

Program Overview

Rockdale Magnet School for Science and Technology (RMSST) was established in the fall of 2000 as a partnership between Rockdale County Public Schools in Conyers, Georgia and the College of Engineering at the Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta, Georgia. In 2002, RMSST received full membership to the National Consortium of Secondary STEM Schools. RMSST is a public, selective admissions school-within-a-school housed at Rockdale County High School. Students apply in 8th grade and then complete rigorous, STEM-based graduation requirements, including a minimum of seven additional STEM graduation credits throughout 9th-12th grades. All students take college-level courses starting in 9th grade and complete 3 years of scientific research classes.

RMSST provides a dynamic and unique learning environment designed for high-achieving students with an interest and aptitude in Science, Technology, and Math.

Components for Student Success

RMSST offers four key components for student success:

1. **AP Curriculum:** RMSST offers 22 Advanced Placement (AP) courses and students graduate with an average of 10 AP classes taken. Depending on the university, many RMSST students begin college with enough AP credits to start as a sophomore.
2. **Research-based Curriculum:** Students are involved in individual, in-depth research projects each year in student-selected areas of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math. These investigations are carried out under the supervision of RMSST faculty and mentors from various universities, businesses, and government agencies. RMSST students present their research projects at the regional, state and international level. Students have traveled abroad to conduct or present their research in Japan, China, Turkey, Greece, France and Australia.
3. **Scientific-based Internships:** High-level internships offer invaluable hands-on training provided in a biological-, engineering- or technology-related position which allows students to experience and explore a STEM career first-hand.
4. **Community Service and Leadership:** Our strong focus on community service and leadership allows students to build a portfolio of experiences which demonstrate their commitment to our school and community. While our Student Council, Peer Mentors and Peer Tutors support our students, RMSST Ambassadors work to help others outside of our school building. RMSST has more than 20 extracurricular clubs and teams from which students may choose.

Eligibility and Application

RMSST is a public high school (grades 9 - 12) designed for students who are curious about the scientific world, love to solve problems, seek a challenging academic environment, and can work independently as well as in a group setting. Eighth grade students must meet eligibility requirements to submit an application. Enrollment is based on a multi-criteria selection process.

Eligibility Criteria

- Resident of Rockdale County (if moving into Rockdale County, residency must be established prior to enrollment, if selected)
- Rockdale County Public Schools 8th grade students: 7th grade Math Subject STAR score of 60th percentile rank or higher, or 7th grade Math or English Language Arts Georgia Milestone EOG Subject Score of 550 or higher, or 8th grade student enrolled in Carnegie math or science in their middle school
- Private, Home-school, or non-RCPS 8th grade students must be enrolled in a high school Carnegie credit math or science course.

Application Process

The application process begins in September when letters are mailed to all eligible 8th grade RCPS students. Eligible students and their families will participate in a tour of Rockdale Magnet School in October. Please refer to the application timeline on the RMSST website for dates.

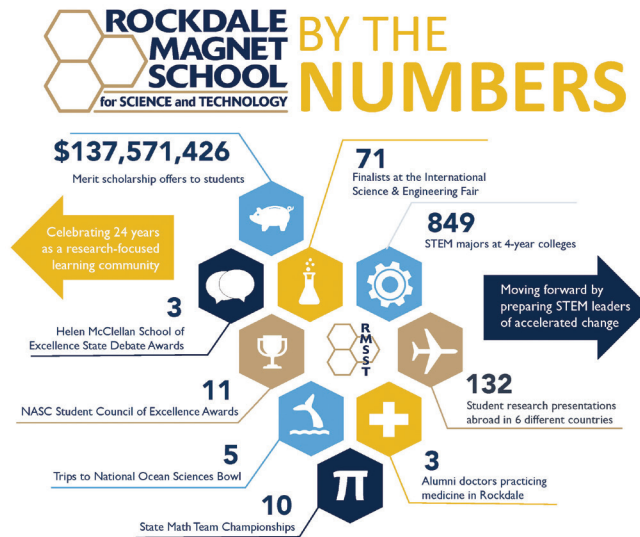


Rockdale Magnet School for Science and Technology

Why RMSST?

The Facts:

- The first magnet school in Rockdale County, founded in 2000
- The first STEM-certified high school in Georgia
- Member of the National Consortium of Secondary STEM Schools
- Class of 2024: 1268 average SAT score and 27 average ACT score
- Average college scholarship offers per graduate: Over \$250,000
- College acceptances to top-tier research universities and Ivy League schools Small class size with teacher-student ratio of 1:20
- Opportunities for scientific research supported with university and industry mentors
- Classmates with similar interests and



motivation to succeed

- High expectations which teach responsibility, time management organization, and study skills
- Elective courses in students' areas of interest, including the full RCHS course offering
- Well-rounded high school experience through RCHS sports and other extracurricular activities

Beyond the Classroom

Academic Clubs & Teams

- Book Club & Reading Bowl
- Green Team
- Math Team, Varsity & Junior Varsity
- Peer Tutoring
- R.E.C.S. (Robotics, Engineering, and Computer Science)
- Science Team
- Speech & Debate Team

Extracurricular Activities

- Asian Student Organization
- Association of Artists
- Black STEM Student Union
- Camera Club
- Gay-Straight Alliance
- LatinX
- Magnet INC Entrepreneurship Club
- Magnet the Gathering
- Sophisticated Men of Excellence

- Women on the Way to Success

Leadership & Honor Societies

- Ambassadors
- Beta Club
- Beta Lambda Tau
- Mu Alpha Theta
- National Honor Society
- Peer Mentors
- Student Council

Mission Statement

The mission of our specialized, research-focused learning community is to foster and produce students who think ethically, critically, and independently while excelling in competitive academic environments and demonstrating high standards and expectations distinguished by:

- Rigorous, accelerated curriculum with real-world and global experiences
- Student-driven scientific research
- Opportunities to evaluate



and apply technology in a variety of settings

- Instruction in professionalism, digital citizenship, and academic integrity
- Personalized academic support and advisement
- Collaboration with STEM-focused institutions and industries, including the College of Engineering

at Georgia Institute of Technology and Middle Georgia State University.

- Extracurricular academic, leadership, service, and international opportunities
- Dedicated family and community involvement
- Access to all programs and opportunities available at Rockdale County High School

A History of Distinction

Our motto at RMSST is “**Challenge, Opportunity, Distinction.**” For over 24 years, our specialized curriculum has provided, challenging courses in the STEM pathways. Scientific Research connects the classroom with real-world problems and solutions. Scientific Internships extend the classroom to real-world experiences. Specialized electives like Botany, Microbiology, Astronomy, Engineering Design, History of Math, History of English, and Oceanography extend our classroom **challenge** even further.

Our students have the **opportunity** to travel both nationally and internationally. Students have repeatedly placed at the International Science and Engineering Fair and traveled to present their research in France, Japan, Greece, Turkey, and China. The Rockdale Magnet Math Team has been overall State Champions three times (2004, 2005, and 2013). Other research conferences and competitions include Georgia Junior Science and Humanities Symposium (GJSHS), Regeneron Science Talent Search, NCSST Student Research Symposium, Environthon Competition, Young Georgia Authors Competition, Reading Bowls, Maker Fair, International Environmental Science Olympiad, and Super Science High School Student Fair.

RMSST students have the **distinction** of being recognized by college admissions counselors. We offer individualized advisement with college and career planning, including developing a 5-year plan for each student to match students' interests to colleges, completing the college application process, and applying for financial aid and scholarships. Our students have the unique distinction of benefiting from our partnership history with Georgia Institute of Technology and visiting many different college campuses including our out of state college tour. The RMSST curriculum prepares students to be successful at top-tier universities and sets our students apart during the college application process.