

ROCKFORD HIGH SCHOOL

INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE



Paul Menard
Principal
Rockford High School-
International Baccalaureate
menardp@rockford.k12.mn.us

September 8, 2023

Greetings RHS Families,

FOR A QUICK, EASY TO READ VERSION CLICK [HERE](#).

We had a great first week of school. It's been a thrill reconnecting with your children in new courses, new and returning activities, and our lunchroom and common spaces. As you visit the school you may recognize some renovations that took place over the summer. This is an increased effort to enhance safety and security. This week was all about building relationships and setting expectations. Our driving force this year will be to develop common language for our students across the building, build student agency as we prepare our students for adulthood, and deliver quality instruction through proven strategies surrounding organization, writing, reading, inquiry, and collaboration. We also continue to welcome our new staff members:

Monica Pinkerman- Tech Ed/Agriculture
Beth Schoeller- Science
Andrew Kenady- English
Ellie Engstrom- Counselor
Dakota Andersen- Performing Arts/Choir

Brenda Sehlin-Goneau- Special Education
Jake Roh- Safety Specialist
Olivia Koskela- Principal's Secretary
Stephanie Lockett- Paraprofessional

Our entire student body was formally welcomed back yesterday during our first Rocket Block of the school year. We covered hopes, goals, expectations, and academic honesty. We ask all families, especially those whose children missed the presentation to review the content together. The presentation can be found [here](#).

Sincerely,

Paul Menard
Principal

SUBSTITUTE OPPORTUNITIES AT ROCKFORD:

Age requirement: 18

Must have 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>

OPEN PARAPROFESSIONAL POSITIONS:

RAS has open paraprofessional positions for the 2022-23 school year! We are looking for positive, student-centered individuals to join us in supporting RAS students. If you know of anyone interested, you can find the job posting in the link below. Feel free to reach out to Emily Seitzer for more information. Individuals would work 6.5-8 hours/day at our hourly rate, primarily on student contact days. Join our amazing team! www.applitrack.com/rockford/onlineapp/default.aspx

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:

All Volunteers must contact the district office to complete a background check before volunteering at any site in the district. (763)-477-9165

Attention:

During the 2023 Minnesota Legislative Session, lawmakers signed into law the Free School Meals program for students beginning in the 2023-2024 school year.

All students will be eligible for one reimbursable breakfast and one reimbursable lunch per day free of charge. This is only for their first meal for breakfast and for lunch. A la Carte and anything extra still will add to your balance due.



Meal Prices for 2023-24

Breakfast

- Adult/Second full Student Meal: \$2.25

Lunch

- Adult/Second full Student Meal: \$4.95

Milk \$0.60

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](#).

Things to Know: Week 1

- School Supplies List: The RHS School Supply List can be found on the RAS website under “Resources” then “Back to School Information” or by clicking Here .
- Student Schedules: Students had until the end of the school day September 8 to make ANY adjustments to their schedule (for fall semester).
- Locker registration: All students have been assigned a locker. Your student’s locker assignment is found in the Student Portal.

Jostens PIX
PREVIEW, PERSONALIZE & PAY.

Picture Day

a whole new way

A new school portrait experience designed by you, for you.

- Preview your pictures before you buy
- Buy only what you want
- Personalize your photos with a variety of backgrounds and add text
- Photos ship directly to home
- High-res digital downloads
- If you have more than one child, you can order everything together and pay only once

Our "Green Screen" technology allows you to personalize backgrounds. But it makes green clothing disappear into the background. **Don't wear green for picture day please!**

Get ready for Picture Day!

ROCKFORD HIGH SCHOOL

EVENT CODE: FE158723
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2023
MONDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2023 - RETAKE

Picture Day

Picture Day is coming up on next week! Pictures will be taken on Tuesday, September 12th, from 7:30 am to 2:30 pm. You can preview, personalize, and pay at jostenspix.com .

Please ensure your students adhere to the school dress code. Picture retakes will be held on October 23rd.

Helpful Links:

- [WRIGHT COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT](#)
- [WRIGHT COUNTY TRUANCY COMMUNICATION - ENGLISH](#)
- [WRIGHT COUNTY TRUANCY COMMUNICATION - SPANISH 1](#)
- [WRIGHT COUNTY TRUANCY COMMUNICATION - SPANISH 2](#)

Rocket Block

Rocket Block occurs every Tuesday and Thursday. Students utilize this time to study, make up exams or assignments, receive appropriate intervention strategies, engage in enrichment activities, move their bodies, and more.

This is the most ideal time to schedule appointments that cannot be scheduled outside of school hours.

We urge parents to stress the importance of Rocket Block and avoid the urge to excuse their students from attending.

Students who utilize Rocket Block in the way in which it is intended pass all courses, achieve higher grades, and receive the best scores on internal and external exams which can translate into a higher starting wage if students are entering the workforce or receiving college credit or more competitive scholarships if students are entering post-secondary education. Therefore, it could prove costly to give in to a child's daily preference instead of considering the long-term benefits as it pertains to Rocket Block.

Fast Testing

Students in grades 9-12 will take the FAST Reading & Math tests on Tuesday and Thursday respectively during Rocket Block (new legislation requires baseline data for all students K-12). This is a district test to assess growth in our students. The results of these tests will be used to allocate district resources to drill down with broad-based standards performance, how to adapt units and lessons to shore up weak points, and where and when to provide opportunities for enrichment and intervention to students who desire or require further assistance.

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 preference opposed to using the district provided headphones. This will allow for test features to be read to each student. 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.

RHS PARENT/COMMUNITY NEWS

Workshop Week!

Our teachers and support staff will be working on many things to tee up the upcoming school year, including a focus on a purpose-driven approach to our work, connecting instructional strategies and skill development across our AVID and IB programs, setting individual and building goals, recreating Google Classrooms, Infinite Campus gradebooks, and learning the functions of our revolutionary CleverTouch panels, which have the power to engage students in immersive and interactive learning in classrooms all throughout the building. We are very excited for the potential to be realized and all of these great undertakings to present a year full of opportunity for the adults and students in our learning community.



Activities and Clubs

There are a wide variety of clubs and activities students can participate in throughout the school year.

Click [here](#) to find a list of activities to participate in throughout the year!

Upcoming:

- Auditions for this year's school musical, Bye Bye Birdie, will be held next Wednesday from 3:00pm to 4:30 pm in the Choir Room.

