's always got something good going on. From sun-drenched music fests along a lively urban waterfront to a celebration of ice fishing in a friendly small town, Minnesota events and festivals keep the fun going all year long. Join in to celebrate art, culture, music, food, sports, seasonal fun and more.



5th Grade Deep Portage Butter Braid Fundraiser

If you have ordered Butter Braids for the Deep Portage Fundraiser, your items will be delivered to the school and ready for pickup on **Thursday**,

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December 8th from 3:00-5:00 pm. Items will be available for pickup in the upper parking lot near the media center doors.

NOTE: Because these items are frozen, it will be important they are picked up that night! We will have copies of your order information available for you. If you have any questions, please reach out to Beth Russell at russellb@rockford.k12.mn.us.



FOOD SERVICE REMINDER:

Please check your parent portal for notifications (letters) regarding current food service balances.

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>

If you have any further questions about the Every Meal program in general, the website is listed below
<https://www.everymeal.org/>

WORK WITH KIDS IN THE COMMUNITY YOU LOVE!

PREFERRED GRADE FLEXIBILITY!

JOIN OUR TEAM

CHOOSE WHAT DAYS YOU WORK!

Substitute Opportunities at Rockford

Age requirement: 18

Must have a HS degree, Teachers on call will provide additional needed training!

Paid Weekly!

For more information, click [HERE](http://www.teachersoncall.com) or call Teachers On Call/Email 800-713-4439/<http://www.teachersoncall.com> more information

Hello Rockford Families!

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Every year we partner with Riverworks Food Shelf to help support our community before the holiday season. Last year we raised over \$1,000 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! *This is not an ISD883 sponsored event*

Here's how to give:

1. Go to 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

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

Please have your child look for any items they may be missing!

TIP: Please label your student's lunch box, water bottle, hoodie, hat, etc....

MENTAL HEALTH-ADHD



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Please click [HERE](#) (English) [HERE](#) (Spanish) for 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



RMS-CES ATTENDANCE LINE

Please use our ATTENDANCE LINE at 763-477-7525 to call your child in absent.



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.

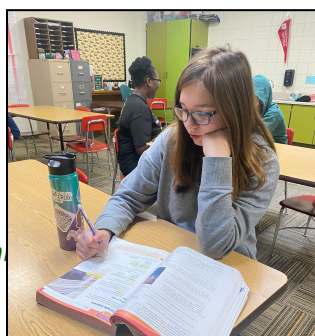
If you have any questions, please contact Christa Larson at larsonchrista@rockford.k12.mn.us or 763-477-9165.

CLASSROOM HIGHLIGHTS

7TH GRADE MATH WITH MS. SHARP



This week in math, 7th graders continued practicing how to multiply and divide positive and





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negative rational numbers. They discovered that a pattern where an odd amount of negative numbers results in a negative answer and an even amount of odd numbers results in a positive answer. We practiced how to cross-simplify to make multiplication easier, and we reviewed how long division works with decimals. 7th graders have worked hard this week and it will pay off when they take an assessment on the concepts.

5TH GRADE MATH WITH MS. NOLBY

5th graders have been having fun with *ALGEBRA*. We learned about the rules for Order of Operations and evaluating numerical expressions. We used the phrase "Please Excuse My Dear Aunt Sally". Students understand that parentheses serve an important purpose in math. Students have also been displaying measurement data in line plots and solving problems using the data. Next, we moved on to Algebraic expressions and how to solve (1) solve one- and two-step equations, (2) evaluate expressions when given the value of a variable, and (3) use the associative, commutative, and distributive properties. We are focusing on decimals; rounding, comparing, adding, subtracting, and now multiplying decimals. It is so great when students understand how important math is in everyday life.

8TH GRADE ART-MS. GUNDERSON



Native American Heritage Month

Please click [HERE](#) to view artwork

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