



# 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)

January 27th, 2023

Dear RMS-CES families,

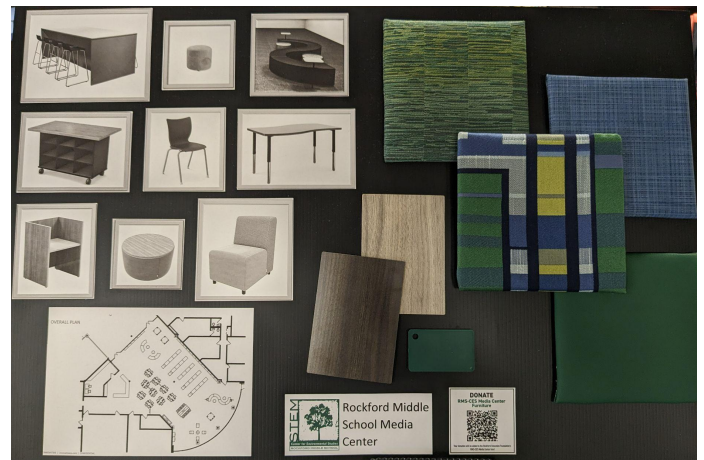
What a fantastic start to quarter three! Below are a few updates...

Please know that next week we will be completing FAST testing in the buildings for both reading and math. We would like to encourage students to bring their personal headphones/earbuds to use with the tests as most students have expressed this to be the preferences as opposed to using the district provided headphones. The reading FAST test begins Tuesday, January 31st and the Math FAST test begins on Thursday, February 2nd. Please know that headphones would be allowed only during testing and not be allowed during the class hours unless directly approved by the teacher. This is a district test to assess growth in our students and the results will help our teachers determine if some of our students would benefit from additional instructional support.

All the chatter is around our Dance on February 10th from 6-8pm. Please save the date for those who are interested. We will have pre-sales happening in the building throughout the week. Our amazing student council wanted to use this dance to help students consider donating to the local food shelf. Please feel free to watch this short 1 min [video](#) about the dance that was shown to each advisory class if you would like to learn more.

Please know that we are currently partnering with our amazing Education Foundation to improve our Media Center spaces including furniture and STEM opportunities. I would like to personally thank Jill Jetran and Kelly Grimm for their involvement and support in helping to make this a reality. The image to the right shows a draft mock up of the potential fabrics and designs for what that space could look like. Please know details are still subject to change as we continue to go through the process.

Please know that there is a catalog fundraiser in March that will give an opportunity to raise funds for the Media Center, however if you would like to make a donation you could do so by clicking on this [link](#).



Have a great weekend!

Paul Warzecha, Principal

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### DATES TO CHECK OUT:

#### Jan.

30th-31st- Reading FAST Testing

#### Feb.

1st-2nd-Math FAST Testing

3rd-Reading & Math Make Up Testing Day

8th-7th Grade Baker Field Experience

9th-6th Grade Baker Field Experience

10th-RMS-CES Middle School Activity/Dance

15th-Battle of the Books

20th-No School-Presidents Day

27th-8th Grade Baker Field Experience

#### Mar.

8th-5th Grade Baker Field Experience

24th-31st-No School-Spring Break

#### Apr.

7th- No School

20th-STEM Art & Academic Showcase

### ROCKFORD EDUCATION FOUNDATION



Send some **LOVE** to teachers by donating items from their Classroom Wish Lists!

Every year staff spend a lot of their own money purchasing items for their classroom. The Rockford Education Foundation has set up wish lists for all three schools so parents can easily help out. Valentine's Day is a great time to do this!

Steps to Donate:

1. Click here to view [Classroom Wish Lists](#)
2. Use one of these Valentine donation [cards](#) to send along with your donation (or use your own card if you wish)
3. Deliver to the school front office or recipient's classroom

Note: if ordering from a teacher's amazon wish list, please ship to home and then bring to school with your donation card.

> Donate between February 1 - 14

\*These are not ISD883 sponsored events

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### NEWS AND NOTES

#### Attention RMS-CES Battle participants!

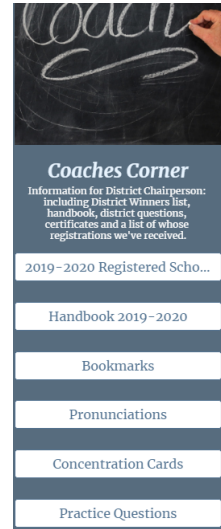
The Battle of the Books is February 15! If you would like to test your book knowledge, visit [AKASL Battle of the Books](#) for access to practice questions.

Scroll down to the Coaches Corner to find Practice Questions.

Download "5/6Practice" or "MSPractice" (grades 7/8) questions using password

**MovingOn2023.**

Please ignore the questions for the following books, as they are not included in our Battle: *Insignificant Events in the Life of a Cactus* and *Norse Mythology*



### SCHOOL STORE HOURS:

Please click [HERE](#) to view the calendar for the school store hours



**THE 2023 RAAA BASEBALL SEASON IS COMING**

5-14 YEAR-OLDS = REGISTRATION OPENS JANUARY 16  
8-14 YEAR OLDS - REGISTRATION CLOSES FEB 24  
5-7 YEAR OLDS - REGISTRATION CLOSES MAR 24

**REGISTER NOW:**  
[HTTPS://WWW.RAAASPORTS.COM/RAAA-BASEBALL](https://www.raaasports.com/raaa-baseball)

*Please contact us at [raaabaseball@raaasports.com](mailto:raaabaseball@raaasports.com) if you have questions.*

Not an ISD 883 Sponsored Event

### SOFTBALL REGISTRATION

Registration for the 2023 summer RAAA youth fastpitch softball season is now open at

<https://www.raaasports.com/summer-registration> !

#### Registration Deadlines

- 8U Travel, 10U and 12U registration closes on Feb. 27
- 6U and 8U House registration closes on March 31

You'll find all the details on the [registration page](#).

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

### ENVIRONMENTAL CORNER



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

[Explore Minnesota](#)

[Minnesota Parent - Things to do this Weekend with Your Family](#)

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.



### 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/>



### 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](#) or call Teachers On Call/Email

800-713-4439/<http://www.teachersoncall.com> more information

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### 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

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](mailto:larsonchrista@rockford.k12.mn.us) or 763-477-9165.

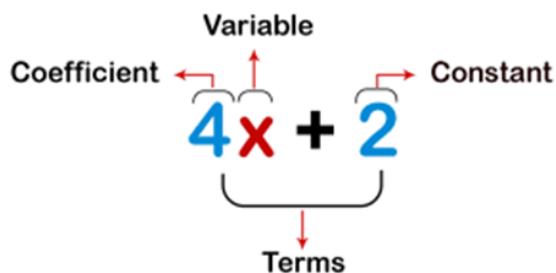
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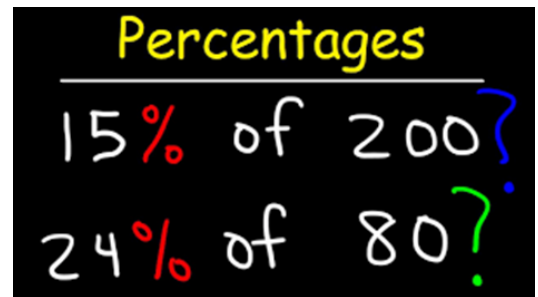
## CLASSROOM CORNER

### 6TH GRADE MATH-MR. PETROSKI

As the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter begins, students are working with percentages. Earlier this year, 6<sup>th</sup> graders were finding equivalences between fractions, decimals, and percentages. They are now using those skills to find the percent off of items, percentages with taxes, and finding the percentage of numbers. As this quarter progresses, the next major unit of study is an introduction to Algebra. 6<sup>th</sup> graders will solve multi-step algebraic problems. They will learn using the *Order of*

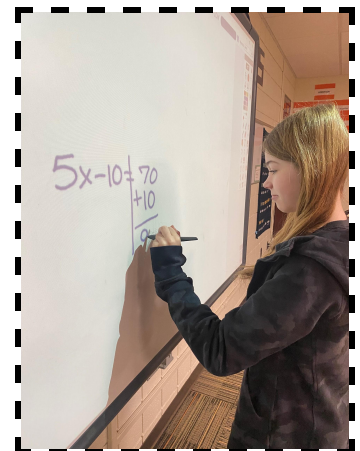
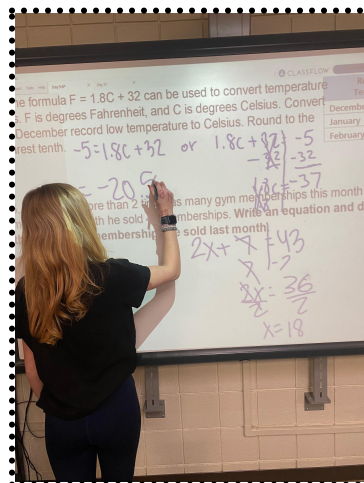


*Operations* get flipped in Algebra. Instead of trying to solve equations, they will be actually trying to “undo” the equations to find the value of different variables.



### 7TH GRADE MATH-MS. SHARP

This week in math, 7th graders practiced writing equations from the given information in word problems. They discussed what information was not given, what the total of each equation should be, and then worked backwards to complete the equation using math vocabulary and keywords. After practicing how to write two-step equations, 7th graders solved two-step equations with an emphasis on showing work. Overall, it was a successful week and they worked very hard! Next Thursday and Friday, 7th graders will take their Math FAST Tests in class and I can't wait to see how they do!





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### 7TH GRADE LANGUAGE ARTS-MS. UDALLA

Seventh graders have been using sensory imagery (descriptive words and figurative language that evoke the 5 senses) to improve their writing skills. This week they used their 5 senses to inspect 6 different snacks. They looked, listened, tasted, touched, and smelled them! Then they used adjectives to "show" not "tell" us about each food!



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